



# Don't Forget Where You Came From

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A classical painting depicting Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. Jesus, with long dark hair and a beard, is seated on the right, wearing a red robe. He is leaning forward, washing the foot of a disciple who is reclining on the left. The disciple is wearing a blue tunic. In the background, other disciples are visible, some reclining and some sitting. A table in the center holds a bowl of fruit, including grapes and apples, and a small cup. The scene is set in a room with a tiled floor and a patterned rug. The overall tone is solemn and intimate.

The best advice I've ever received in ministry





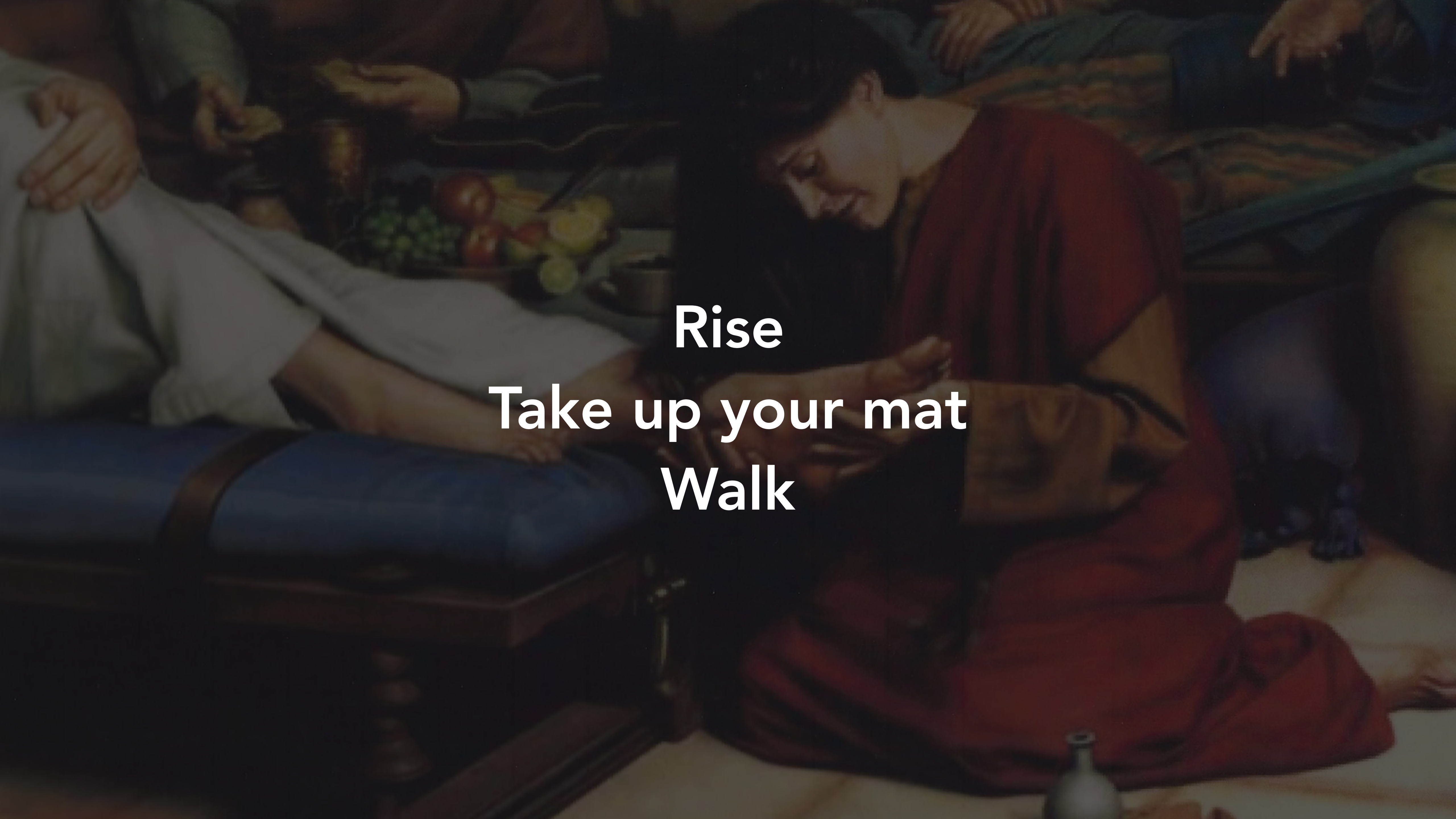
# The man at the pool of Bethesda



A classical painting depicting Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. Jesus, with long dark hair and a beard, is seated on the right, wearing a red robe. He is leaning forward, washing the foot of a disciple who is reclining on the left. The disciple is wearing a blue tunic and a white shawl. In the background, other disciples are visible, some reclining and some sitting. A table in the center holds a basket of fruit, including grapes and apples, and a small cup. The scene is set in a room with a tiled floor and a patterned rug. The overall tone is solemn and intimate.

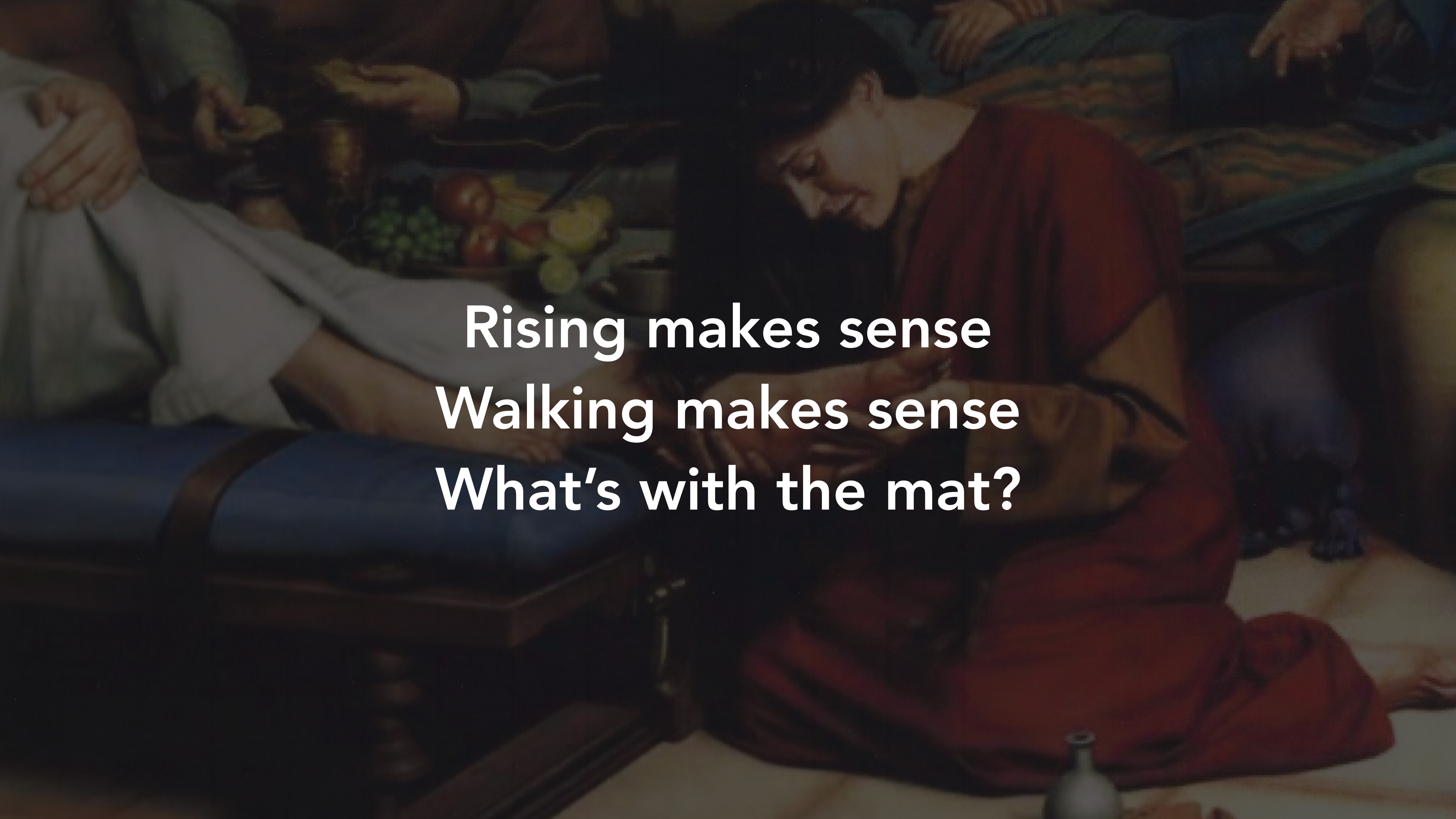
**“Do you want to be made well?”**



A religious painting depicting a scene of service. A man in a red robe is kneeling on the floor, washing the feet of another man who is lying on a blue mat. The man on the mat is wearing a white shirt and blue trousers. In the background, there is a tray of fruit, including grapes and apples. The scene is set in a room with a tiled floor and a wooden bench.

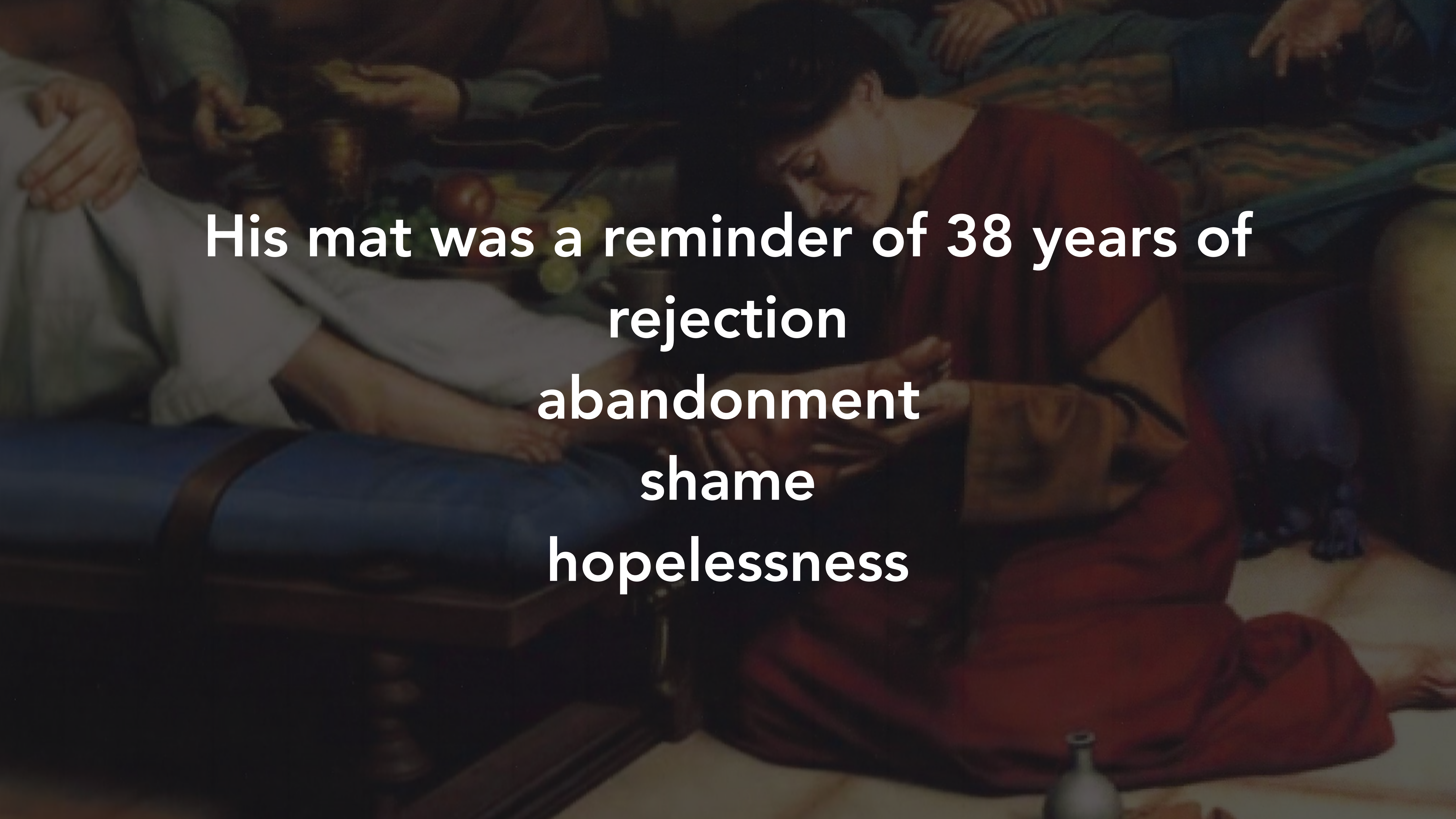
**Rise  
Take up your mat  
Walk**





Rising makes sense  
Walking makes sense  
What's with the mat?





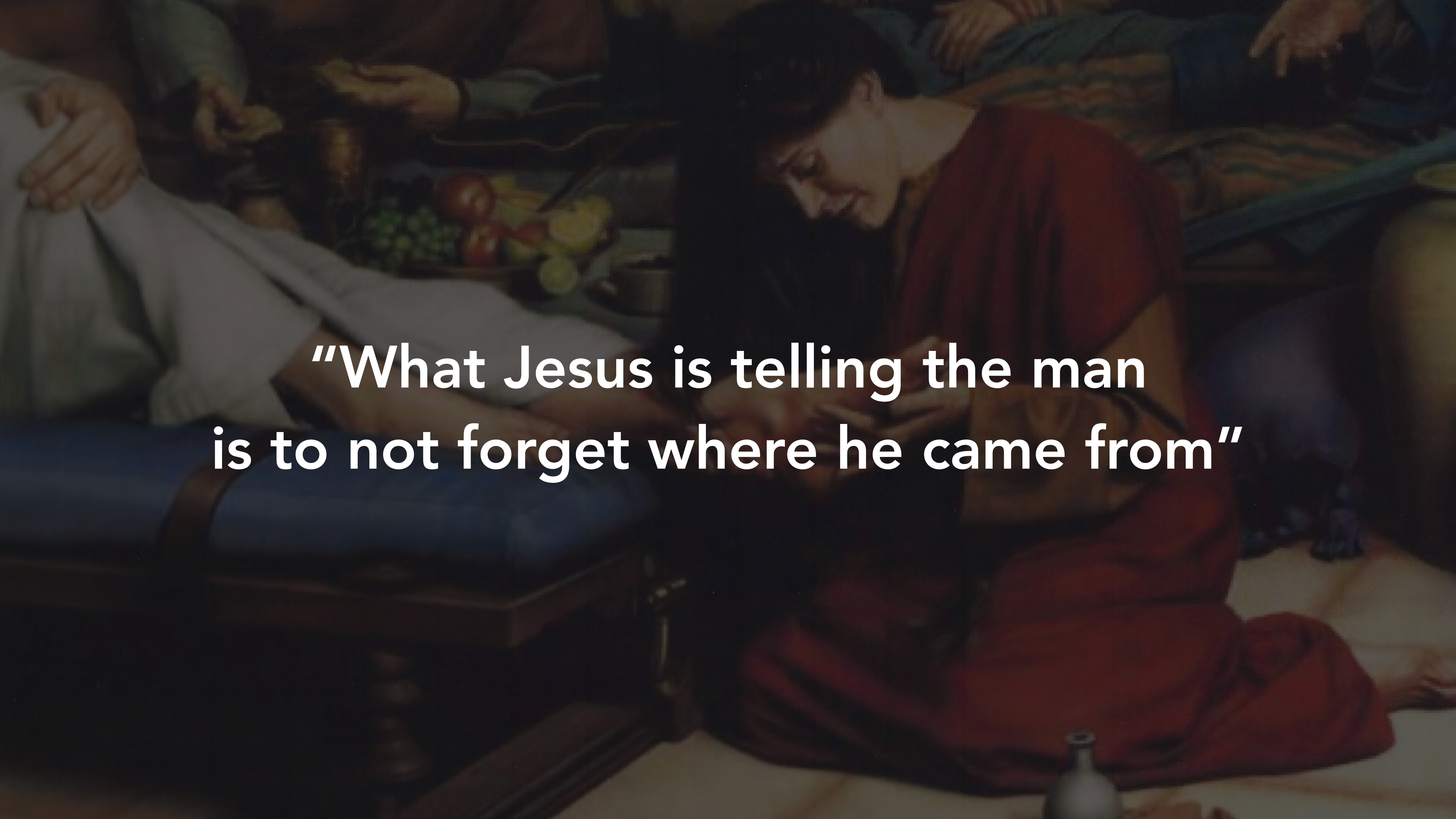
His mat was a reminder of 38 years of  
rejection  
abandonment  
shame  
hopelessness



A classical painting depicting a scene of healing or care. A man in a red robe is tending to a person lying on a blue cushioned bench. A tray of fruit is visible on a table in the background.

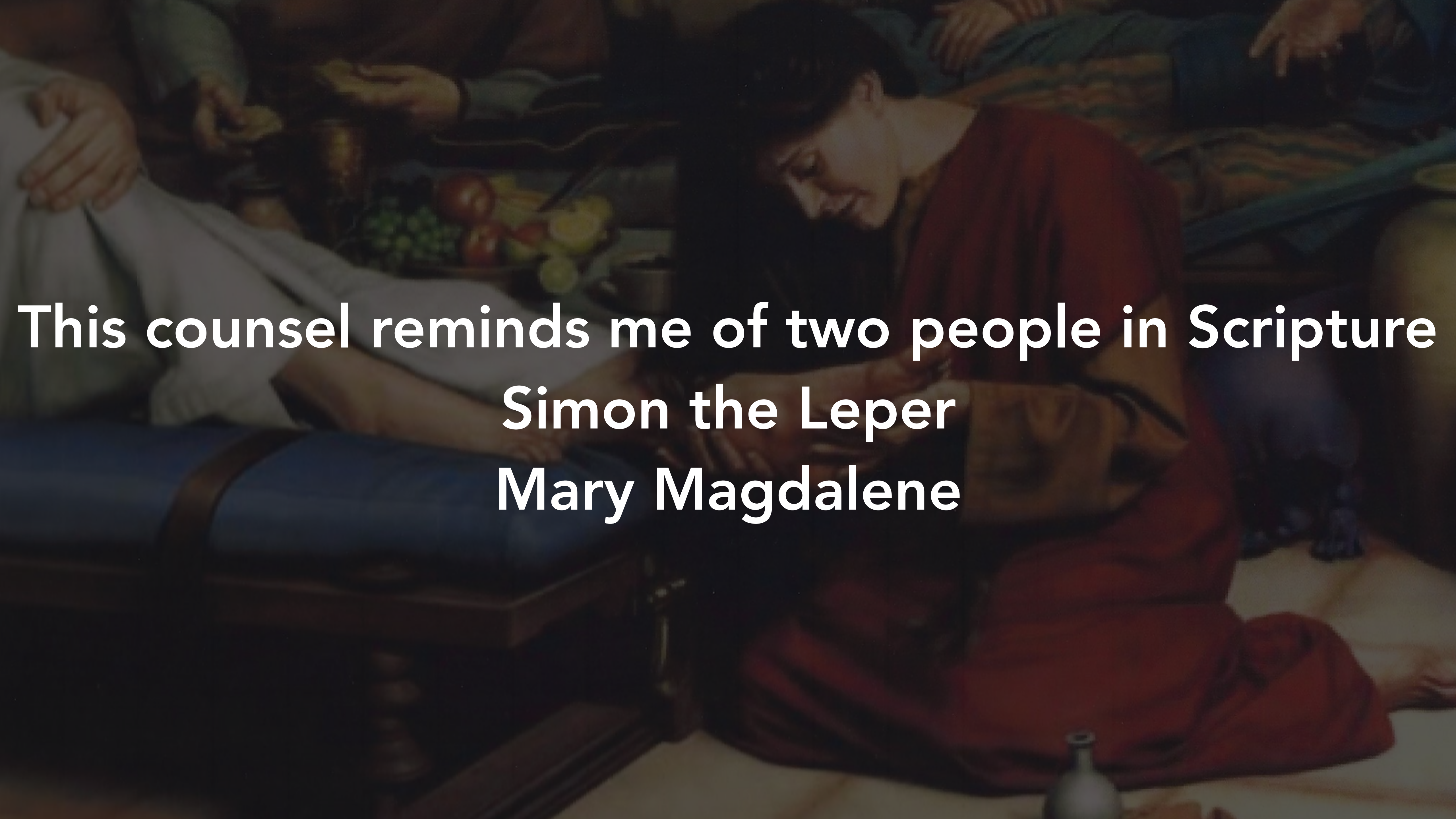
That's precisely the point



A religious painting depicting a scene where Jesus, with long dark hair and a beard, is washing the feet of a man. The man is wearing a vibrant red robe and is kneeling on the floor. Jesus is seated, and his hands are focused on the man's feet. In the background, other figures are visible, including one holding a white cloth. A table with various items like a bowl of fruit and a cup is also present. The overall atmosphere is solemn and intimate.

