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# *Recipe for a miracle*

Here is a recipe, keep it close to your heart for the days of gloom and ill. It will help you many a day to keep the negativity away.

## *Ingredients:*

1 cup Tension  
2 cups Stress  
1 1/2 teaspoons of Guilt  
2 heaping cups of Limited Time  
3/4 tablespoon of Urgency  
A dash of “No Other Choice”  
3 heaping cups of Faith

## *Directions:*

Fold ingredients gently into a bowl. Mix vigorously and add a few tears. You’ll sweat a little as you knead the dough. Pack it firmly between your hopes and dreams and form into a perfect little ball. Sprinkle it with faith, rolling the ball until fully covered. Place it under a veil of belief and allow it to rise.

Put it in an oven that has been preset at the perfect temperature for the heat of trials and tribulations. Allow it to brown under the warmth of God’s love. Remove after due season and allow to cool in the confidence of His promise.

Garnish with your praises. Arrange neatly on a platter of thankfulness and serve to friends, families and, oh yes, strangers, invite them too!

# The One and Only

You might have heard an introduction for some famous magician or other star. And now, the one and only . . . This is to distinguish someone for their supposed accomplishments that set them apart from others.

I began to think about who could truly use this intro. I believe that we will find that Jesus deserves this accolade. Let me explain why.

Jesus is the One and Only, divine and eternal, Son of God. John 3:16. Gal. 4:4. No one else can, in truth, make this claim. Some have made this claim, but only Jesus was able to prove His claim. Jesus was perfect in His life on this earth. He only did that which pleased God. Jesus was the only one able to lay down His life, and then take it back up again. John 10:17. God showed His approval of Jesus when He raised Him from the dead. All others that have made this claim are now dead. Jesus is alive.

Jesus is the One and Only to fulfill all of the Scripture concerning the Messiah. Acts 3:18; Matt. 1:22; 8:17; 21:4, and many others. No one else can even make this claim with any measure of credibility. When we study the life of Jesus, we find over and over again that He fulfilled that which was prophesied concerning Him. He not only fulfilled the prophecies, but He did so in a perfect manner.

Jesus is the One and Only Saviour of the world. Acts 4:12; John 14:6. There is no other way, no other name, no other person that can save a single soul. God will accept no other sacrifice and no other method for salvation. There is a lot of teaching in the world today about the different ways we are

each getting to heaven. Those that are taking any other way than Jesus are simply wrong. I am not closed minded nor am I arrogant. I simply am repeating what God already said.

It is not politically correct in our time to say anything negative about someone's religion or belief (unless it is Christianity). We are to be 'tolerant' to others thinking. I am quite tolerant of other beliefs, but they are still wrong unless they agree with the Word of God.

We must be careful about agreeing with those that misuse and misquote God's Word. We may not persuade them to believe, but we must certainly take a stand for the truth.

Jesus is the One and Only King of kings. 1 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 17:14; 19:16. One day, all of humanity will have to recognize that Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of lords. Phillipians 2:20. Right now, man believes that he is in control, and ruling himself. God is soon going to show His Son, Jesus, to be the one who rules.

Jesus is the One and Only Lamb of God. John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:19; Rev. 5:6-12. No one else in history can make this claim at all. Only Jesus died as the perfect sacrifice. There was nothing we could do, because no one else could live the perfect life that fulfilled God's righteous requirement. God was pleased with Jesus and accepted His sacrifice as payment in full for our sins.

When you think of the One and Only, I want you to think of Jesus, and realize how perfect He is in all aspects. He is altogether lovely. I hope that you can introduce Him to your friends as the One and Only.

Gordon Crook

## Shortages and Crises

After Elijah experienced the brook drying up that God had supplied, God had a step further for Elijah to go. Elijah must have a **deeper experience, another step in humiliation**. It was not bad enough that he had to be fed by unclean birds, he was sustained by a poor widow. This is yet another opportunity for Elijah to exercise his faith.

