

How Should I Respond?



Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, 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 12:1-3

But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

“Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.”

~ John 12:4-8

3 Valuable Lessons

- I. Criticism is **INEVITABLE**.
- II. Much of the criticism will be very **UNFAIR** and should be **IGNORED**.

You will always have the poor among you.

~ John 12:8

3 Valuable Lessons

- I. Criticism is **INEVITABLE**.
- II. Much of the criticism will be very **UNFAIR** and should be **IGNORED**.
- III. Critical people are critical for a **REASON**.

A Few Priorities Regarding Criticism

1. Make sure it's LEGITIMATE.

If you listen to constructive criticism, you will be
at home among the wise.

~ *Proverbs 15:31*

A Few Priorities Regarding Criticism

1. Make sure that it's LEGITIMATE.
2. Make sure you aren't an UNFAIRLY critical person.
3. It's an HONOR to suffer for the name of Christ.

God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven.

And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

~ *Matthew 5:11-12*

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