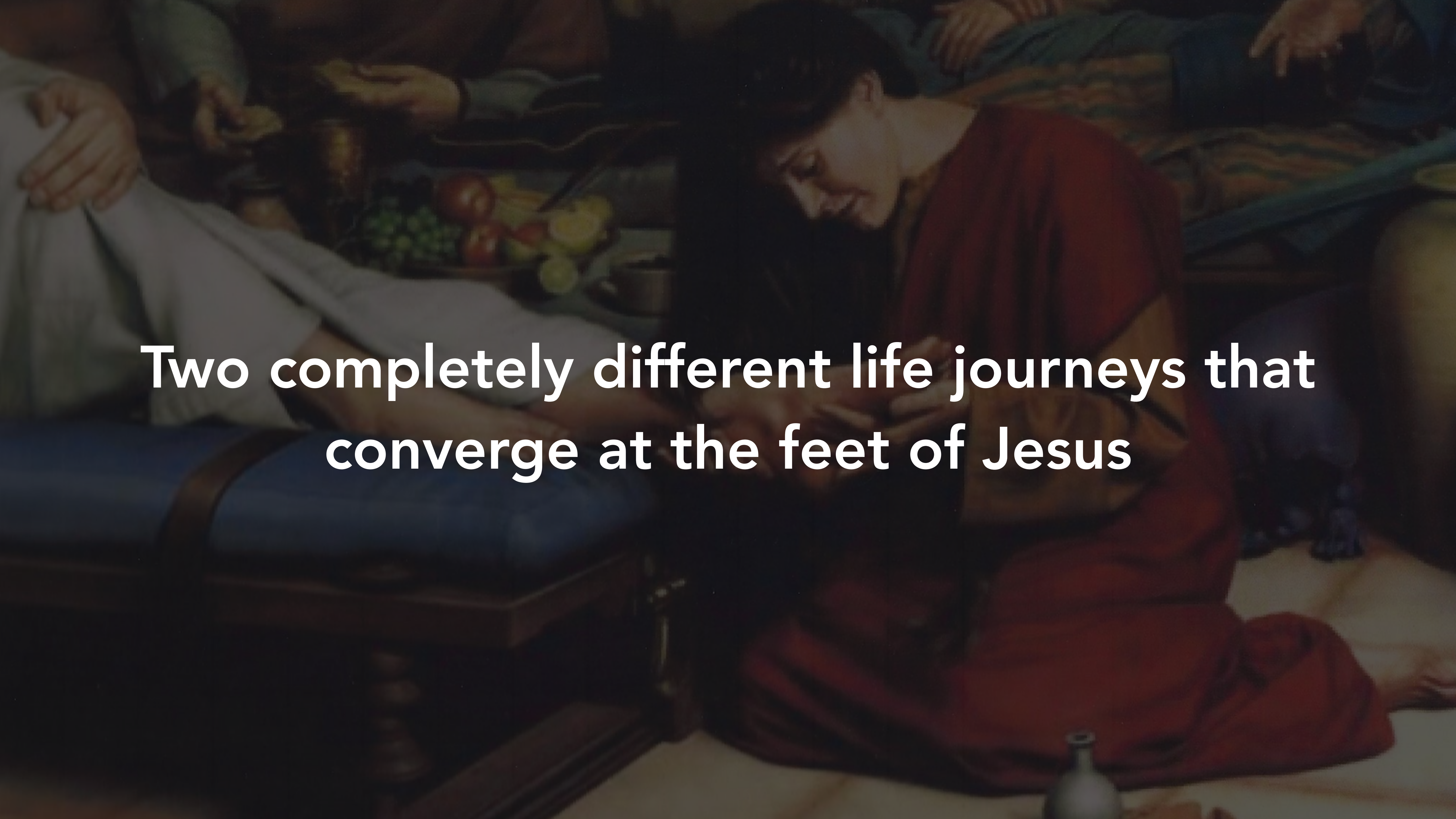
**“What Jesus is telling the man  
is to not forget where he came from”**



A religious painting depicting a scene with a man in a red robe kneeling and an open wooden chest. The man, with dark hair and a beard, is looking down at the chest. The chest is open, revealing a blue cloth inside. In the background, there is a table with various items, including a bowl of fruit (apples and grapes) and a small cup. Other figures are partially visible in the background, some wearing blue and white robes. The overall style is classical, with soft lighting and detailed brushwork.

**This counsel reminds me of two people in Scripture**  
**Simon the Leper**  
**Mary Magdalene**



A religious painting depicting a scene where a man in a red robe is washing the feet of another man lying down. A tray of fruit is visible on a table in the background.

Two completely different life journeys that  
converge at the feet of Jesus





Simon

Religious leader who contracts leprosy


The cost is very high

Outcast and can't be touched

Cursed by God

Jesus miraculously heals him and restores his  
ministry





**Mary**  
**Sexually abused**  
**Lifestyle of sexual sin as a result**  
**Outcast in this small community of Bethany**  
**Jesus sets her free**

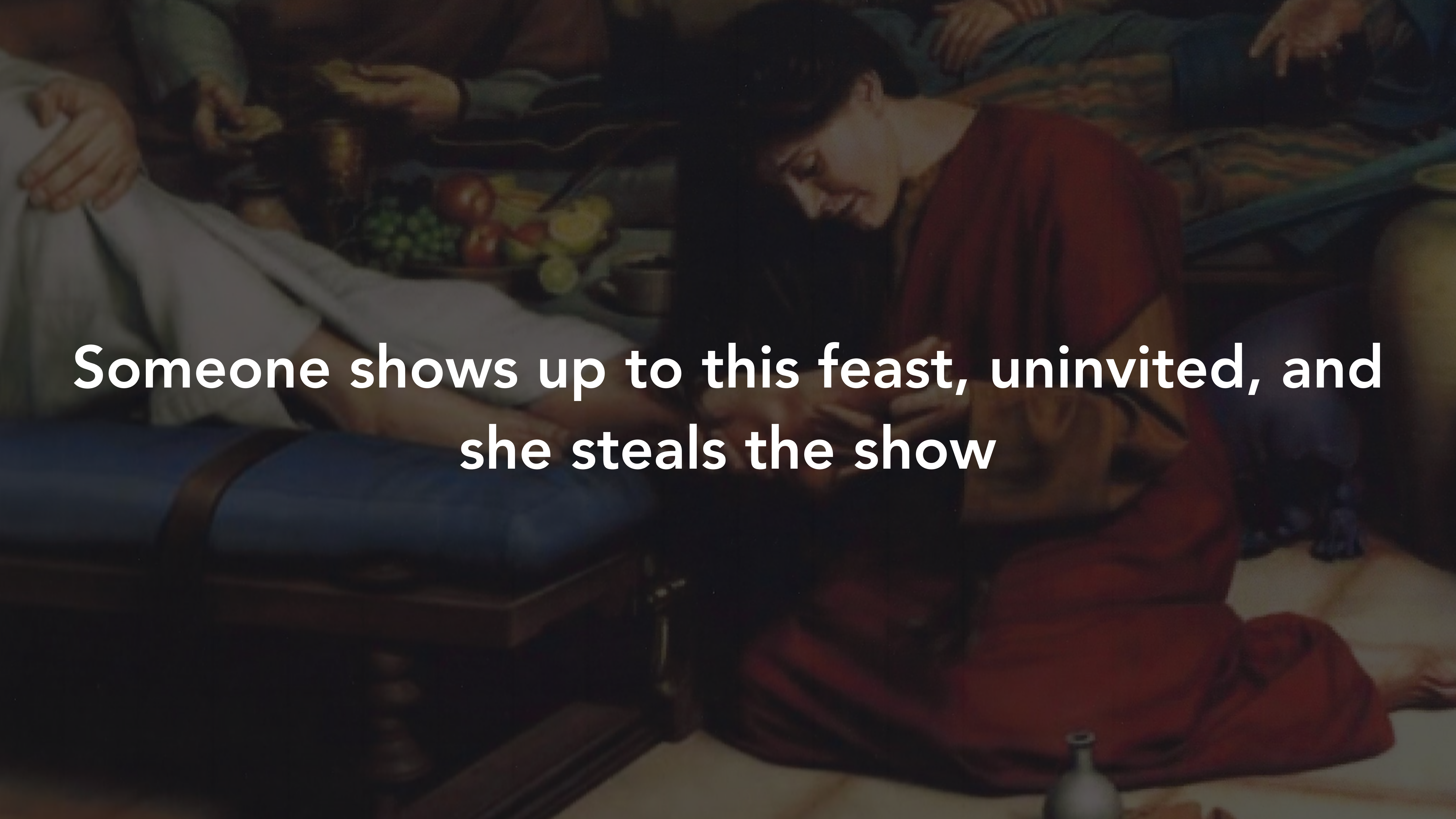




A feast to be held in honor of Jesus for two  
reasons

Simon's healing and restoration  
The raising of Lazarus, who is also from Bethany



A painting depicting a scene of a woman in a red robe kneeling on the floor, eating from a bowl. She is looking down at her food with a focused expression. In the background, other people are visible, some sitting and some standing, engaged in conversation or eating. A table with various food items, including grapes and bread, is also present. The overall atmosphere is one of a communal meal or feast.

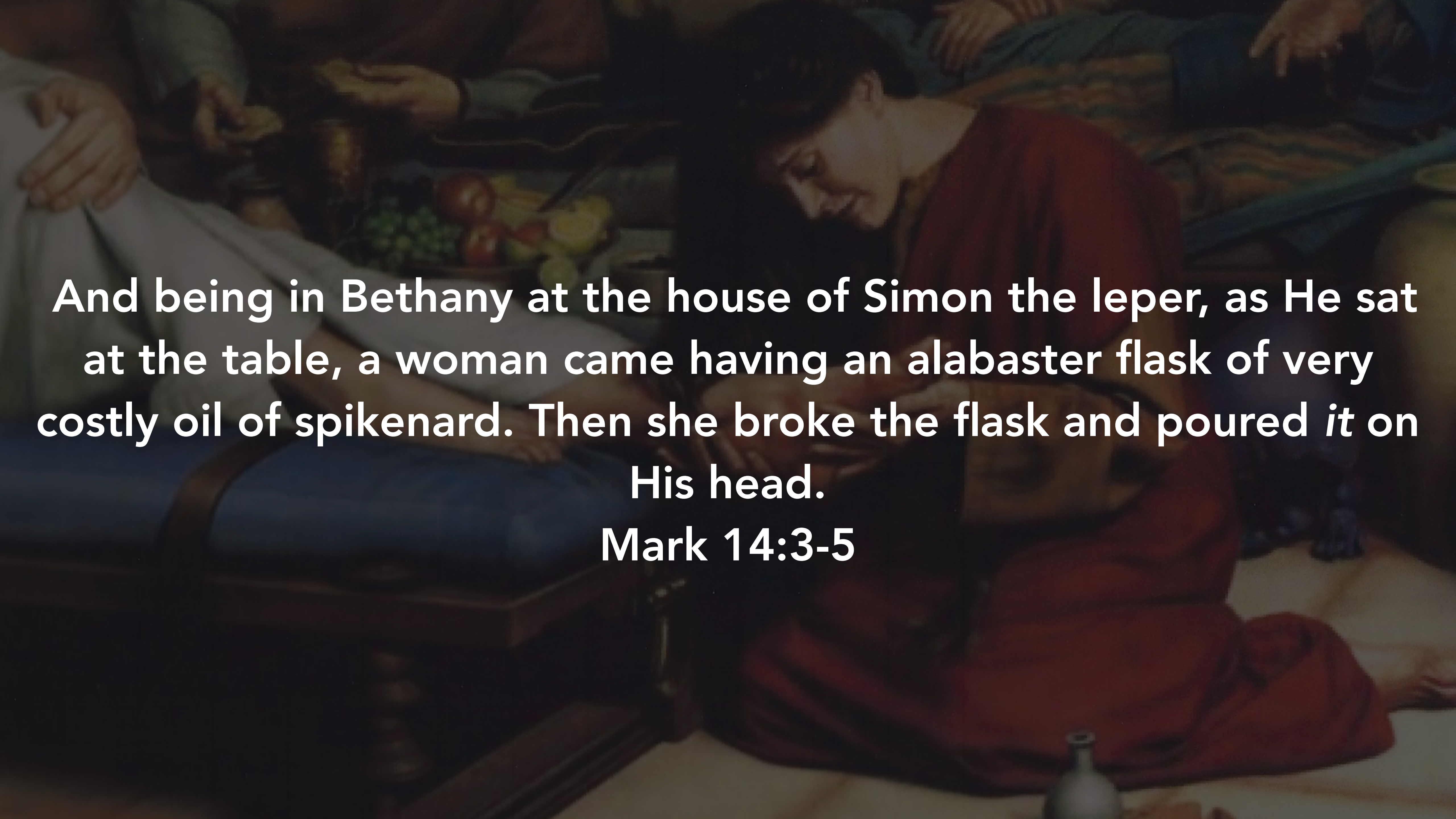
Someone shows up to this feast, uninvited, and  
she steals the show



A religious painting depicting a scene from the Bible, likely the Last Supper. Jesus, with long dark hair and a beard, is seated on the right, wearing a red robe over a brown tunic. He is leaning forward, washing the foot of a disciple who is reclining on the left. The disciple is wearing a white tunic and blue trousers. In the background, other disciples are visible, some reclining and some sitting. A table in the center holds a bowl of fruit, including grapes and apples, and a small cup. The scene is set in a room with a tiled floor and a wooden table. The overall tone is solemn and intimate.

# Mark 14

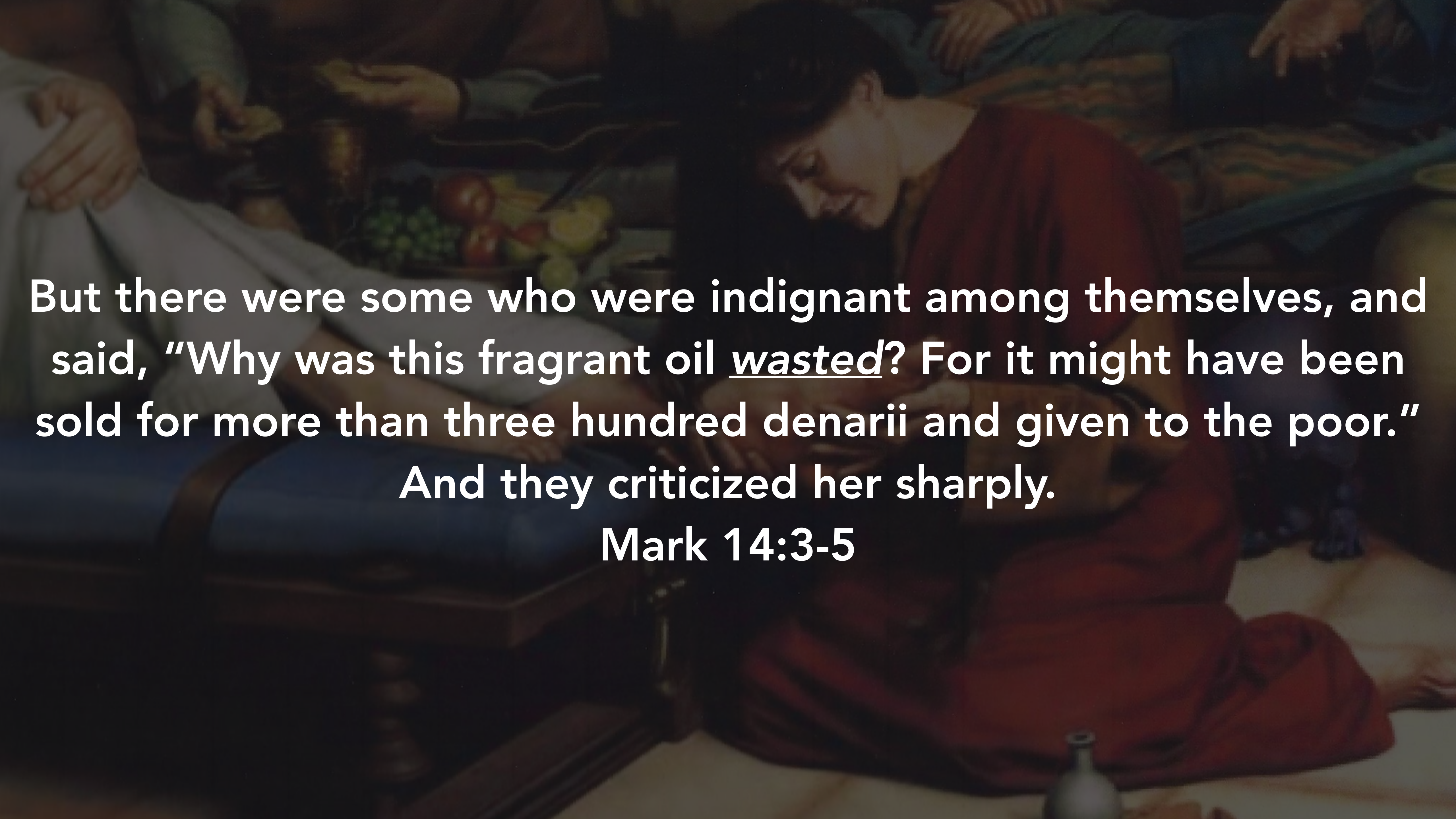




And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of very costly oil of spikenard. Then she broke the flask and poured *it* on His head.