“And the word of the Lord came unto him, saying, Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee. So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink. And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand. And she said, As the Lord thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse. and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die” - I Kings 17:8-12.

The woman was going to fix a last meal for her son and herself. Elijah could have questioned - “Is this living by faith? Should I have to prey upon this poor widow for nourishment?” This was humiliating for Elijah, but **another proof of God’s faithfulness**. How was she going to feed Elijah when she had just enough for herself and her son?

“And Elijah said unto her, **Fear not**; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son. For thus saith the Lord God

of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth, And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days. And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, **according to the word of the Lord**, which He spake by Elijah” - I Kings 17:13-16.

God has a way of making the handful last and last and last. Glory to God! **He is able and faithful, and He wants us to be completely dependent upon Him.** For God’s own purpose, He will make it last. Elijah may have thought that he had a very meager existence, but God made sure that that which the woman had did not fail. She and her household ate many days.

We will read further of Elijah and his faith in next issue of “Higher Ground.”

by Jack Davis



Faith is not belief without proof,  
but trust without reservation.

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*...I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded  
that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto  
him against that day.*

II Timothy 1:12

# “She Hath Done What She Could”

Mark 14:1-9

Passover was drawing near and Jesus enemies were planning not only for their Passover, but they were planning to kill Jesus (V. 1-2). They were unaware that **He was the Passover Lamb**. Why did they want Him dead?

The book of John chapter 11 tells us that Jesus had just raised Lazarus from the dead and many of the Jews that witnessed it believed on Him. This greatly upset the Pharisees, chief priests and scribes. They were afraid that all men would believe on Jesus and the Romans shall come and take away their place and nation (Jn:11:48). They gave commandment that if any man knew where He was, that they should tell them that they might take Him (Jn. 11:57). They determined to put an end to this man who troubled them by His life of meekness, holiness and miracles.

We read in John 11:55 that a great many Jews were coming up to Jerusalem “to purify themselves.” Oh, how far-off from God’s thoughts are mans. That is like trying to clean the heart by washing the hands. Only God alone can purify the heart. It is done when we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God ordained before the foundation of the world to die for the sin of the world (Jn. 1:29).

Jesus was in Bethany a little town just outside of Jerusalem. This is where his friends Lazarus, Martha and Mary lived. He was at Simon’s house for dinner (Simon had been a leper, but had been healed and became a believer). **“There came a woman** with costly ointment and anointed Jesus with it (Mk. 14:3). Mark

doesn't even tell us her name, but John tells us - it was Mary of Bethany, Lazarus sister. She loved Jesus and was the one who sat at His feet, listening to His words. Her sister Martha known for her service and Lazarus for communion, but Mary shows us the worship of a grateful heart. Many had come to Jesus to have their need met, but Mary **to honor and worship Him.**

This dinner feast may have been prepared for the rejoicing friends to honor Jesus for the return of Lazarus from the grave. It is note worthy that Mary said nothing. She was at her accustomed place at the feet of Jesus, performing an act of worship, but is silent. The greatest work in the world is not accomplished by the best talkers.

Mary had received priceless truth from the lips of Jesus. She brings an alabaster box of very precious ointment of spikenard. That was a costly service she rendered to Jesus She no doubt had been saving the money to purchase for months. Nothing is too good for her Lord and Master. He had won her heart and she proved it by her extravagant display. She truly figures the love of the company which will constitute the wife of the Lamb. Their devotion to Christ supersedes others. His glory is uppermost with them. They give all and will get all.

John tells us in John 12:3 that she also anointed His feet and wiped them with her hair and the house was filled with the odor of the ointment. Through-out eternal ages, the company of saints that Mary figures will fill the House on High (the New Jerusalem) with the praises of the Lamb. they will lead in the worship of heaven.

