

Mark 14:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.

Analysis

Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world (ὅπου ἔαν κηρυχθῇ τὸ εὐαγγέλιον, hopou ean kērychthē to euangelion)—Jesus prophesies the global spread of the gospel message with divine certainty. The verb κηρυχθῇ (kērychthē) means "proclaimed" or "heralded," the same term used for royal announcements. **This also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her** (μνημόσυνον, mnēmosynon) eternally honors this woman's sacrificial devotion.

Jesus grants her act immortality in the gospel narrative itself—her unnamed deed (anointing Jesus for burial) outlasts the named deeds of kings and emperors. The memorial (mnēmosynon) isn't a monument of stone but living proclamation. While Judas sought monetary gain (v. 11), she gave extravagantly. While religious leaders plotted death (v. 1), she prepared Jesus for burial. Her act models wholehearted worship that sees Christ's worth and gives accordingly, foreshadowing the worldwide church's worship.

Historical Context

This prophecy, spoken in a small Palestinian village around AD 30, has been literally fulfilled—for nearly 2,000 years, this woman's act has been "spoken of" wherever Mark's Gospel is read. Her anonymity (Mark doesn't name her, though John 12:3 identifies her as Mary of Bethany) makes her a model for all disciples—

fame isn't the goal; faithful devotion is. The phrase "throughout the whole world" (ἐν ὅλῳ τῷ κόσμῳ) was staggering in first-century Palestine, where the gospel was known only in Judea. Jesus' prophetic certainty revealed divine foreknowledge and the gospel's unstoppable advance.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' eternal memorializing of this woman's devotion challenge worldly pursuits of fame and recognition?
2. What acts of costly devotion to Christ might seem "wasteful" to pragmatic observers but precious to Jesus?
3. How does the contrast between this woman's worship and Judas's betrayal expose the heart's true treasure?

Interlinear Text

ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅπου ἀν κηρυχθῇ τὸ^ν
Verily I say unto you Wheresoever G302 **shall be preached** G3588
G281 G3004 G5213 G3699 G2784

εὐαγγέλιον τοῦτο εἰς ὅλον τὸν κόσμον καὶ ὁ
gospel this of for the whole G3588 **world this also** G3739
G2098 G5124 G1519 G3650 G2889 G2532

ἐποίησεν αὕτη λαληθήσεται εἰς μνημόσυνον αὐτῆς
hath done that she shall be spoken G1519 **of for a memorial of her** G3422 G846
G4160 G3778 G2980

Additional Cross-References

Mark 16:15 (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Matthew 24:14 (Parallel theme): And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

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