Mark 14:3-5

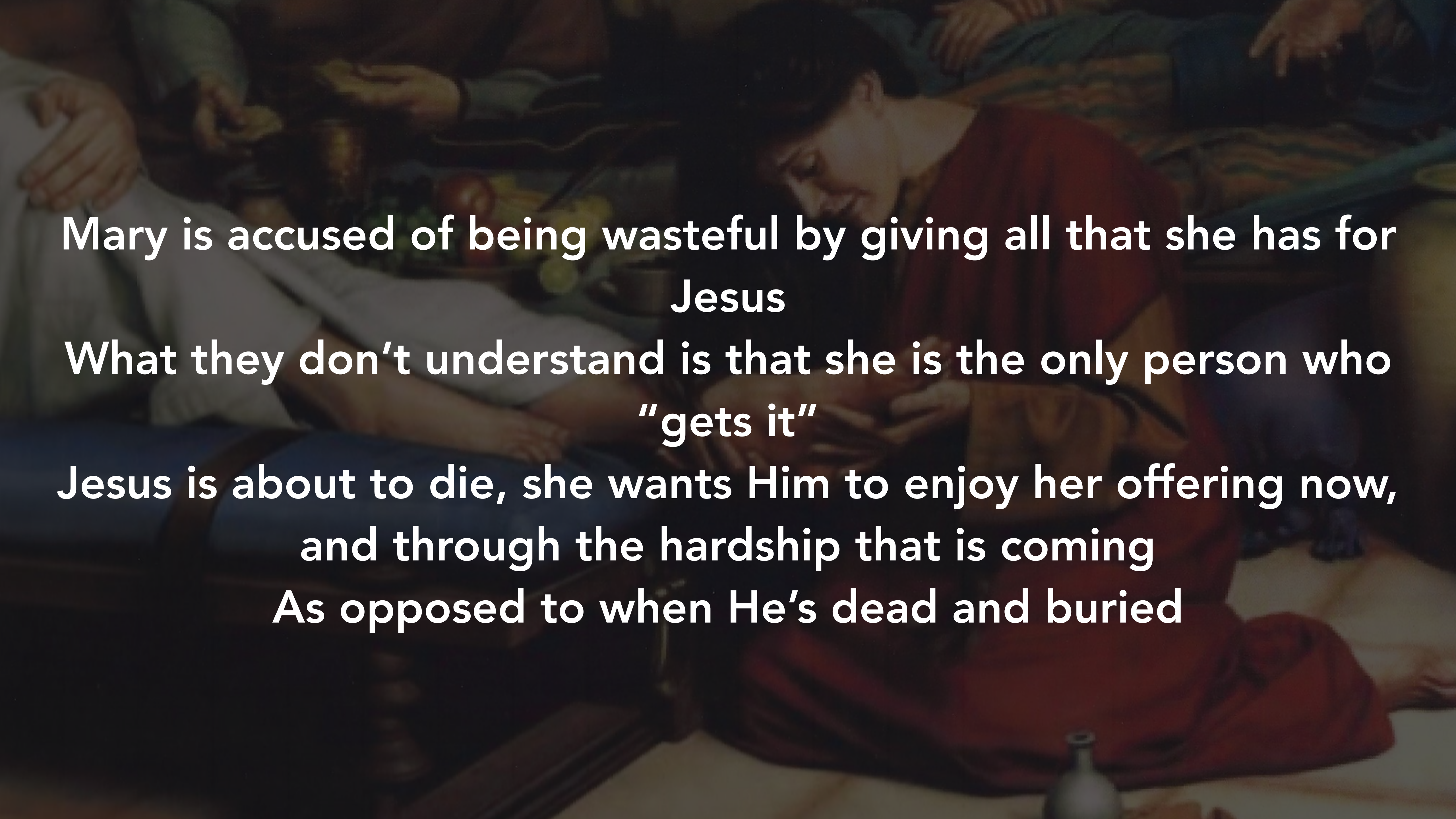




But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, "Why was this fragrant oil wasted? For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor."  
And they criticized her sharply.

Mark 14:3-5



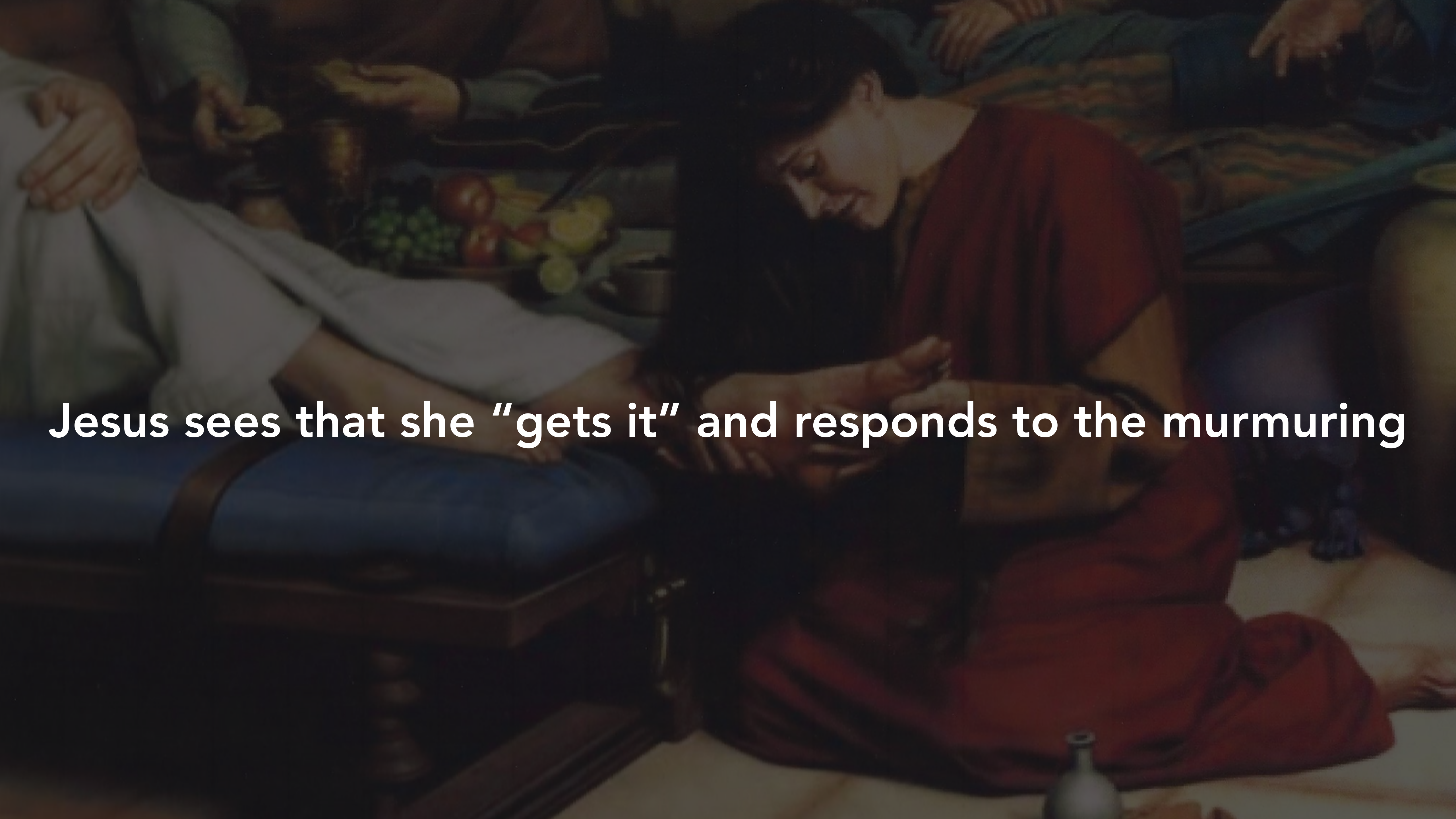


Mary is accused of being wasteful by giving all that she has for  
Jesus

What they don't understand is that she is the only person who  
"gets it"

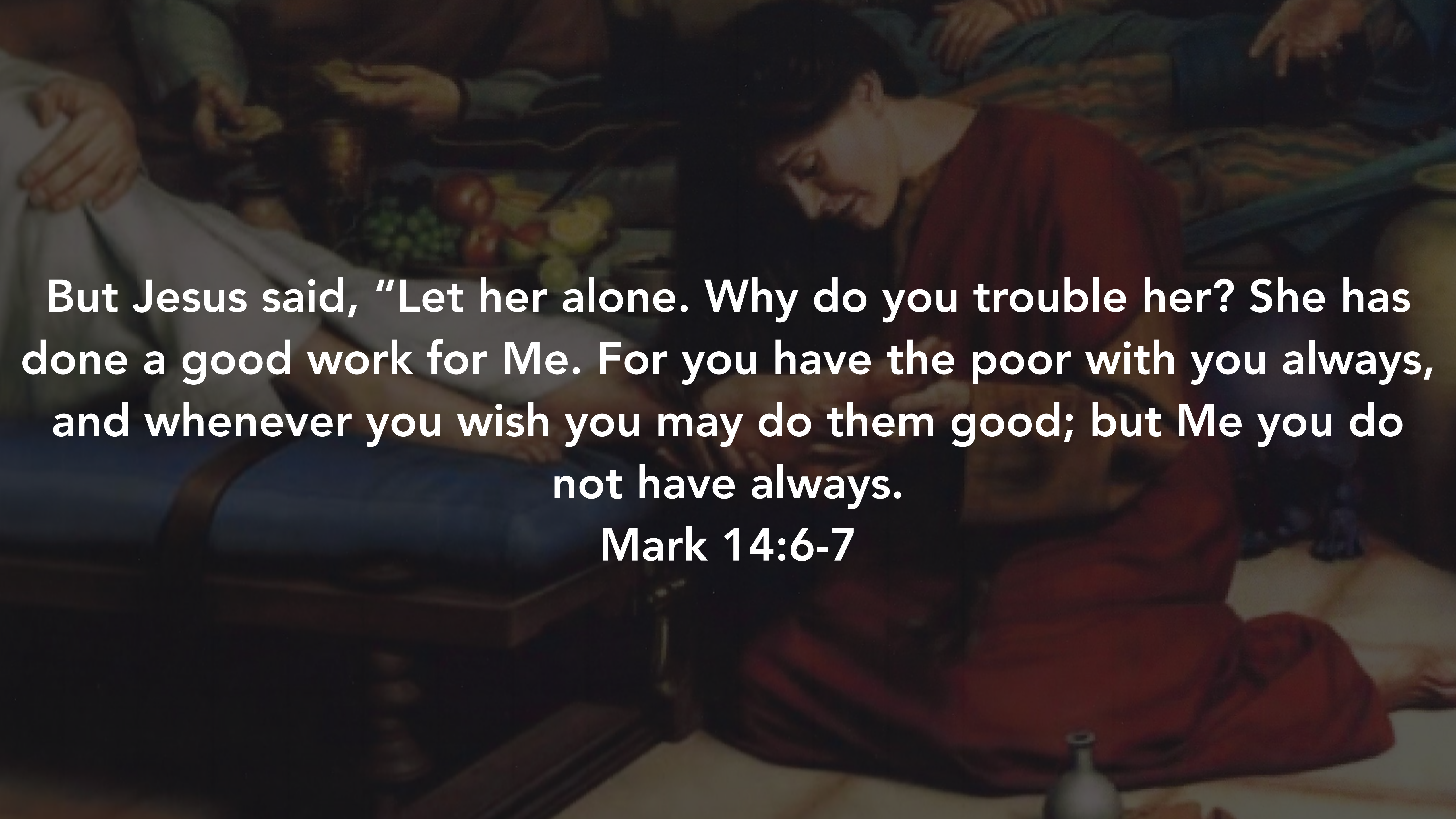
Jesus is about to die, she wants Him to enjoy her offering now,  
and through the hardship that is coming  
As opposed to when He's dead and buried





Jesus sees that she “gets it” and responds to the murmuring

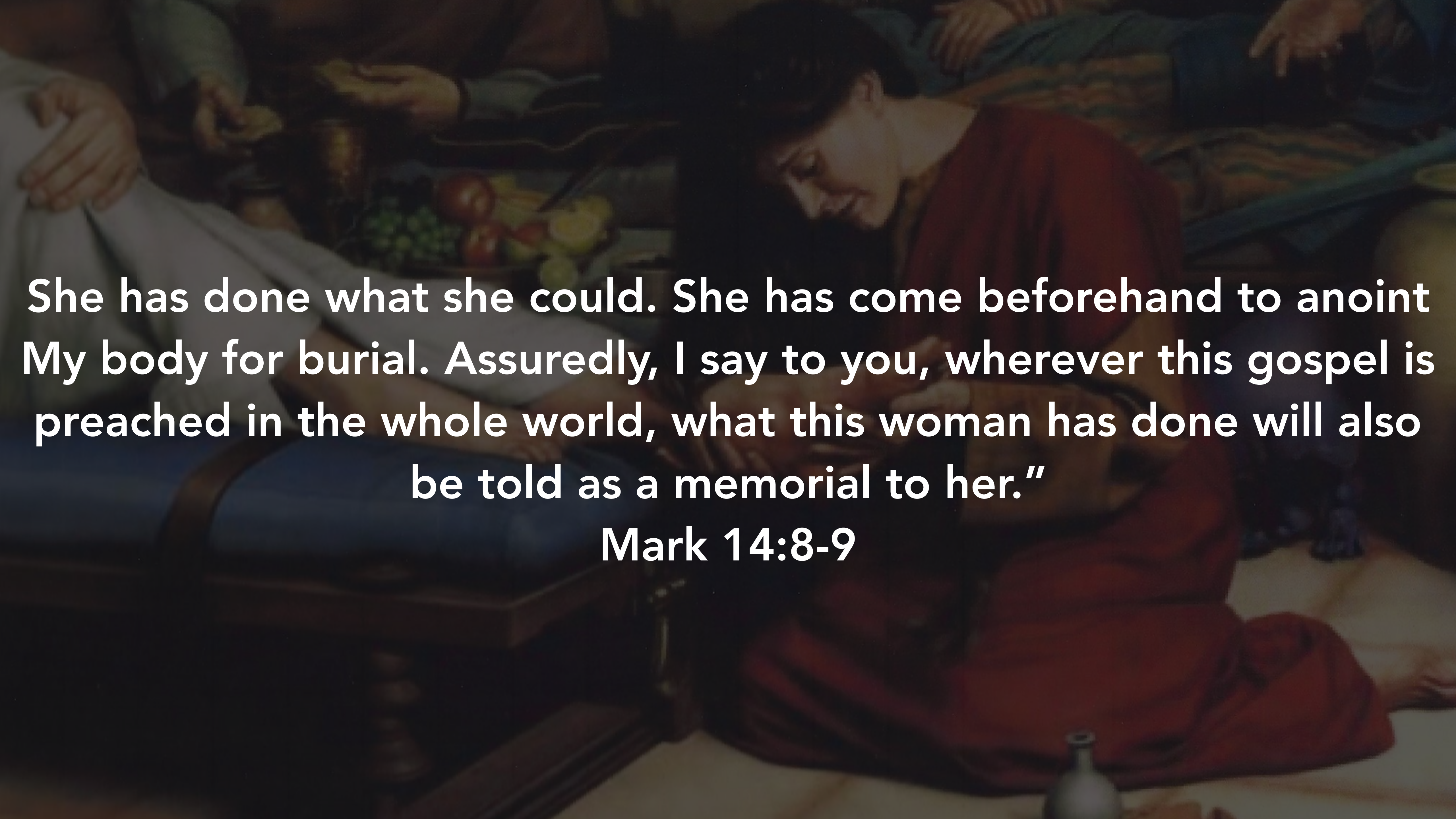




But Jesus said, "Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for Me. For you have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish you may do them good; but Me you do not have always.

Mark 14:6-7





She has done what she could. She has come beforehand to anoint  
My body for burial. Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is  
preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also  
be told as a memorial to her."

Mark 14:8-9



A painting depicting a scene of service. A woman in a red robe is kneeling and washing the foot of a man in a blue robe who is seated. A tray of fruit, including grapes and apples, is visible in the background. The scene is set in a room with a patterned rug and a small table with a vase.

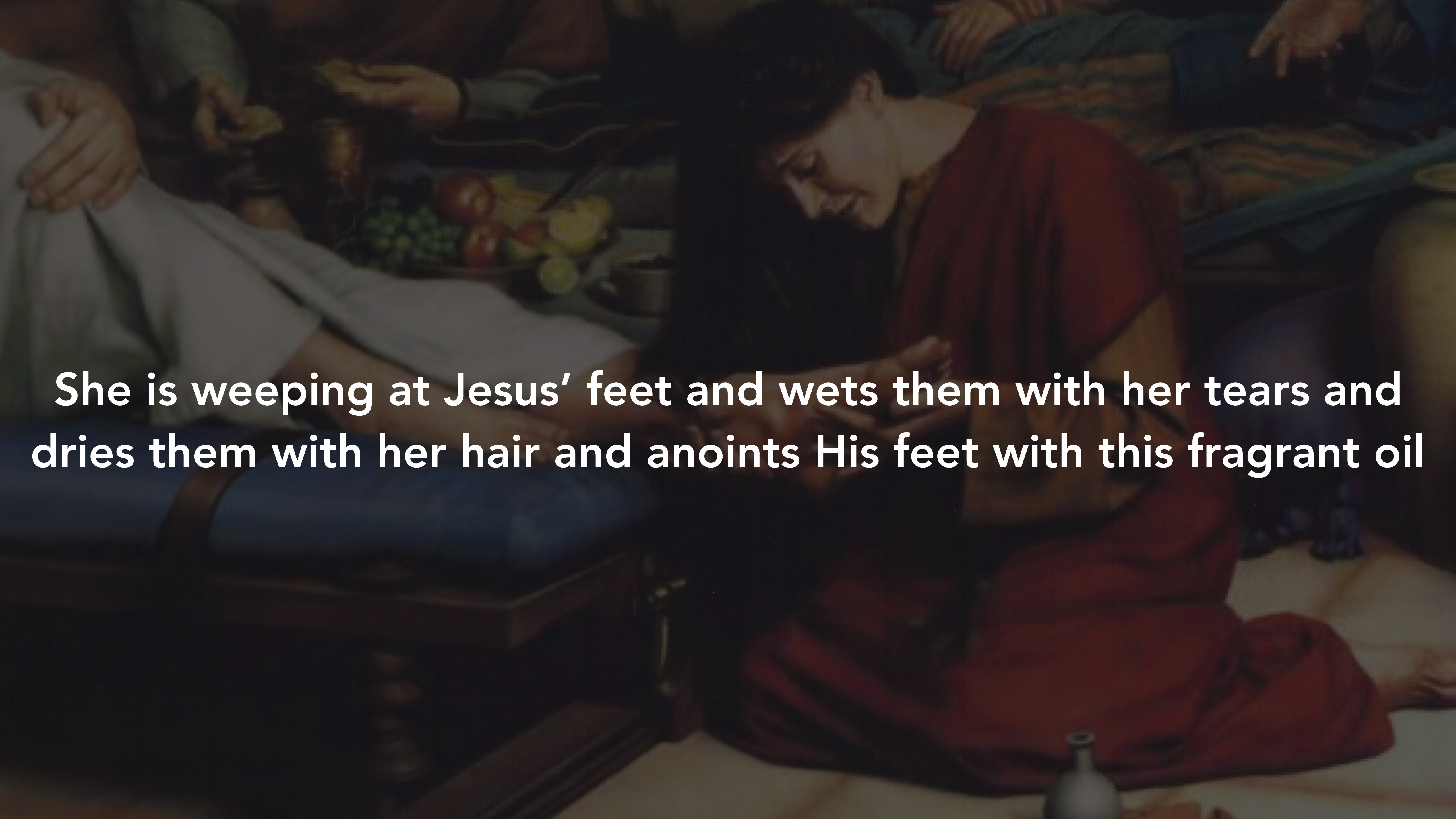
That's not the only murmuring that came from her offering





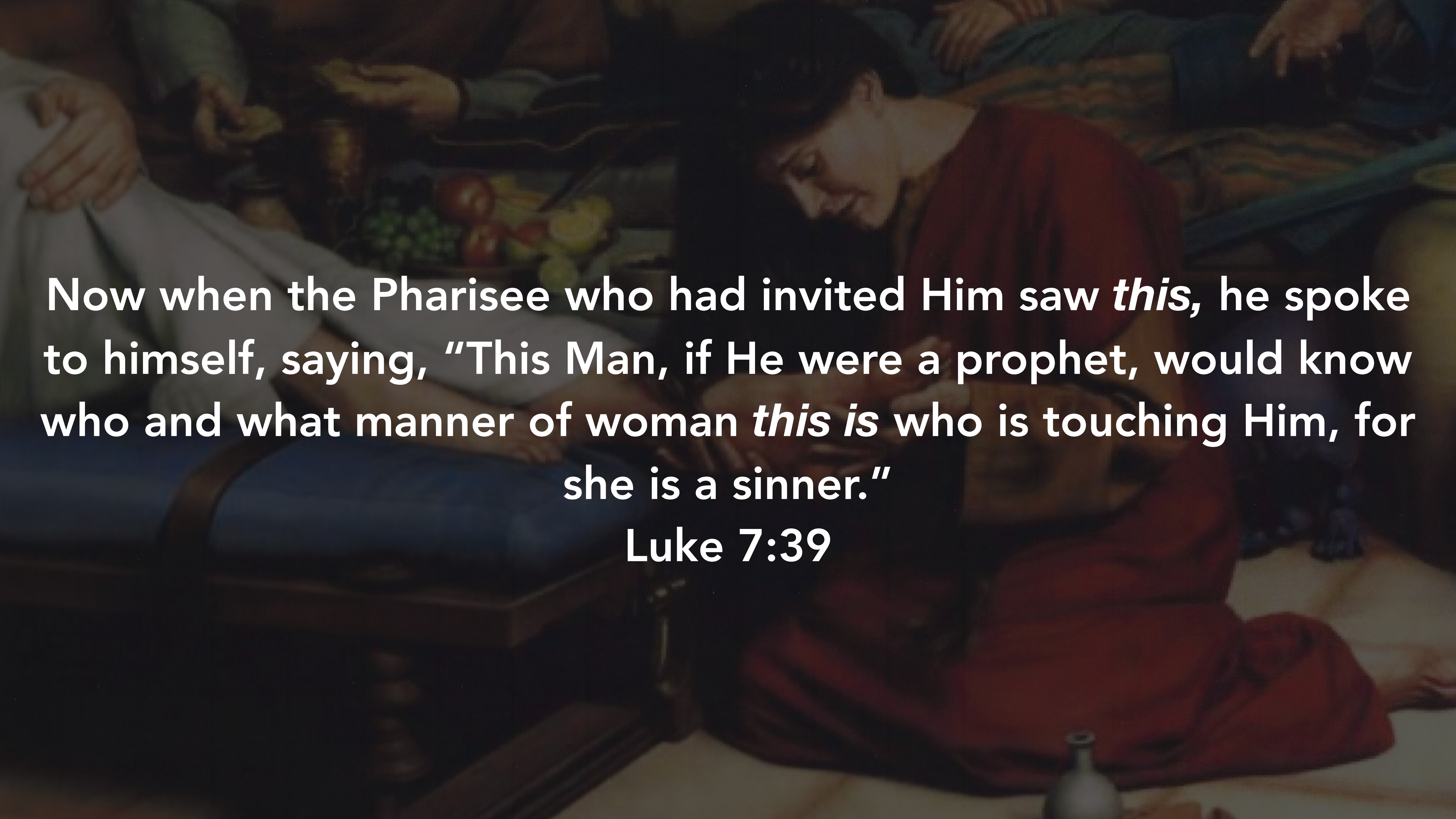
## Luke 7





She is weeping at Jesus' feet and wets them with her tears and dries them with her hair and anoints His feet with this fragrant oil

