

*"Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat. But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying, 'To what purpose is this waste? For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.'" **Matthew 26:6-9 KJV***



Precious ointment obtained at great cost anointed the head and feet of Jesus. The complaining crowd saw only a great waste. *"To what purpose?"* They were so focused on the temporal the Majesty of the moment eluded them – their blindness only exceeded by their ignorance! Eternity's Sovereign sat in their midst! It's interesting to note that those complaining were professed disciples of Christ. The precious Oil of Holy Spirit Anointing obtained at great cost is to be administered lavishly upon the Body of Christ, the Assembly of the Brethren. *"When He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all Truth. The anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is Truth, and is no lie."* The lusts of our flesh are at odds with the Spirit of Truth. Truth will break the seal of blindness on our souls and allow us to be free in the Liberty of the Spirit. We do not allow our blindness to be broken, because we refuse to *"meditate therein (God's Word) day and night."* No aromas or fragrance may proceed until the box is broken open. The Oil of the Holy Spirit cannot flow forth to anoint the Body of Christ and fill the air with sweet fragrance of kindness and love that is well pleasing to God until Christ has first broken our chains of darkness. *"We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus. Love one another as I have loved you."* The Holy Oil can only flow forth from broken boxes. We *"must decrease but He must increase."* We must put the fleshly desires to death and allow faithful obedience to the Word of God have complete control so the fragrance that surrounds us will bring the focus of all observers to the Lord Jesus Christ. The vessel is of less importance than the ointment it contains. The crowd did not notice the broken box, but the fragrance of costly ointment. To be filled with the Holy Spirit is a conscious choice of obedience that will require death of self and the sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving. God never forces us to obey. His desire is that we obey out of sincere love and affection for Him, *"faith unfeigned."* When we are willing to completely obey, the Spirit enables, empowers, and fills the entire room with Holy fragrance as Ointment is applied to the Body of Christ. As we live Holy lives of obedience we honor the Master openly. *"Be ye Holy for I am Holy."* Holiness is doing what is right, right now. Our righteousness is only valid if motivated by faith of Christ. If my good works are self-motivated, in God's eyes, they are but *"filthy rags."* The trials of life breaks our vessels, but faith allows Precious Ointment to be brought forth to the honor and glory of The Master.

The broken box will try in vain,
The precious ointment to contain,
Its cost was more than we could bear,
Its worth exceeds beyond compare. -CGP

Unless the box is broken, the Ointment will not be available to anoint the Master. The sweet anointing fragrance of the Blessed Holy Spirit is the purpose behind your trials, dear Believer. Do not despair at the displeasure of the jeering crowd. The Master awaits your love and affection.

"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:" **1 Peter 1:7 KJV**