

MARCH TO EASTER

"The Ides of March"

John 11:45-51; 12:1-11 (Pew Bible Page 761)

The "Ides of March"

- * Roman calendar-the 15th of March, May, July and October
- * Shakespeare's Julius Caesar "Beware of the Ides of March"
- * An ordinary day or a fateful day?

JESUS' DAY: ORDINARY OR FATEFUL?

1. Some were plotting to **KILL JESUS**
"You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish." John 11:50

"So from that day on they plotted to take his life." John 11:53
2. Some planned to **BETRAY JESUS**
"But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected...." John 12:4
3. Some prepared to **BLESS JESUS**
"Then Mary took...an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume." John 12:3

"She has done a beautiful thing to me...She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial." Mark 14:7-8

MAKING THE ORDINARY DAY A BLESSING

1. You give what is **PRECIOUS TO YOU**
"It was worth a year's wages" John 12:5

* **HUMILITY**

* **THANKFULNESS**
2. Your service is **PLEASANT TO OTHERS**
"...and the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume" John 12:3

* **ABOVE AND BEYOND**

3. Your focus is not **POPULAR OPINION**

"But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, objected, 'Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages....'" John 12:4-6

* **AUDIENCE OF ONE**

4. Your ultimate goal is **PLEASING JESUS**

"She has done a beautiful thing to me" Mark 14:6

"I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she had done will also be told, in memory of her." Matthew 26:13

* **GIVE HIM HONOR**

What determines if the "Ides of March" is a fateful day
or a ordinary day of blessing?

YOU