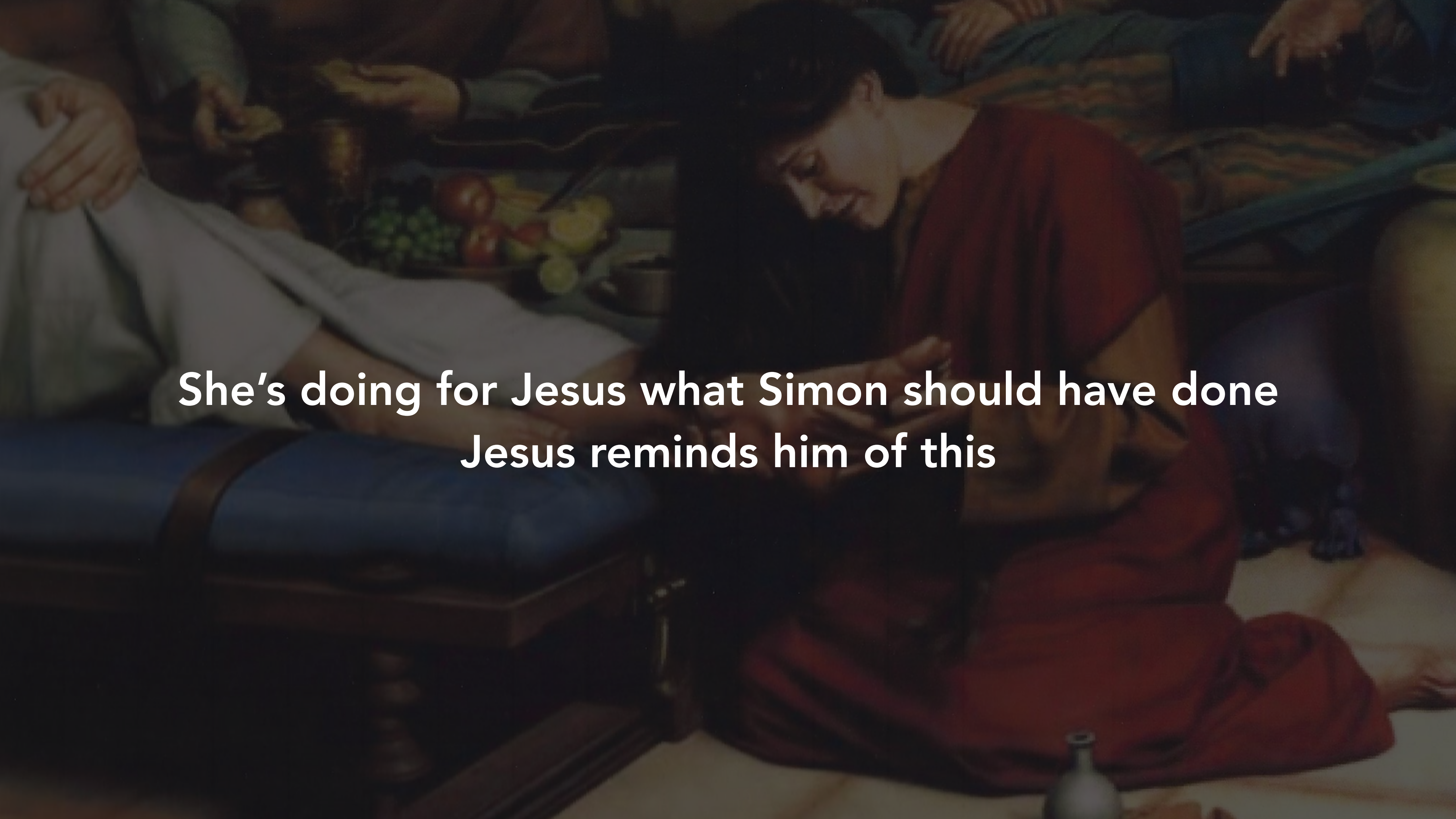


A painting depicting a woman in a red robe kneeling and touching the feet of a man in a white robe, likely Jesus, in a room with other people and food.

Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw *this*, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman *this is* who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."

Luke 7:39



A classical painting depicting Mary Magdalene anointing Jesus' feet. Mary, wearing a red robe, is kneeling on the floor, pouring oil from a small jar onto Jesus' feet. Jesus is reclining on a blue cushioned bench, looking down at her with a gentle expression. A white cloth is draped over his lap. In the background, a table holds a basket of fruit, including grapes and apples, and a small cup. Other figures are partially visible in the background, some looking on. The scene is set in a room with warm, golden light.

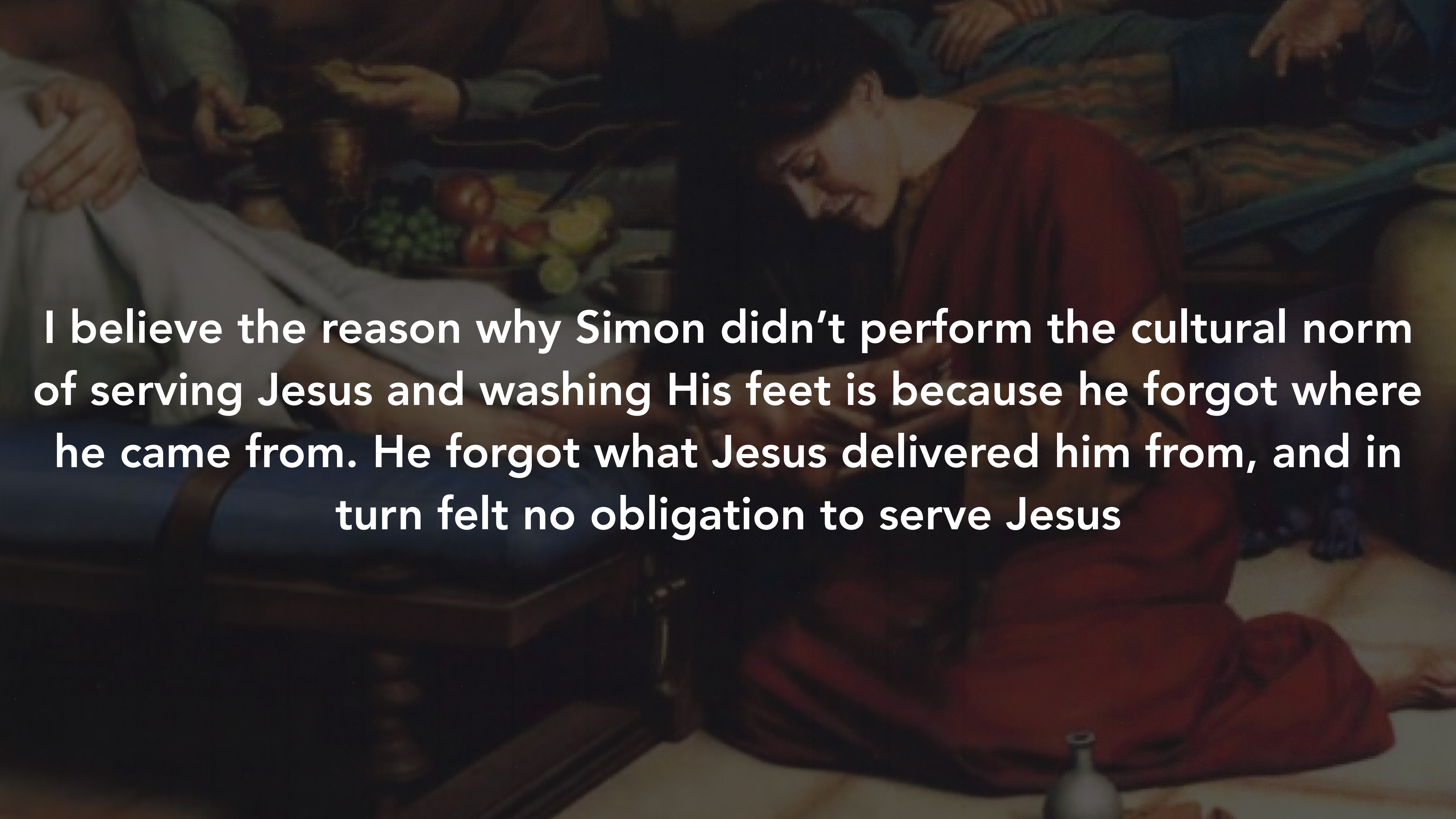
She's doing for Jesus what Simon should have done  
Jesus reminds him of this





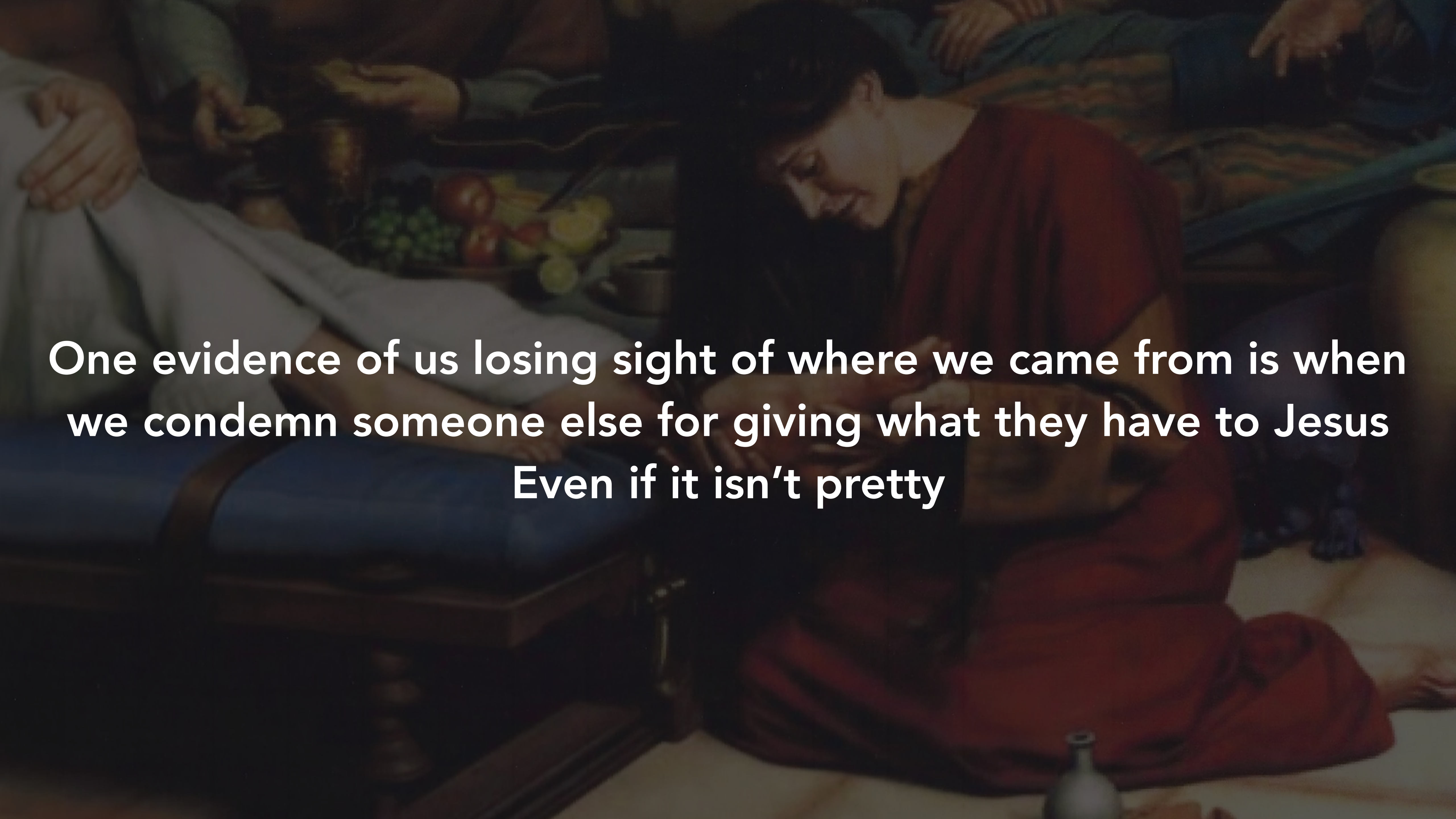
Luke 7:40-50



A painting depicting the biblical scene of Simon washing Jesus' feet. Simon, wearing a red robe, is kneeling on the floor, washing Jesus' feet with a cloth. Jesus is seated at a table, looking down at Simon. The table is set with a white cloth, a bowl of fruit (grapes and apples), and a small cup. Other figures are visible in the background, including a man in a blue robe and another in a red robe. The scene is set in a room with a tiled floor and a wooden table.

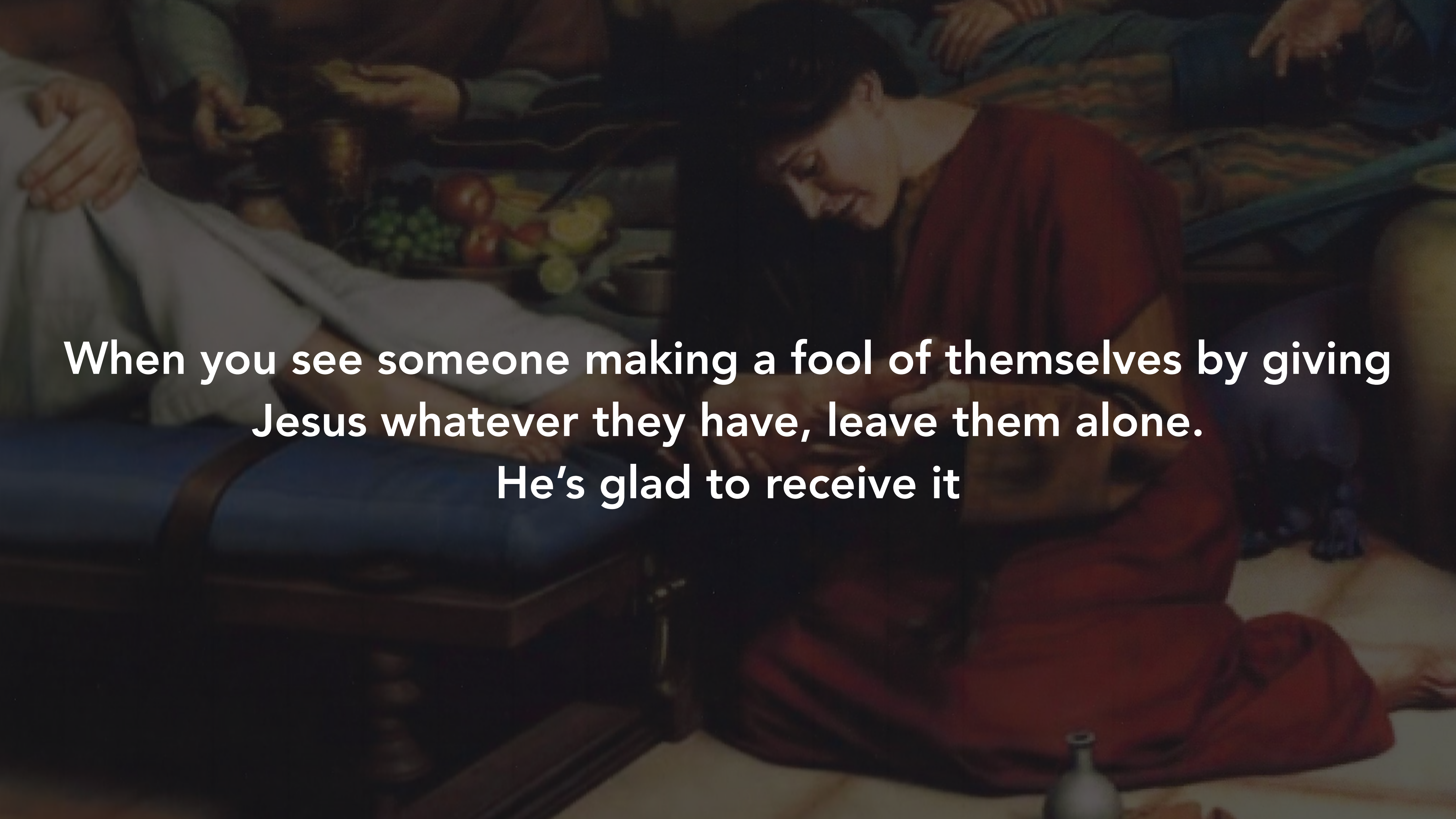
I believe the reason why Simon didn't perform the cultural norm of serving Jesus and washing His feet is because he forgot where he came from. He forgot what Jesus delivered him from, and in turn felt no obligation to serve Jesus





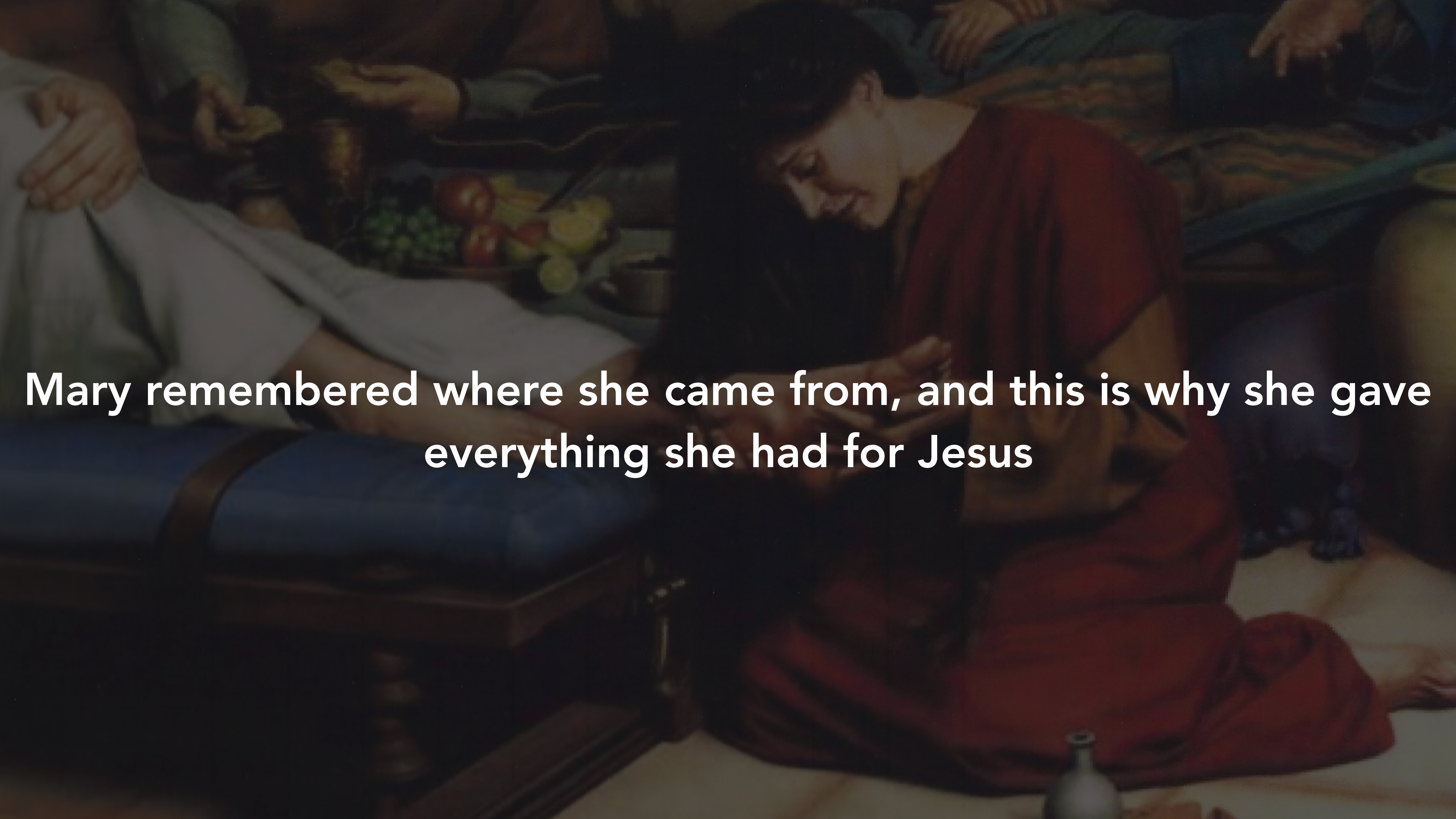
One evidence of us losing sight of where we came from is when  
we condemn someone else for giving what they have to Jesus  
Even if it isn't pretty



A religious painting depicting a scene where Jesus, with long dark hair and a beard, is washing the feet of a man in a red robe. The man is kneeling on the floor, and Jesus is seated, leaning over him. In the background, other figures are visible, including a man in a white robe and another in a blue robe. A table with various items, including a bowl of fruit and a small cup, is in the foreground. The overall scene is set in a room with a tiled floor and a patterned rug.

