

Costly Worship – Chart

Reference	John 12:1-11 (Text)	Mark 14:3-9 (Parallel passage)	Matthew 26:6-13 (Parallel passage)	Luke 7:36-50 (A different anointing)
Approximate Date Written	AD 85-90	AD 68	AD 50	AD 60
Geographical Location	Bethany	Bethany	Bethany	Galilee
Timing	Just prior to Jesus' death, 6 days before the Passover	Just prior to Jesus' death	Just prior to Jesus' death	Early in Jesus' ministry
Host	Presumed to be Simon ¹ the (former) leper	Simon the (former) leper	Simon the (former) leper	Simon the Pharisee
Anointing Person	Mary (only mentioned here)	A woman (presumed to be Mary because of other family members present)	A woman (presumed to be Mary because of other family members present)	A woman in the city, a sinner
Others Present	Martha, Lazarus ²	Martha, Lazarus	Martha, Lazarus	Those who sat at the table with Him (Jesus)
Anointing Oil & Container	Oil of Spikenard (1 pound); container not specified	Oil of Spikenard; in alabaster flask (broken)	Very costly fragrant oil (presumed to be oil of Spikenard); in alabaster flask	Fragrant oil (not specified); in alabaster flask
Part Of Body Anointed	Feet (and likely head also); wiped with hair; house filled with the fragrance of the oil	Head	Head (and body mentioned later)	Stood; washed feet with tears; dried feet with hair; kissed feet; anointed feet with oil
Waste Questioned By	Judas Iscariot, Simon's son who betrayed Him (thief); valued oil at 300 denarii	Some who were indignant among themselves (Judas?)	Disciples (Judas?) (value not mentioned except that it could have been sold for much)	Pharisee who invited Him (Jesus)
Reaction To Anointing	Jesus said that Mary kept this (oil) for His day of burial; Jews plotted to kill Lazarus	(in the whole world) what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her	(in the whole world) what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her	Parable about forgiveness

¹ Simon was a very common name; 9 men are mentioned in the NT: <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/all-men-bible/Simon>

² See Luke 10:38-42 for an additional reference to this family at a different time. Note that Mary is always at Jesus' feet!