The odor was sweet to some, but as we read in Mark 14:4,5 it smelled of waste to others. John 12:4-6 tells us that Judas Iscariot

which would betray Jesus spoke of the waste and that it could have been sold and given to the poor. He didn't care for the poor, he was a thief and carried the money bag, serving as treasurer for the group of disciples. He was the poor he sympathized with. Shortly after this he will go to the chief priests and ask - **“What will ye give me and I will deliver Jesus unto you?”** Matthew 26:14,15 says he sold Jesus for 30 pieces of silver, the price of a slave. Judas caused some to murmur against Mary. There are those who murmur against devoted saints today. Don't try to please people, please the Lord and He will take care of those who murmur.

Read Mark 14:6-9, Jesus said, “Don't trouble her, **she has done a good work on me.**” How precious this is, she poured it out for the sake of her Lord. If she had more spikenard she would have given it. She gave to the fullest extent of her ability. **“She hath done what she could.”** Jesus knew her heart's attitude of love toward Him. Jesus said, **“She is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.”** She understood far more than any of His disciples, that He must die. She believed He must rise again, so she anointed him for burial before His death. She knew no one would have that privilege afterward.

The glorious company of saints that Mary represents enter into fellowship and sympathy with Jesus far in advance of others of the church. Martha, Lazarus and the disciples were at the feast, but they had no part in that wondrous act of worship. They loved Jesus, but Mary stands out, unique and alone in her gift of spikenard, rare and precious. So shall the Bride company stand forth in the feast on high (Rev. 19:7). They love Him supremely and **follow hard after Him**, regardless of all objections in the crowd. We need not grieve if the Lord endorses our actions.

by Earlene Davis

# TRIVIA

## Life-of-Jesus

1. Name three of the five women recorded in the line of David?
2. When did Joseph, Mary, and Jesus leave Egypt and return to Nazareth?
3. What occupation did Joseph have?
4. Where did Jesus learn to read and write?
5. How old was Jesus before Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to worship in the temple once a year?
6. How long did Joseph and Mary search for Jesus when they realized he was not in their company on their way back from Jerusalem to Nazareth?
7. What did John the Baptist eat for food in the desert?
8. Who spoke these words: "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness. Make straight the way of the Lord"?
9. What was the difference between John the Baptist's baptism and Jesus?
10. In what river did John the Baptist do his baptizing?
11. How old was Jesus when he left Nazareth to be baptized?
12. What happened after Jesus was baptized?
13. In what river was Jesus baptized?
14. How many times was Jesus tempted in the wilderness?
15. How did the devil first tempt Jesus in the wilderness?
16. What did the devil promise to Jesus if Jesus would only fall down and worship him?

17. Who were the first two disciples to be called by Jesus?
18. Whose name was changed to Peter by Jesus?
19. Who was the third disciple to be called?
20. Name the two pairs of brothers who were disciples of Jesus.
21. Where did Jesus perform his first miracle?
22. What happened in the first miracle of Jesus?
23. What did Jesus do when he saw money-changers in the temple?

1. Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, Mary.
2. When Herod died.
3. He was a carpenter.
4. In the Synagogue.
5. Twelve.
6. Three days.
7. Dried locusts and wild honey.
8. John the Baptist.
9. John baptized with water; Jesus baptized with the Holy Spirit.
10. The Jordan River,
11. Thirtyyears old.
12. The heavens opened and the Spirit of God descended in the form of a dove. A voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."
13. The Jordan River.
14. Three.
15. When Jesus was weak and hungry in the wilderness, the devil tempted him to turn stones into bread.
16. All the kingdoms of the world.
17. Andrew and Simon (Peter).
18. Simon, son of Jona (or Simon Bar'Jonah).
19. Phillip.
20. Simon (Peter) and Andrew; James and John.
21. At a wedding in Cana, a city of Galilee.
22. He turned water into wine.
23. He drove out all the animals and their keepers and upset the money-changers' tables.