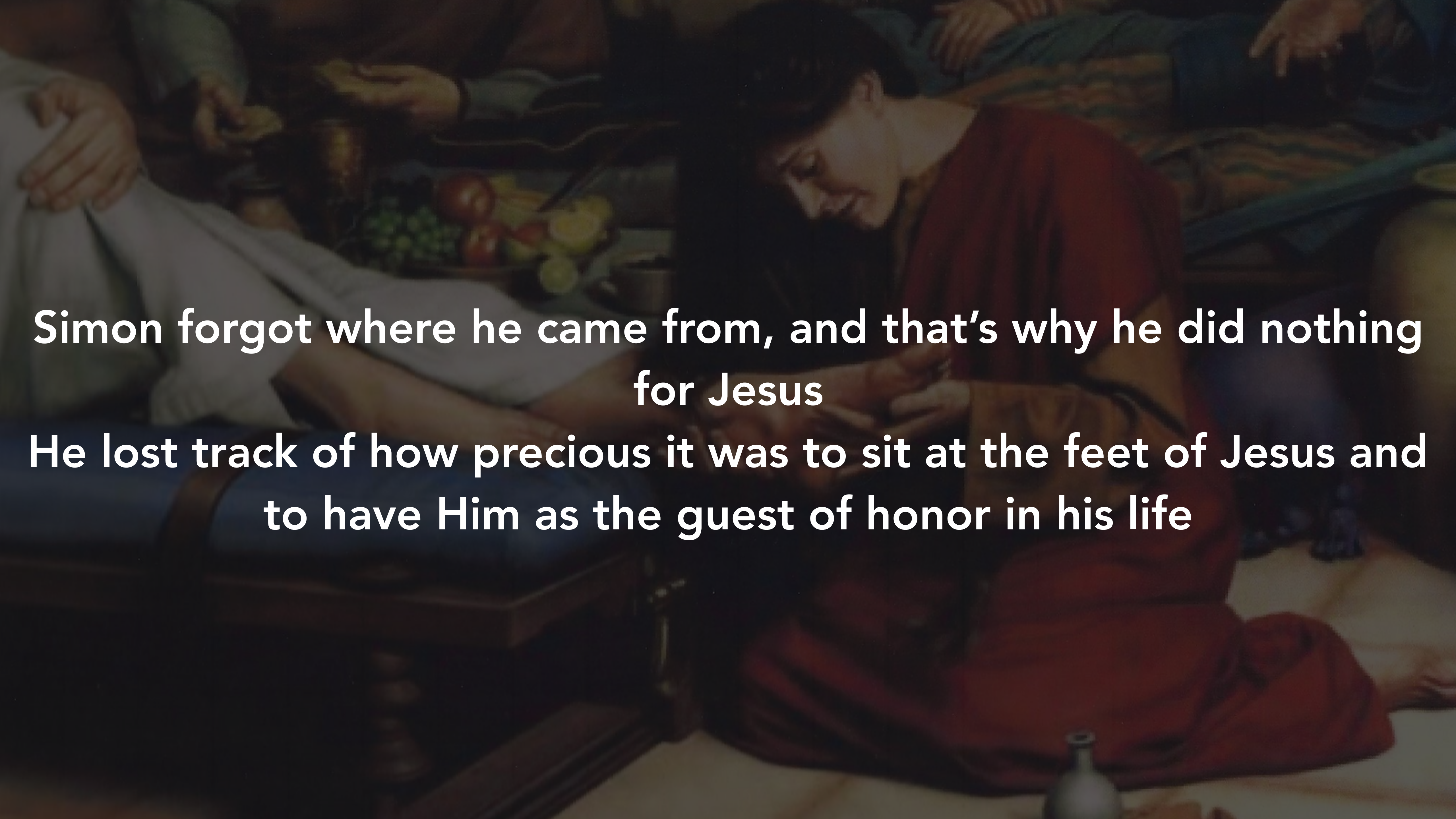
When you see someone making a fool of themselves by giving  
Jesus whatever they have, leave them alone.  
He's glad to receive it





Mary remembered where she came from, and this is why she gave everything she had for Jesus

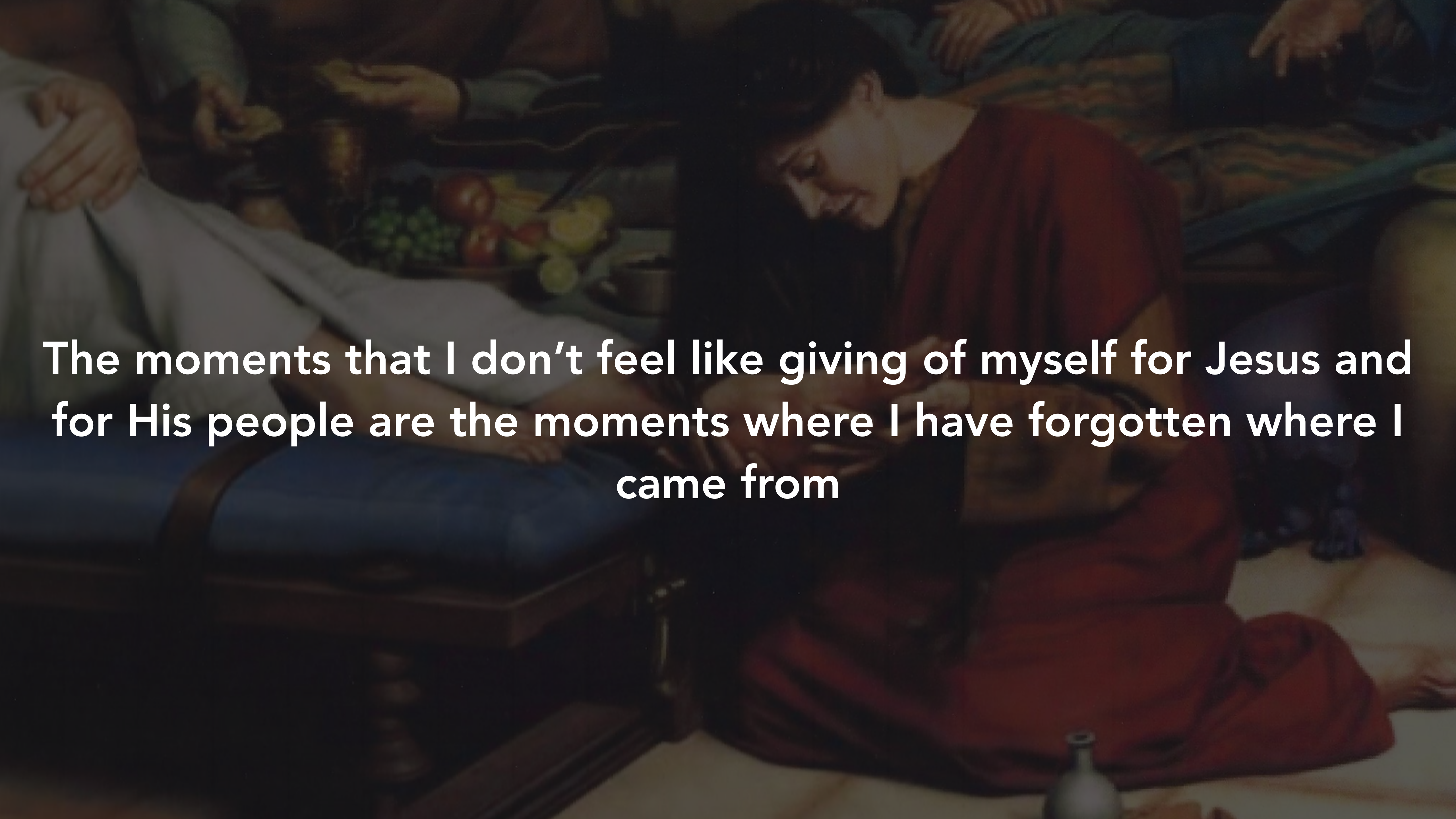


A religious painting depicting Simon washing Jesus' feet. Simon, wearing a red robe, is kneeling and pouring water from a small vessel into a larger one held by Jesus. Jesus is seated, wearing a blue robe, and looking down at Simon with a gentle expression. In the background, other figures are visible, including one holding a white cloth. A basket of fruit, including grapes and apples, sits on a table to the left. The scene is set indoors with a tiled floor and a wooden structure in the foreground.

**Simon forgot where he came from, and that's why he did nothing  
for Jesus**

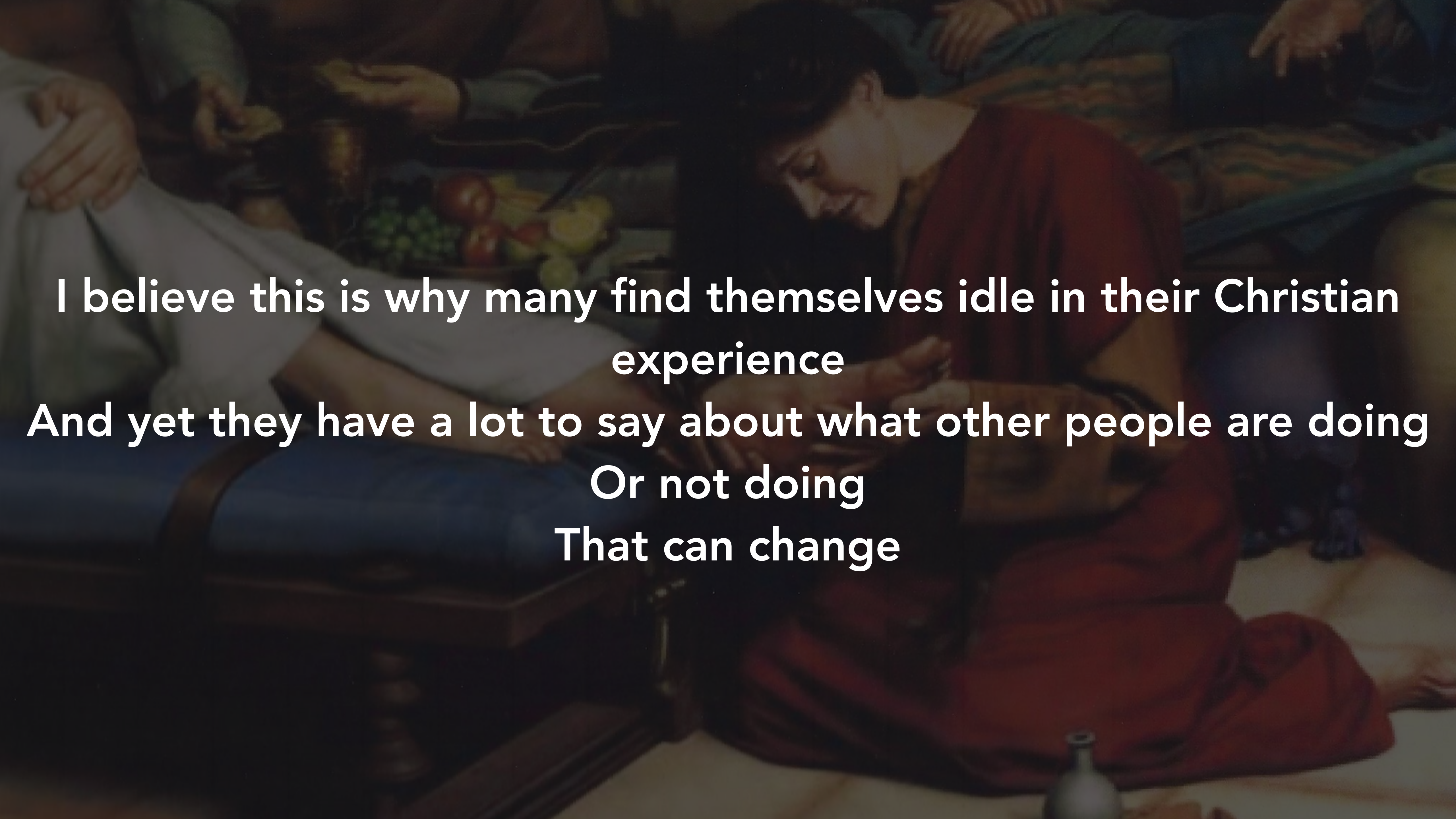
**He lost track of how precious it was to sit at the feet of Jesus and  
to have Him as the guest of honor in his life**



A religious painting depicting the Last Supper. Jesus, with long dark hair and a beard, is seated on the right, wearing a red robe, and is washing the foot of a disciple lying down on the left. The disciple is wearing a blue robe. Other disciples are visible in the background, some seated and some standing. A table with a white cloth holds various items, including a bowl of fruit (grapes, apples, pears) and a small cup. The scene is set in a room with a tiled floor and a wooden table.

The moments that I don't feel like giving of myself for Jesus and  
for His people are the moments where I have forgotten where I  
came from





I believe this is why many find themselves idle in their Christian  
experience

And yet they have a lot to say about what other people are doing

Or not doing

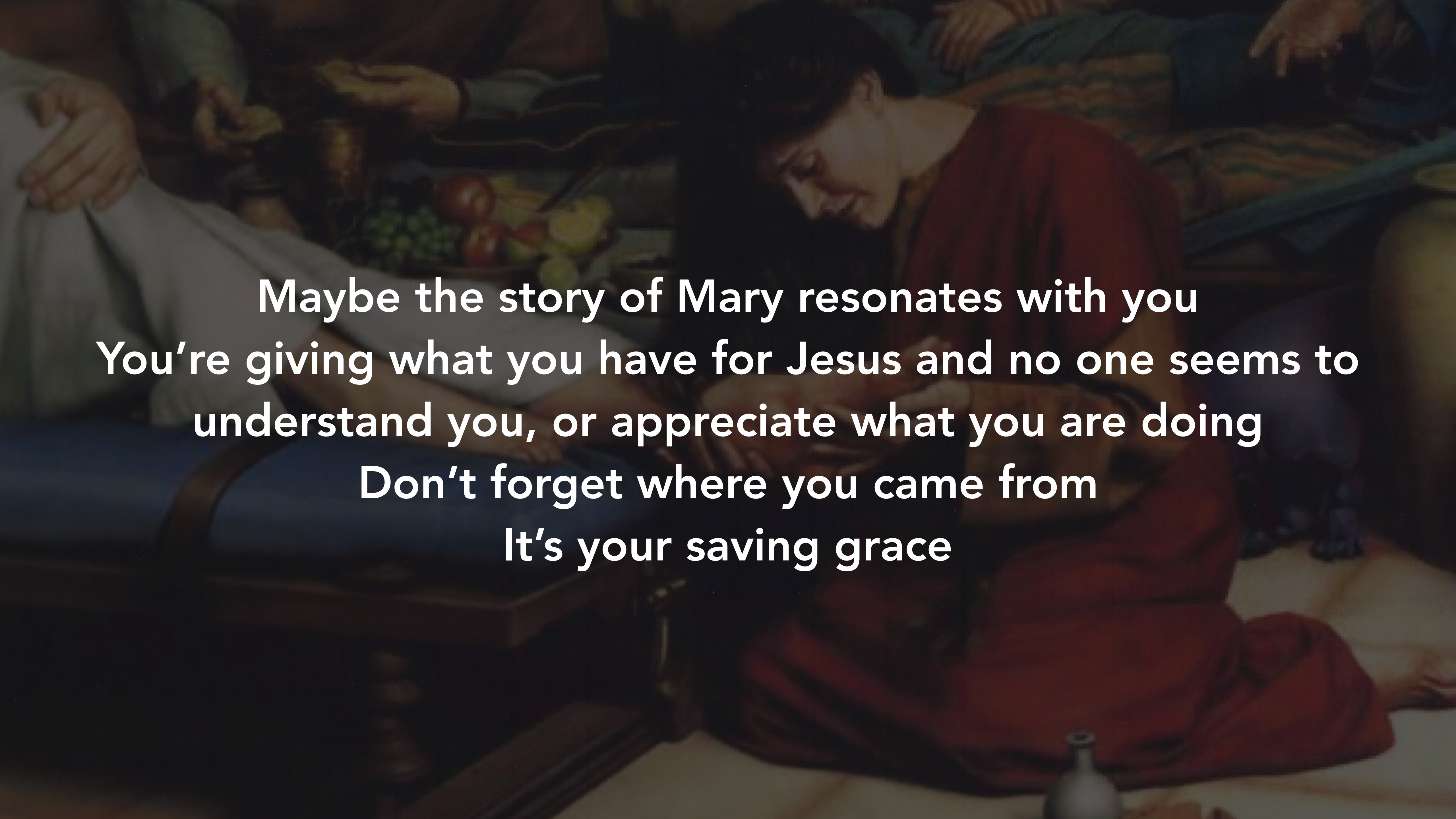
That can change



A painting depicting a woman in a red robe kneeling and washing the foot of a man lying in a bed. The man is wearing a white shirt and blue trousers. A tray of fruit, including grapes and apples, sits on a table next to the bed. The scene is set in a room with a patterned rug and a small vase on the floor.

