

INTRODUCTION:

1. At Bethany in the house where Martha, Mary, and  
1. The town must be Bethany, John 11:1.  
2. Luke says nothing of Lazarus.
2. The sisters in comparison:
  1. It seems that Martha felt that nothing she could provide would be good enough for so honored a guest as Jesus.
  2. Mary seems to have felt that nothing should interfere with the opportunity for hearing the words of Jesus:
    1. Some become members of the church and work
    2. Others become members and simply sit down

LESSONS TO LEARN:

1. Observe two things:

1. THE MANY THINGS:

1. We learn that many good things, however man good they may be, do not constitute the good one good thing.
2. Many things are good up to a certain point but beyond that they are powerless.
3. All the good things that you can think of will not together make up our human requirements.
  1. They are not "the bread of life" and the they are not "the water of life."
  2. These materialistic things, many of them good within themselves, do not last; sooner or later they break down and leave us portionless and hopeless.

2. THE ONE THING:

1. Consider the point that Jesus was pressing:
  1. That there is one thing which is so surpassingly better than the many things that it can be considered THE ONE GOOD THING.
  2. In contrast to the "many things" that "one good thing" is that "good part" that shall not be taken away from her."
  3. In that "good part" chosen by Mary may be included all those who have lived and died and who will live and die in the faith and fear of the Lord Jesus Christ.



"IF"                      John 11                      "THE SORROWFUL IF"

Introduction: IF is a conjunction. . IF may also be used as a function word expressing a wish: (if)..it would only rain.

We add "fy" and we have "IFFY" which is an adjective meaning something abounds in unknown qualities. May express doubt: He may or he may not.

Some "ifs" of this chapter:

1. The "IF" of wisdom. V. 9
  1. "If any man walk in the day he stumbleth not." 1 John 1:7.
2. The "IF" of darkness. "But if a man walk in darkness he stumbleth, because there is no light in him". Verse 10; 1 John 1:6; John 9:4
3. There is the "IF" of hope shadowed by fear. "Lord, if he sleep. he shall do well". V. 12
  1. Sleep is restful, relaxing. Sometimes hazardous to awake a seriously ill person.
  2. It may be that the disciples were grasping at a straw to save their Master: "The jews of late sought to stone thee, and goest thou thither again 11:8
4. The "IF" beyond doubt. "If thou hadst been here, my brother had not died."
  1. Both sister make the same confident statement.
  2. With Jesus in the house there can be no death,
  3. Martha: "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Verse 24
  4. Jesus: "I am the resurrection, and the life." V. 25
5. The "IF" that calls to faith. "If thou wouldest believe, thou shouldst see the glory of God." V. 40
  1. The doubter, the unbeliever cannot see this glory.
  2. This vision of faith does not pass away like a dream in the night, leaving no trace behind.

CLOSING THOUGHTS: We are told only three things about this Mary.

1. She sat at Jesus' feet.
2. When he called her she arose quickly and came unto him. John 11:28, 29.
3. "She hath done what she could." Mark 14:8  
(This is a very good record)

- Introduction: It is a conjunction. It may also be used as a function word expressing a wish: (If) it would only rain.
- We add "if" and we have "IF" which is an adjective meaning something stands in known qualities, may express doubt; the way or how may not.
- some "if" of this nature:
1. The "if" of wisdom. John 1:7. "If any man walk in the day he stumbleth not."
  2. The "if" of darkness. "But if a man walk in darkness he stumbleth, because there is no light in him." Verse 10; John 1:8; John 9:4.
  3. There is the "if" of hope shadowed by fear. "Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well." V. 12. Sleep is restful, relaxing. Sometimes, paradoxical to awake a restlessly if person.
  4. It may be that the disciples were grasping at straw to save their Master: "The Jews of late sought to stone thee, and seek to stone thee again 11:8.
  5. The "if" beyond doubt. "If thou hadst been here, my brother had not died."
  6. Both sister make the same confident statement. With Jesus in the house there can be no death.
  7. Matthew: "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Verse 28.
  8. Jesus: "I am the resurrection, and the life." V. 26.
  9. The "if" that calls to faith. "If thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God." V. 40.
  10. The doubter, the unbeliever cannot see this glory.
  11. This vision of faith does not pass away like a dream in the night, leaving no trace behind.
- GLORIOUS THOUGHTS: We are told only three things about this Mary.
1. She sat at Jesus' feet.
  2. When he called her she arose quickly and came unto him. John 11:28, 29.
  3. "She hath done what she could." Mark 14:8. (This is a very good record)