



A close-up photograph of a human eye. The iris is a light blue color and features a prominent reflection of a cross, symbolizing faith or spirituality. The eye is looking slightly to the left. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light beige color.

**YOUR OWN
PERSONAL JESUS**

JOHN 12

Neither the trappings of the religion
of Jesus

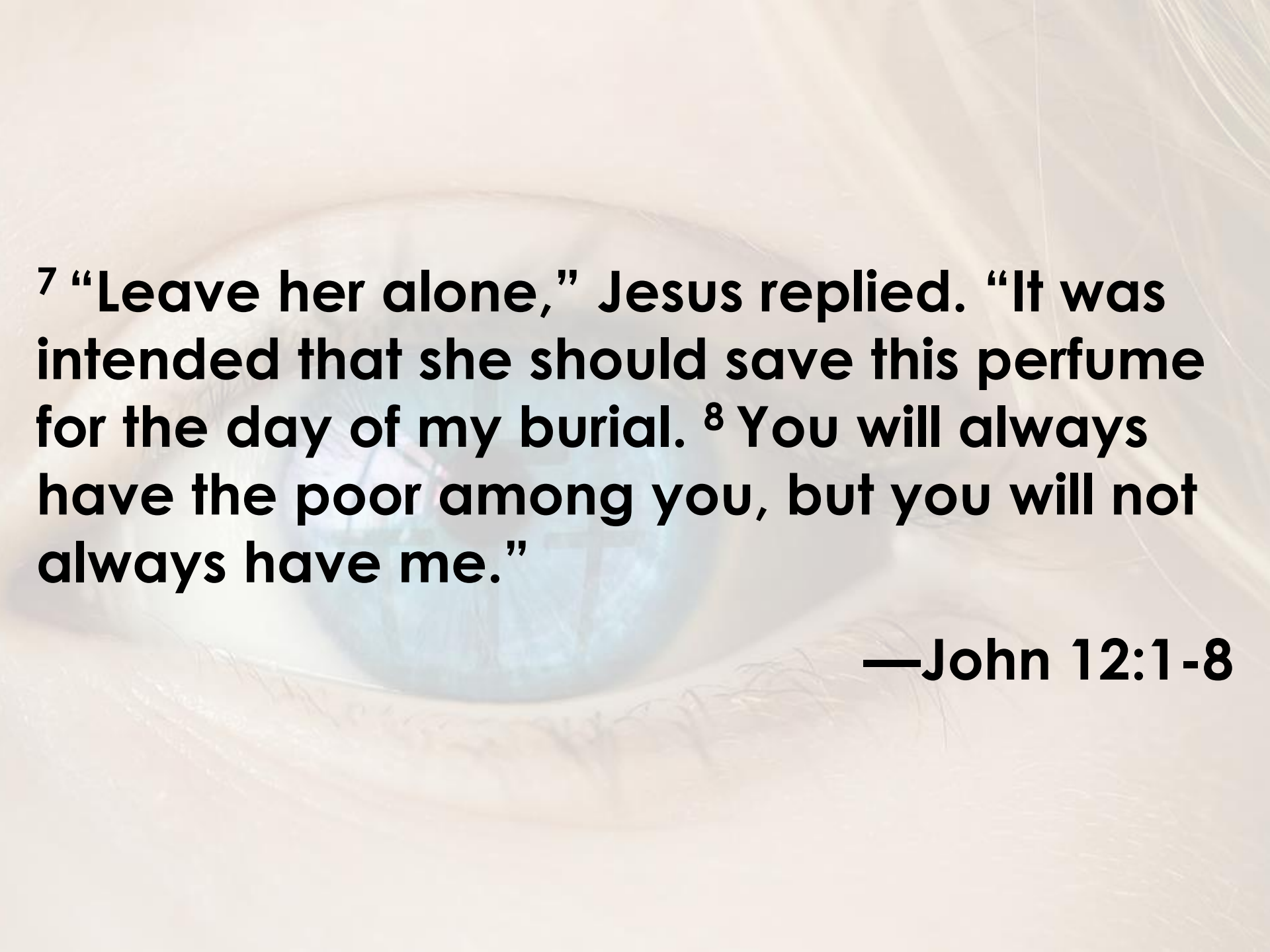
nor works deemed good done
in Jesus' name

nor holiness lived in obedience
to his commands

can substitute for the person
of Jesus.

¹ Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ 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.

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” ⁶ 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.



⁷ “Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.”

—John 12:1-8



How can we bring Jesus back to center?

Restore wonder, enjoyment, and passion.

Be wasteful and reckless with worship.

Approach to an intimate position.

Continue in the pursuit of his identity.

20 Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” 22 Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. 23 Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.”

—John 12:20-23