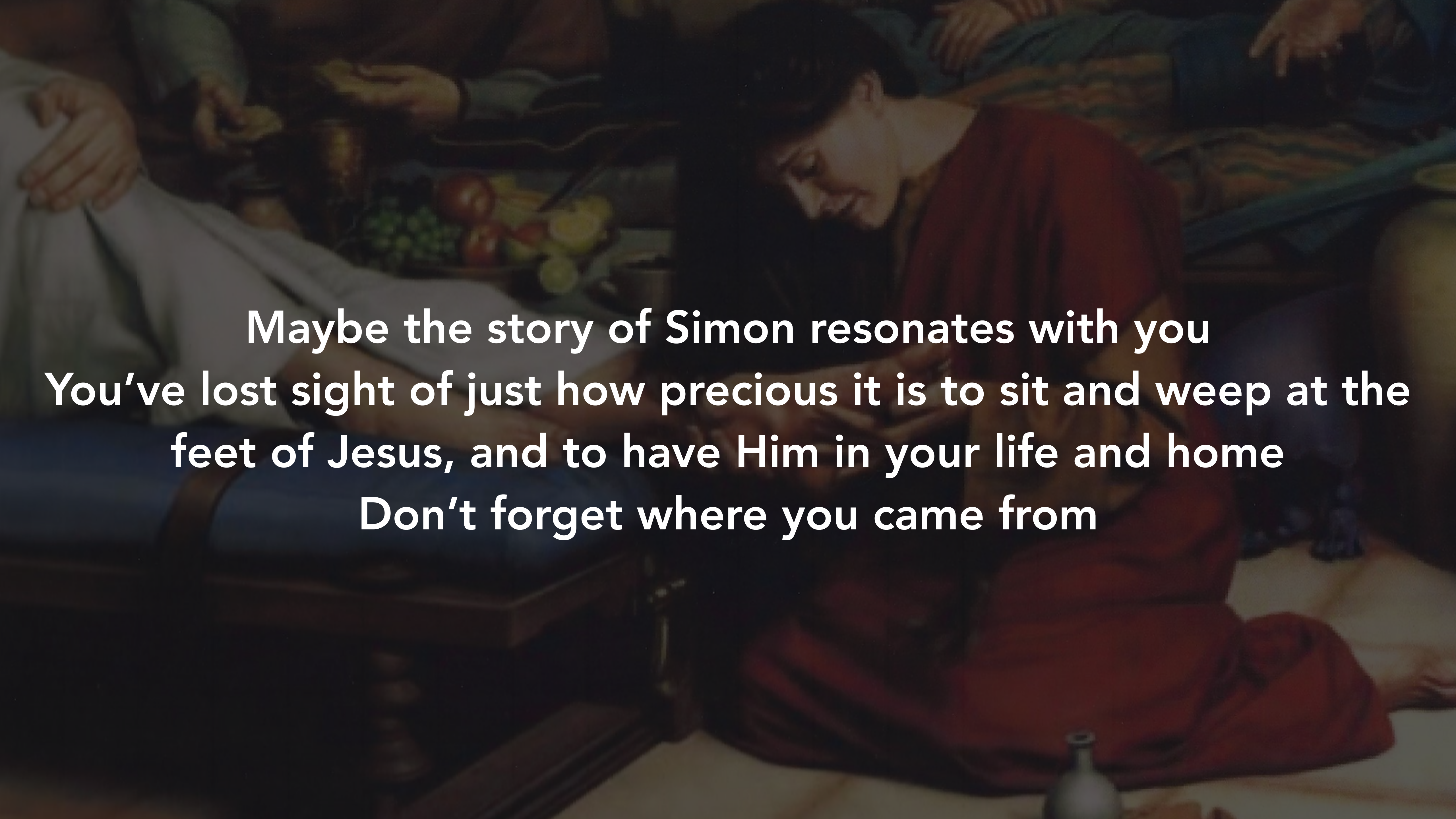
I don't know where you find yourself this morning





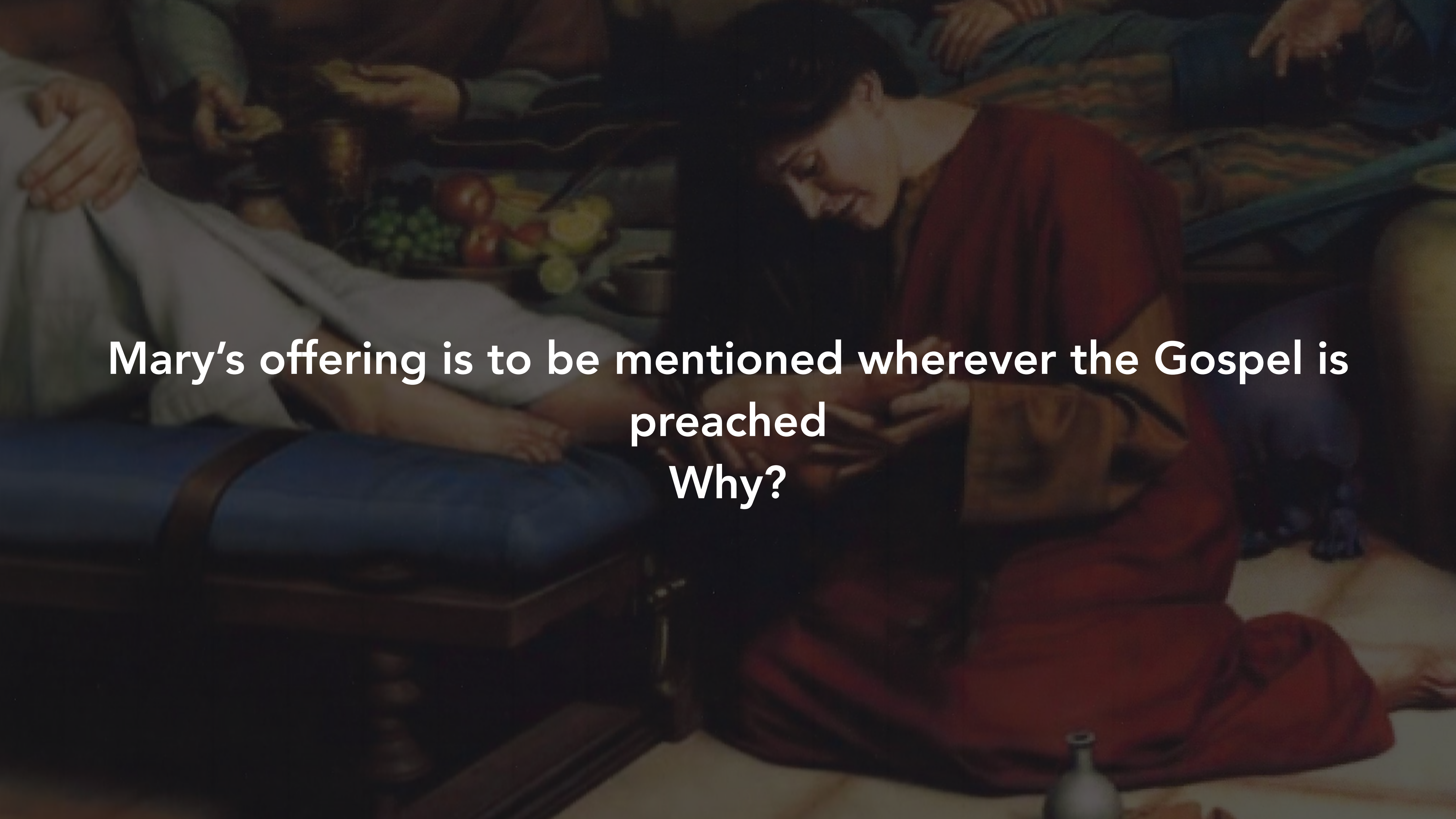
Maybe the story of Mary resonates with you  
You're giving what you have for Jesus and no one seems to  
understand you, or appreciate what you are doing  
Don't forget where you came from  
It's your saving grace



A painting depicting the biblical story of Simon Peter washing Jesus' feet. Jesus is reclining on the right, wearing a blue robe, with his head resting on a cushion. Simon Peter, wearing a red robe, is kneeling on the left, washing Jesus' right foot with a sponge and water from a small jar. A white cloth is draped over Jesus' lap and legs. In the background, other figures are visible, including a woman in a blue robe. A basket of fruit, including grapes and apples, sits on a table in the foreground. The scene is set in a room with a tiled floor and a wooden table.

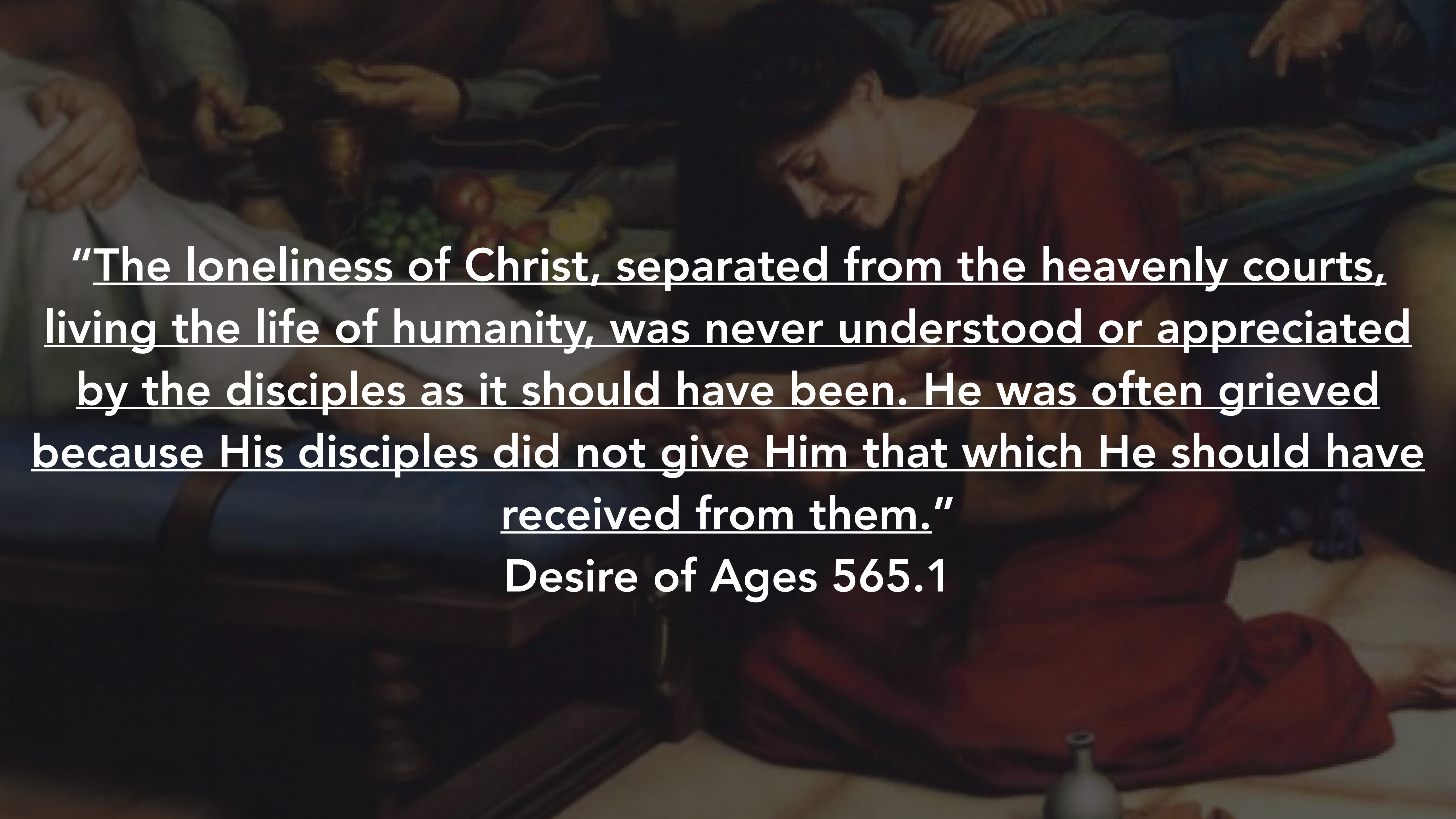
Maybe the story of Simon resonates with you  
You've lost sight of just how precious it is to sit and weep at the  
feet of Jesus, and to have Him in your life and home  
Don't forget where you came from





Mary's offering is to be mentioned wherever the Gospel is  
preached  
Why?

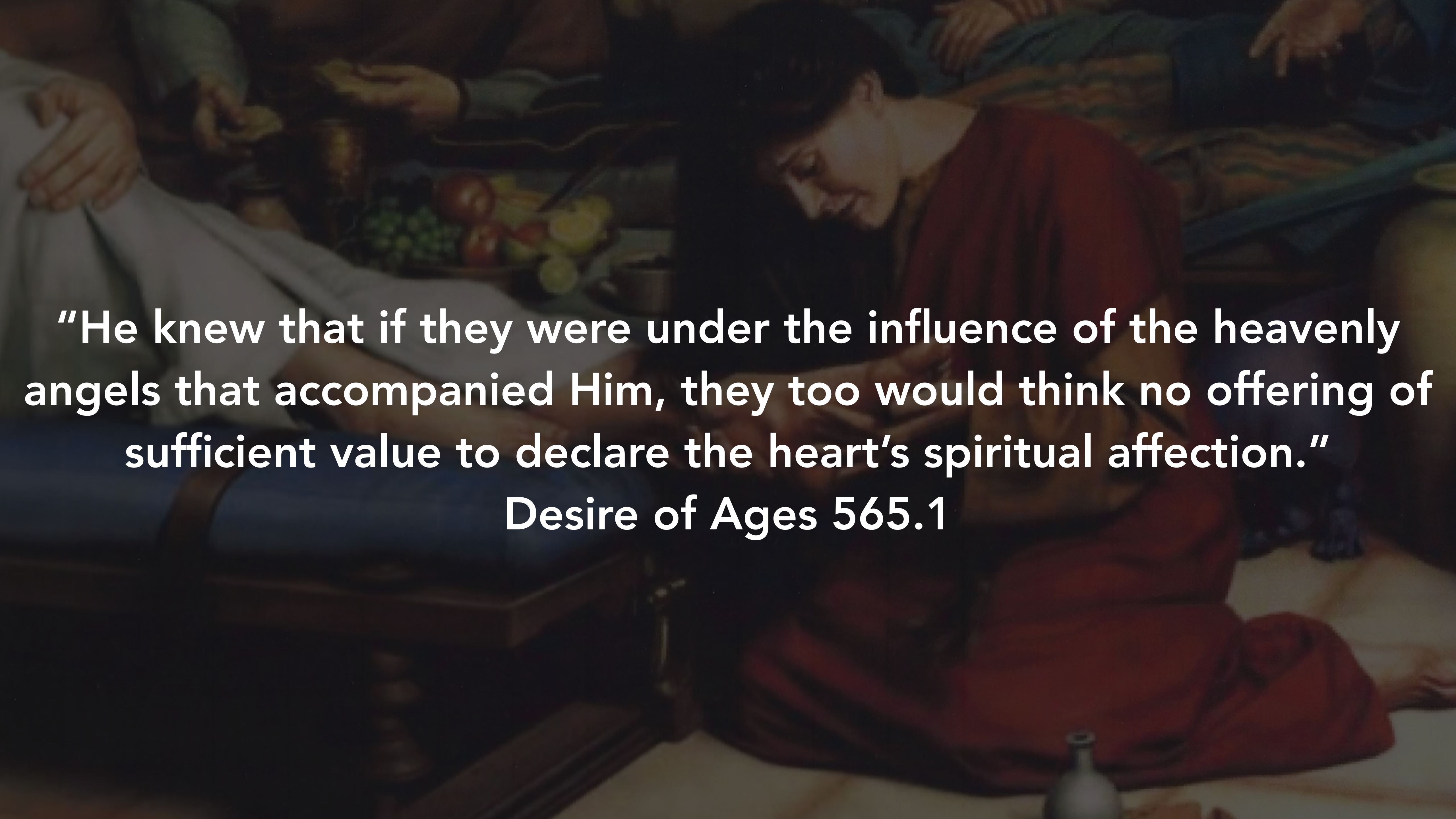


A painting depicting Jesus washing the feet of his disciples at the Last Supper. Jesus, wearing a red robe, is seated and leaning over a disciple, washing their foot. Other disciples are visible in the background, some eating and drinking. The scene is set in a room with a table covered in a white cloth, laden with food and drink. The lighting is warm and focused on the central figures.

"The loneliness of Christ, separated from the heavenly courts, living the life of humanity, was never understood or appreciated by the disciples as it should have been. He was often grieved because His disciples did not give Him that which He should have received from them."

Desire of Ages 565.1

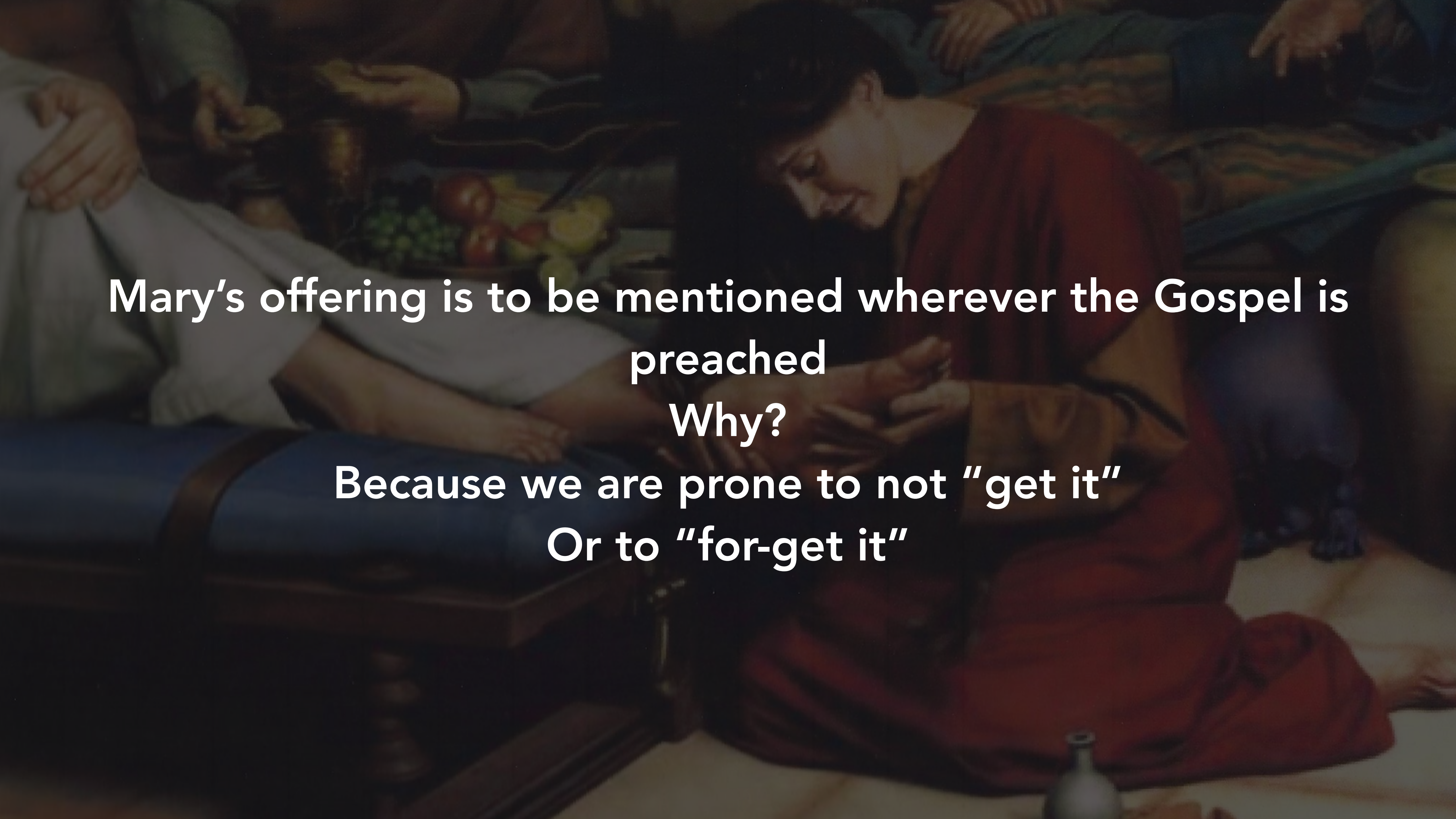




**“He knew that if they were under the influence of the heavenly angels that accompanied Him, they too would think no offering of sufficient value to declare the heart’s spiritual affection.”**

**Desire of Ages 565.1**





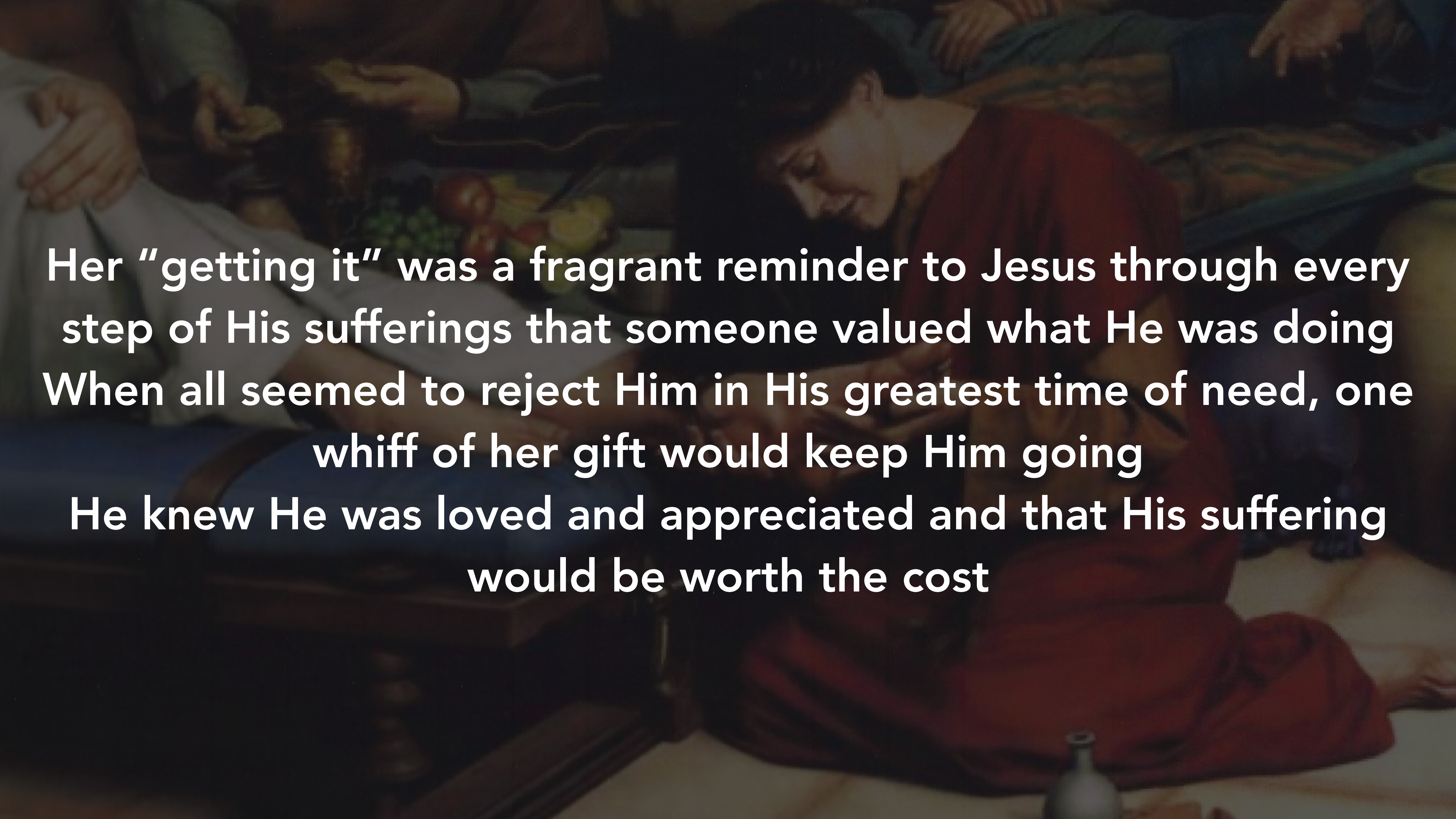
Mary's offering is to be mentioned wherever the Gospel is  
preached

Why?

Because we are prone to not "get it"

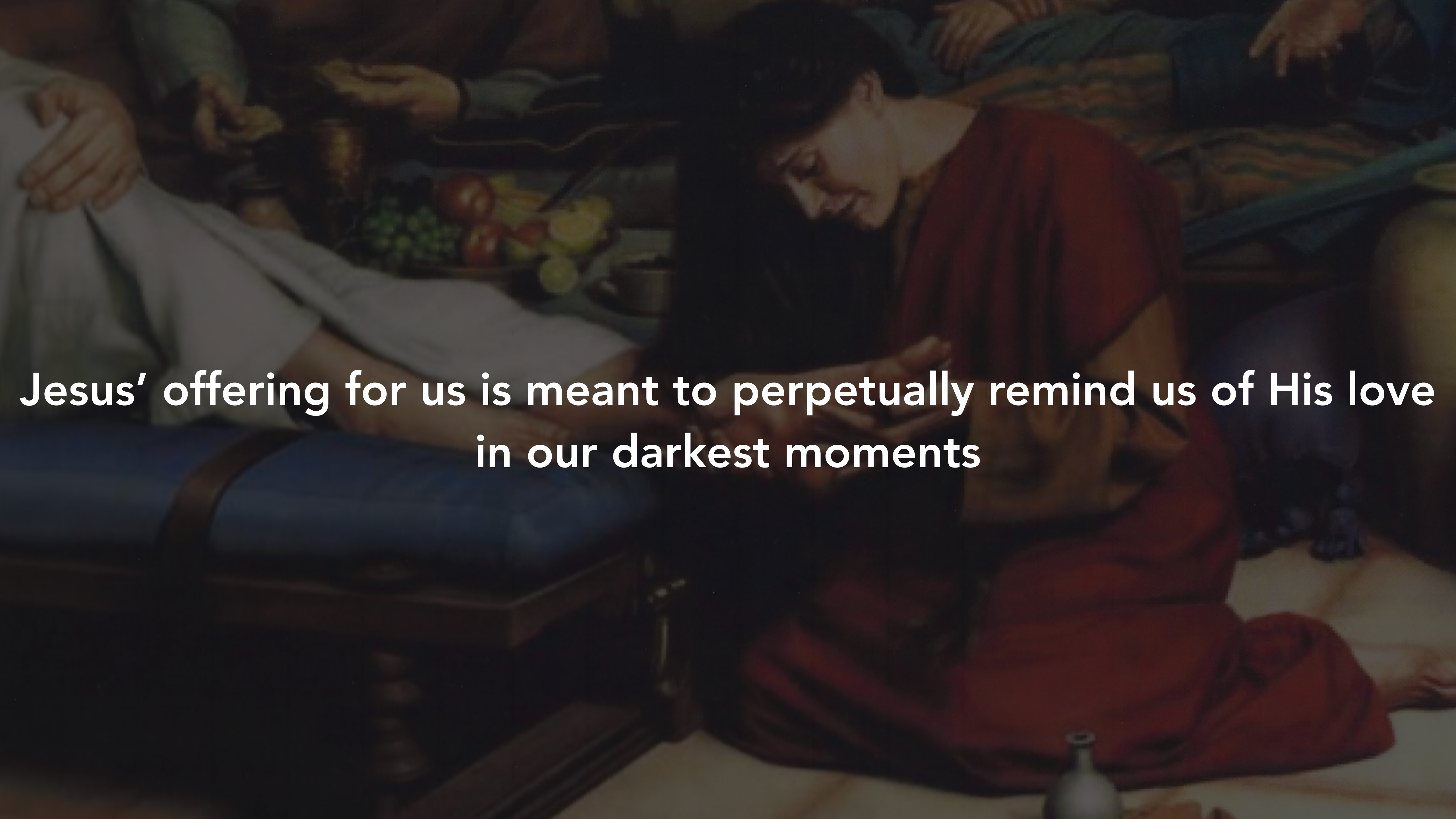
Or to "for-get it"



A painting depicting the Last Supper. In the foreground, Mary Magdalene is shown in a red robe, kneeling and weeping, holding a small jar. She is looking down at her hands. In the background, Jesus and the other apostles are seated around a table, eating and drinking. The scene is dimly lit, with a focus on the figures in the foreground.

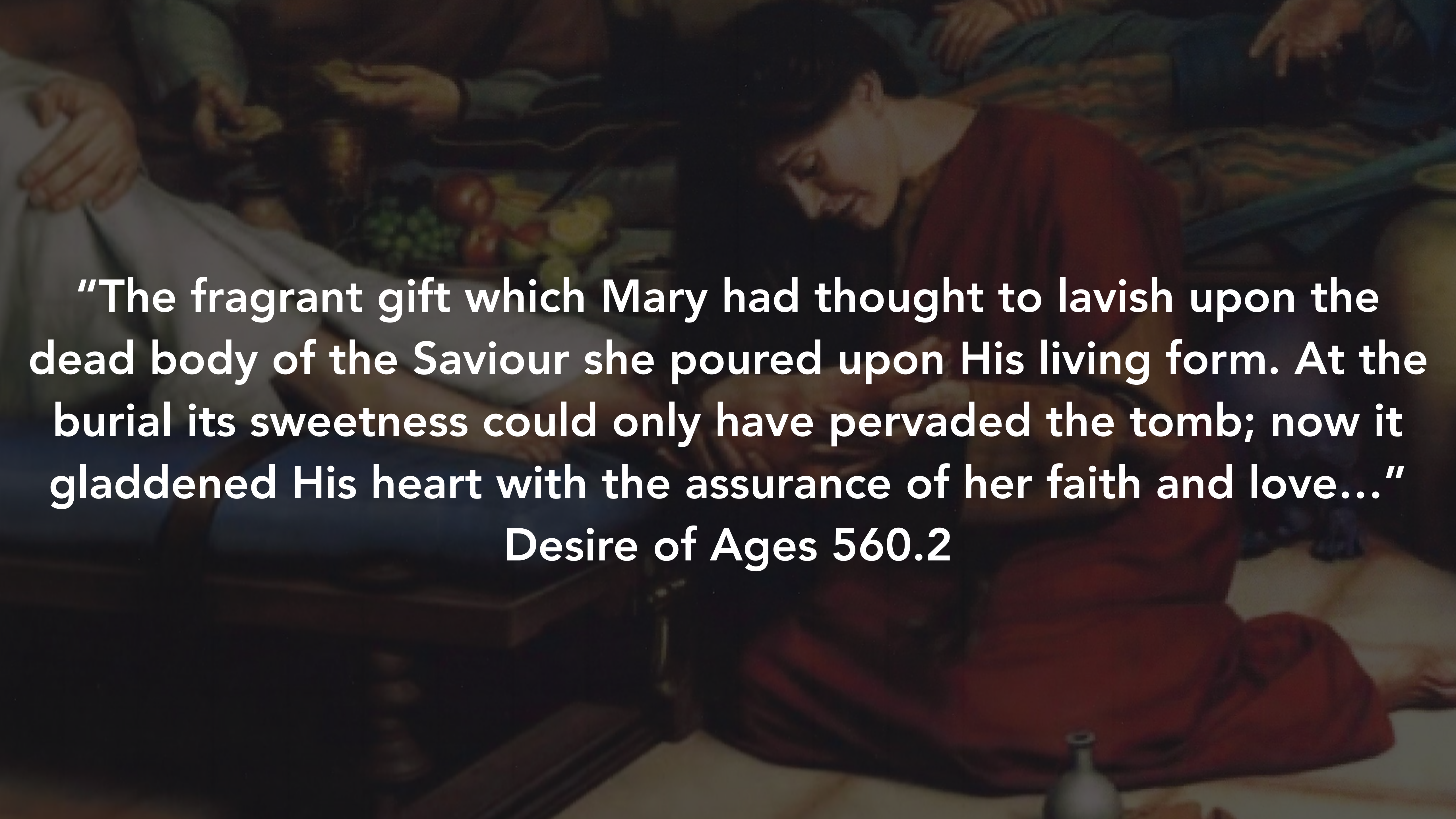
Her “getting it” was a fragrant reminder to Jesus through every  
step of His sufferings that someone valued what He was doing  
When all seemed to reject Him in His greatest time of need, one  
whiff of her gift would keep Him going  
He knew He was loved and appreciated and that His suffering  
would be worth the cost





Jesus' offering for us is meant to perpetually remind us of His love  
in our darkest moments

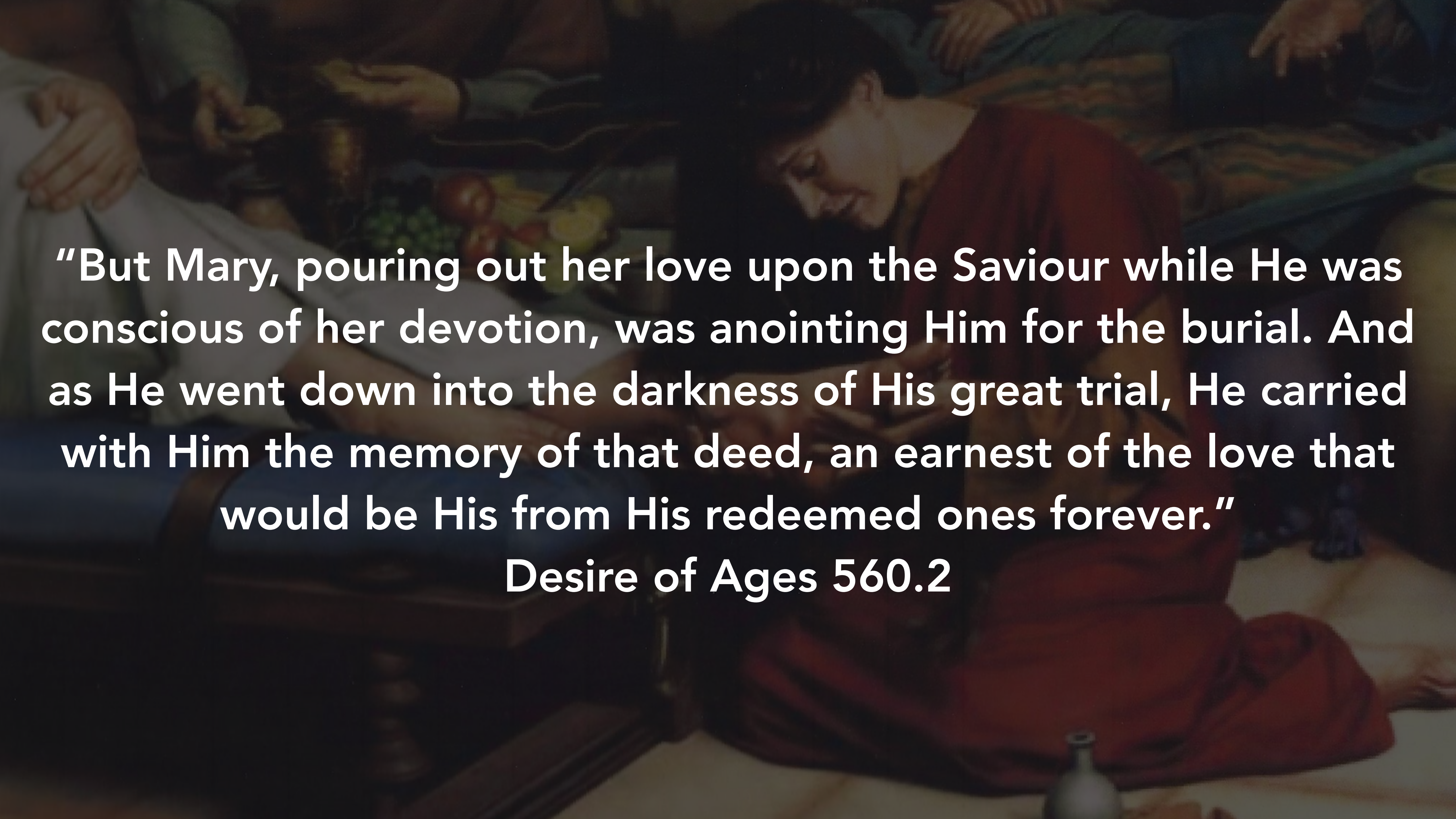




**“The fragrant gift which Mary had thought to lavish upon the dead body of the Saviour she poured upon His living form. At the burial its sweetness could only have pervaded the tomb; now it gladdened His heart with the assurance of her faith and love...”**

**Desire of Ages 560.2**

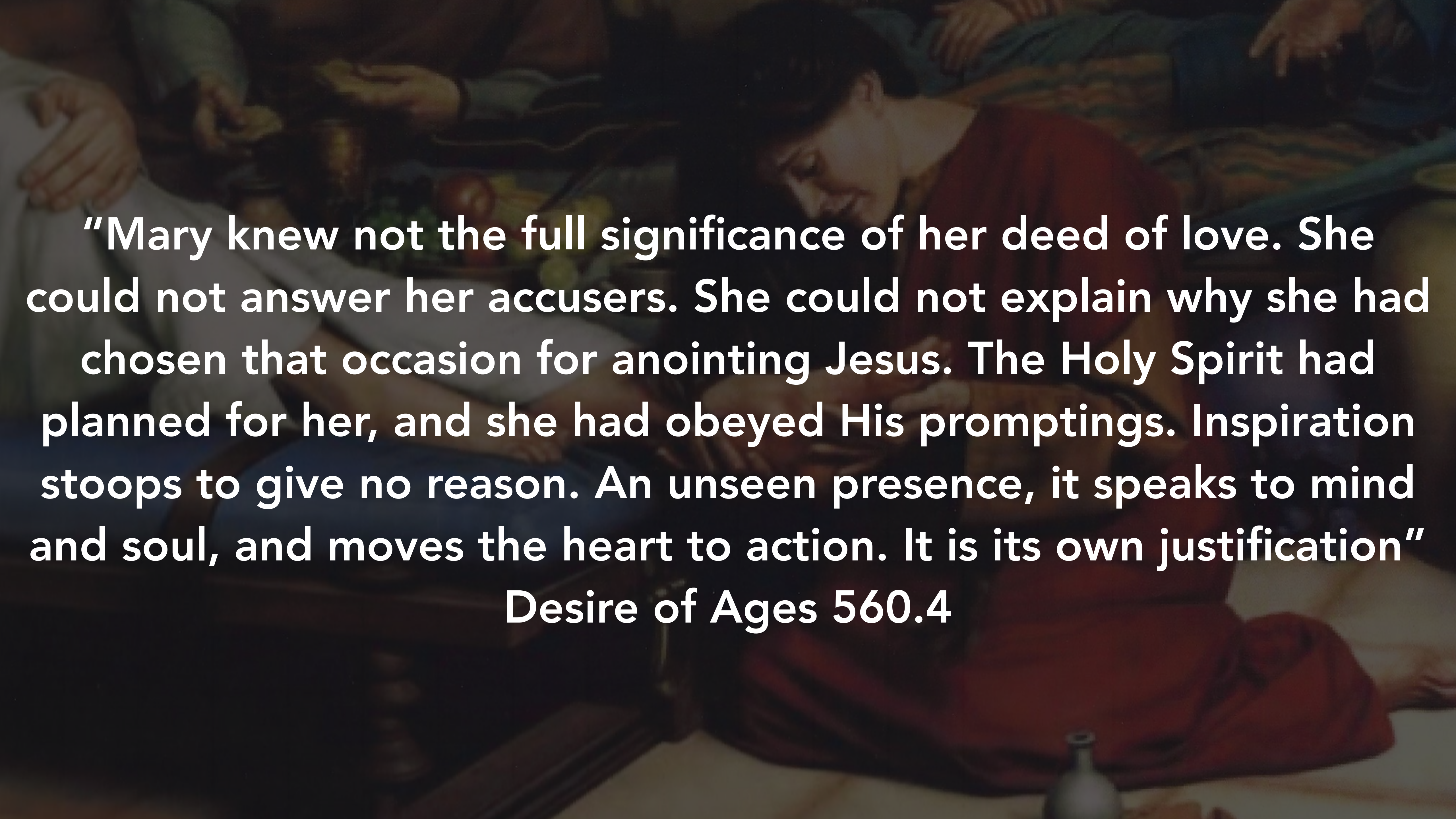




**"But Mary, pouring out her love upon the Saviour while He was conscious of her devotion, was anointing Him for the burial. And as He went down into the darkness of His great trial, He carried with Him the memory of that deed, an earnest of the love that would be His from His redeemed ones forever."**

**Desire of Ages 560.2**

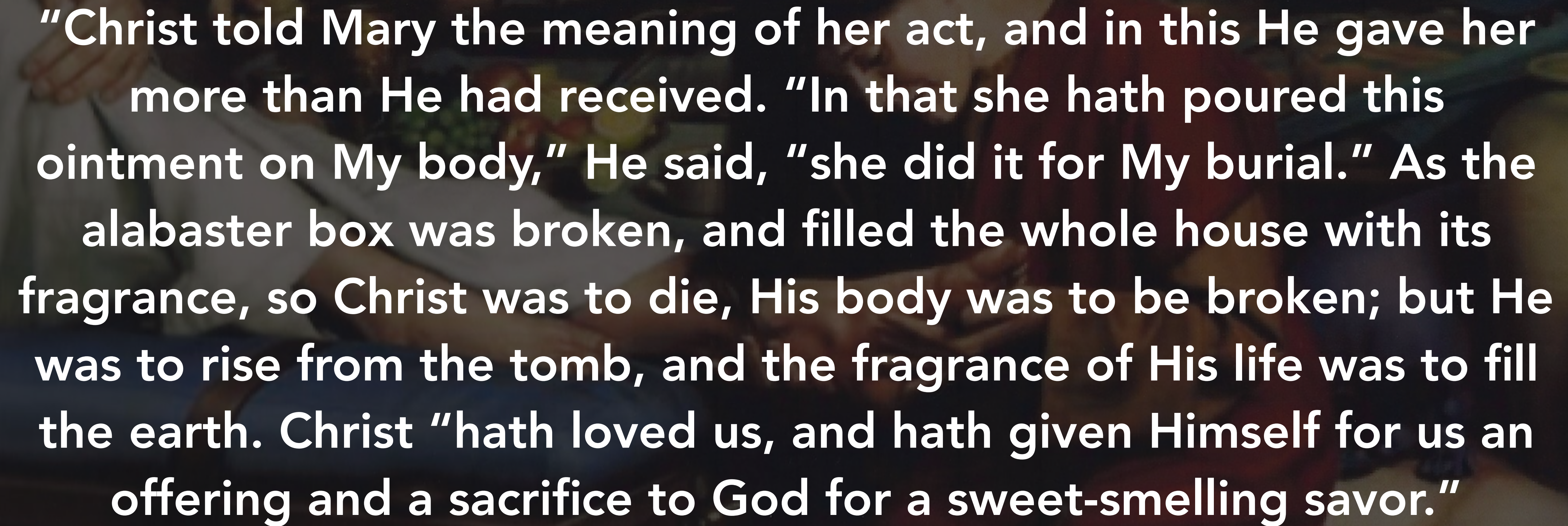


A painting depicting the biblical scene of Mary anointing Jesus' feet. Mary is shown in a red robe, kneeling and pouring oil from a small jar onto Jesus' feet. Jesus is reclining, and other figures are visible in the background, some looking on. The scene is set indoors with a table and various items on it.

**“Mary knew not the full significance of her deed of love. She could not answer her accusers. She could not explain why she had chosen that occasion for anointing Jesus. The Holy Spirit had planned for her, and she had obeyed His promptings. Inspiration stoops to give no reason. An unseen presence, it speaks to mind and soul, and moves the heart to action. It is its own justification”**

**Desire of Ages 560.4**



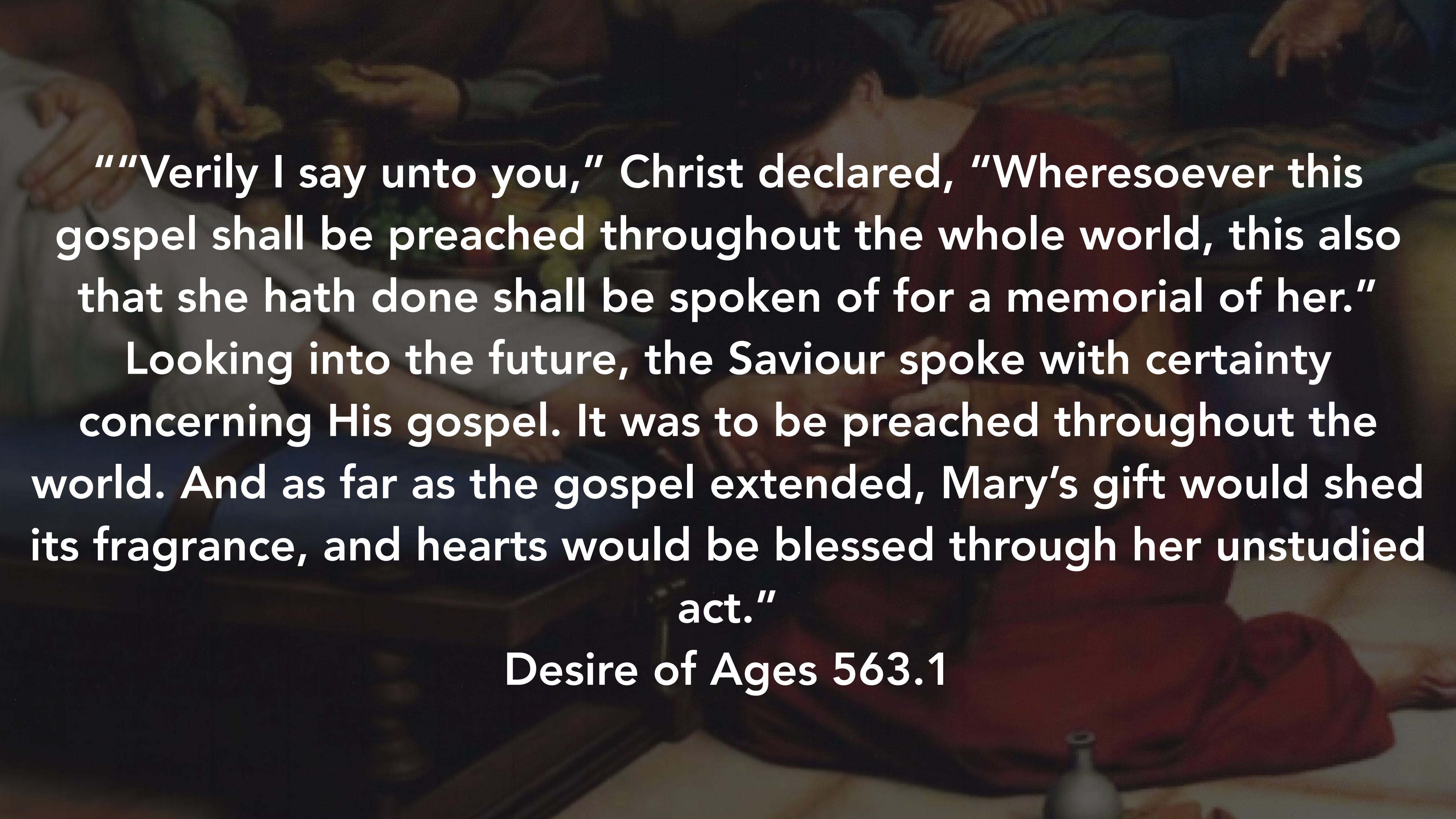


**"Christ told Mary the meaning of her act, and in this He gave her more than He had received. "In that she hath poured this ointment on My body," He said, "she did it for My burial." As the alabaster box was broken, and filled the whole house with its fragrance, so Christ was to die, His body was to be broken; but He was to rise from the tomb, and the fragrance of His life was to fill the earth. Christ "hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor."**

**Ephesians 5:2"**

**Desire of Ages 560.5**



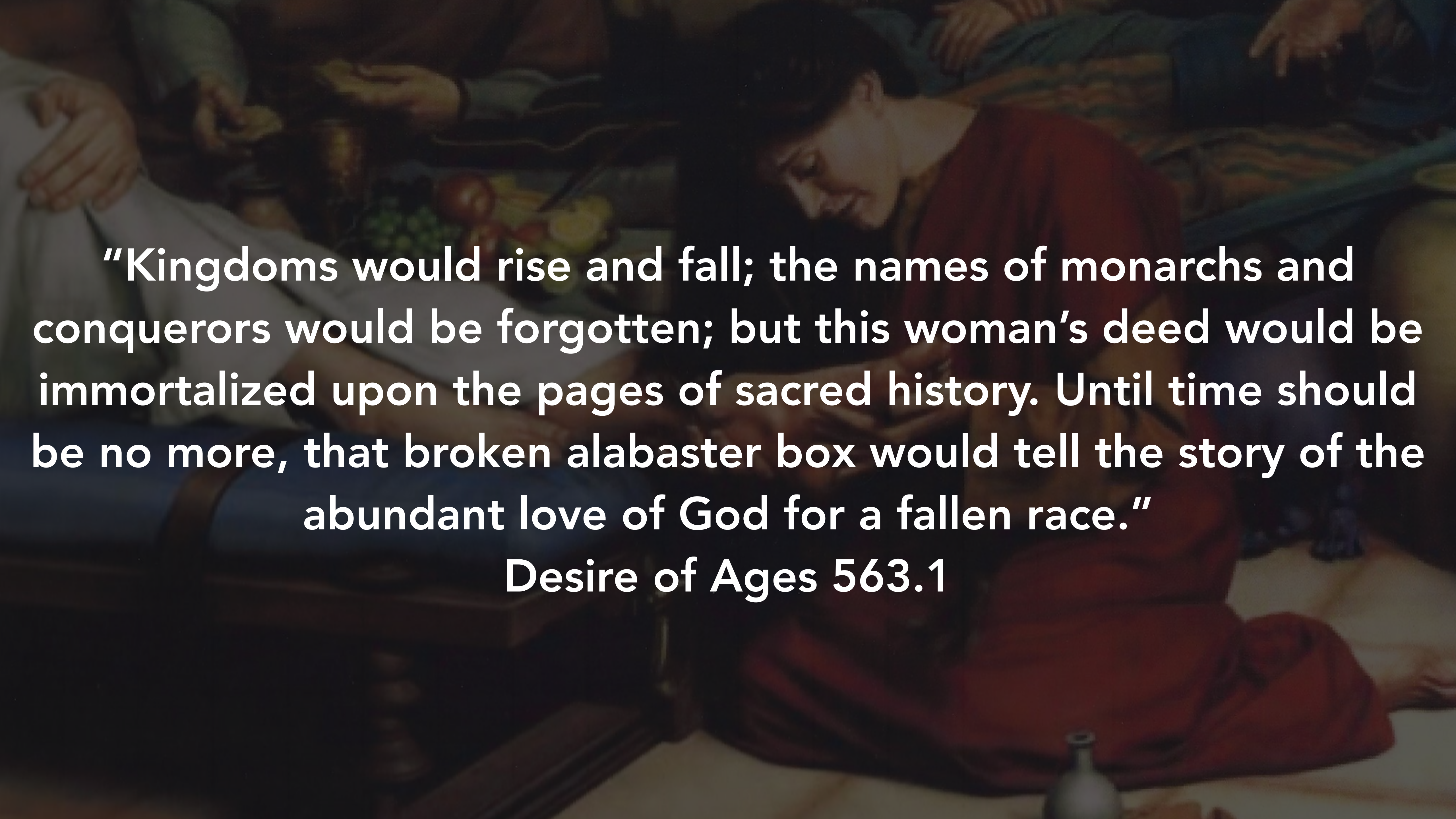


""Verily I say unto you," Christ declared, "Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her."

Looking into the future, the Saviour spoke with certainty concerning His gospel. It was to be preached throughout the world. And as far as the gospel extended, Mary's gift would shed its fragrance, and hearts would be blessed through her unstudied act."

Desire of Ages 563.1

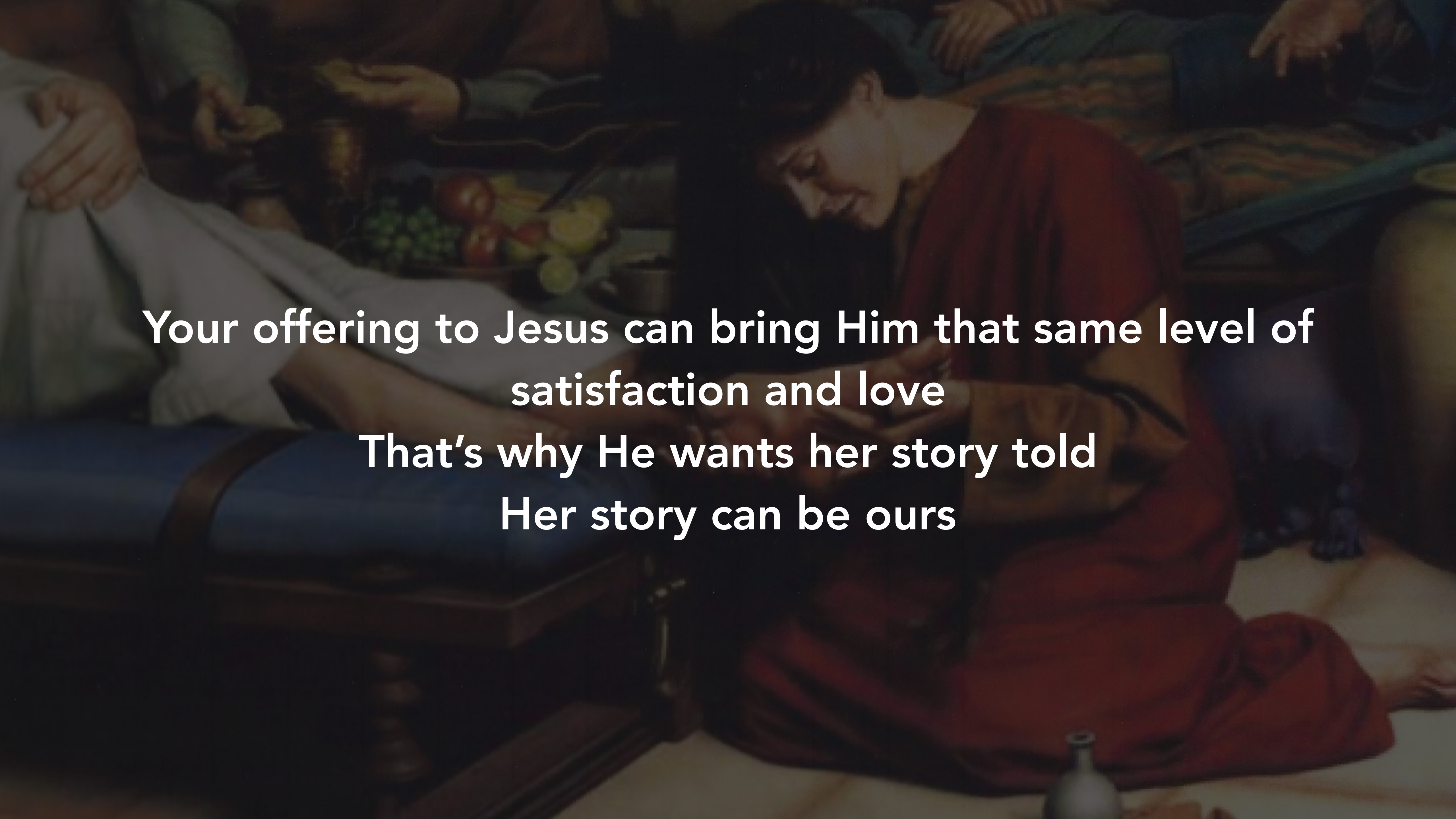


A painting depicting a woman, Mary Magdalene, in a red robe kneeling and anointing the feet of Jesus, who is reclining. The scene is set indoors with other figures in the background. The text is overlaid on the painting.

**“Kingdoms would rise and fall; the names of monarchs and conquerors would be forgotten; but this woman’s deed would be immortalized upon the pages of sacred history. Until time should be no more, that broken alabaster box would tell the story of the abundant love of God for a fallen race.”**

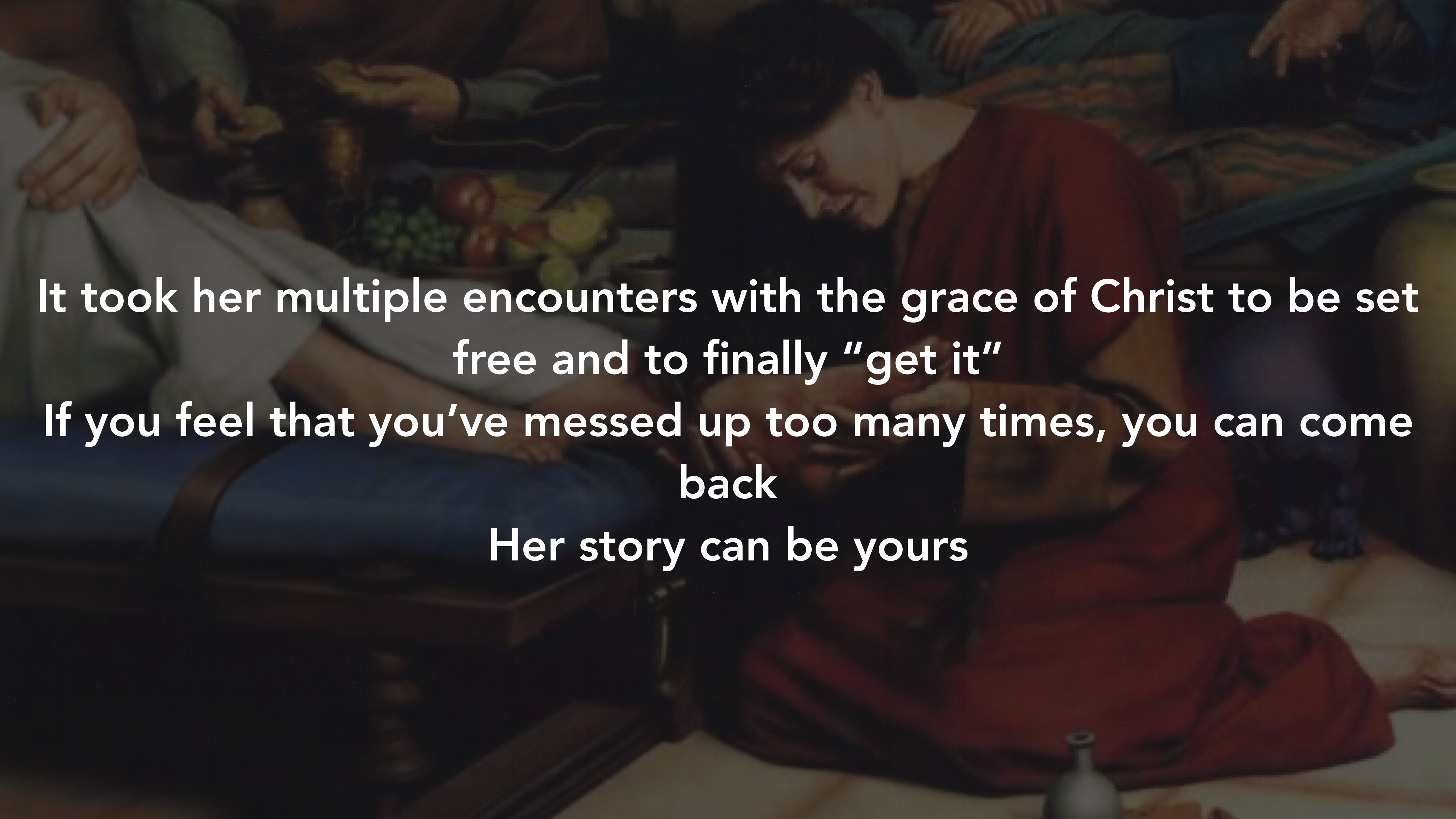
**Desire of Ages 563.1**





Your offering to Jesus can bring Him that same level of  
satisfaction and love  
That's why He wants her story told  
Her story can be ours





It took her multiple encounters with the grace of Christ to be set  
free and to finally “get it”  
If you feel that you’ve messed up too many times, you can come  
back  
Her story can be yours





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/unscenemedia



Dee Casper