

Luke 7 pt 4 vs. 36-50

Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. ³⁷ And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that *Jesus* sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, ³⁸ and stood at His feet behind *Him* weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped *them* with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed *them* with the fragrant oil. ³⁹ 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."

⁴⁰ And Jesus answered and said to him, "**Simon, I have something to say to you.**"

So he said, "Teacher, say it."

⁴¹ "**There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?**"

⁴³ Simon answered and said, "I suppose the *one* whom he forgave more."

And He said to him, "**You have rightly judged.**" ⁴⁴ Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "**Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped *them* with the hair of her head. ⁴⁵ You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. ⁴⁷ Therefore I say to you, her sins, which *are* many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, *the same* loves little.**"

⁴⁸ Then He said to her, "**Your sins are forgiven.**"

⁴⁹ And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

⁵⁰ Then He said to the woman, "**Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.**"

1. Chapter 7 is highlighting the essence of the gospel
 - a. The essence of the Gospel Himself is Jesus Christ

1. The One full of Grace and Truth
 - b. As our life with Christ rests on 3 main pillars (Faith, hope and love)
 - c. Chapter 7 outlines these 3 pillars
 1. Speak a word and my servant will be healed **faith**
 2. God intervened and raises the dead **hope**
 3. John doubted in prison **hope**
 4. It closes with The sinful woman's expression of faith and **love**
 5. **1 Cor 13:13** And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.
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1. After speaking kind words about John along with healing people, Simon the Pharisee invites Jesus to a meal
 - a. A Pharisee is not a job, it's a religious group that someone would join
 - b. Different kinds of people with different backgrounds belonged to this group
 - c. There were about 6k Pharisees in Israel during Jesus' time
 - d. They were committed to keeping the law and the traditions of the elders
 2. Why would a Pharisee invite Jesus to his home?
 - a. We normally invite those we want to get to know better, honor...
 - b. Did Simon really want to honor & respect Jesus and share a meal?
 - c. Sharing a meal with someone (in that culture) is in a sense becoming one with that person

- d. His intent is clear because actions spoke louder than words
 - 1. The fact that he didn't greet Jesus with a kiss, pour oil or wash His feet
 - 2. This is how you treat a person with contempt
- e. Simon clearly has other motives
 - 1. Probably to try and trap Him or disprove what the crowds are saying
 - 2. **But Jesus goes anyway**
 - 3. That's one of the amazing things about our Lord
 - 4. He loves Simon knowing that he doesn't love Jesus back
 - 5. He's going to communicate with Simon at his level
- 3. It was common to greet your guest at the door with a kiss
 - a. And a servant would wash their feet
 - b. It was also customary to pour oil on the head of the guest as a symbol of the joy that they hoped to share together that evening
 - c. Then they would serve you a cup of something bitter
 - 1. With the idea that you are now washing away all of the bitter experiences you've had
 - d. Next you would have another cup but it was very sweet
 - 1. Symbolic of the sweet time that you'll now share together
 - e. Simon did not wash Jesus' feet, anoint His head with oil or kiss Him
- 4. And behold (LOOK) a woman in the city who was a sinner crashed the party

5. We don't know much about her other than she was a sinner
6. Where did she come from?
7. In the chronology of Jesus, this story is after Matthew 11
 - a. "Come to me all you who labor and are heavy laden"
 - b. It's possible that this woman heard Jesus and grace touched her heart
 - c. And now in the presence of Jesus she can't control her tears
 - d. She begins washing the Lords feet with her tears and drying them with her hair
8. Simon says to himself, if Jesus were a prophet, he would know what manner of woman this is
 - a. The question is; how did Simon know what kind of woman this is?
 - b. Pointing the finger at other peoples sins is usually a sign of our own hidden sins
 - c. Love covers a multitude of sins
 - d. Anger and resentment is normally self condemnation misdirected on others
 1. When I'm easily angered by someone's pride, it may my own pride
 2. When I am critical of others for any reason, it may be that the problem is in me
9. Jesus knows his thoughts and says Simon, **I have something to say to you**
 - a. The Master is using a word picture to drive home a point
10. Teacher, say it...

11. There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed 500 denarii and the other 50
 - a. Neither had the means to repay so he forgave them both
 - b. Which of them will love him more?
 - c. Jesus used an illustration Simon can understand to reveal the most important element of the law is love
 - d. **Deut: 6:4** "Hear, O Israel; The LORD our God, the LORD is one! "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength."
 - e. Israel, you will love the LORD because He is good
 1. You'll also love the LORD because He has
 - i. Brought you out of bondage
 - ii. Brought you into the promised land that flows with milk & honey
 2. So your love for God is also out of a response to what God has done
 3. In this parable, both people were in debt and could not pay
 4. Which person is in bigger trouble: the guy drowning in 50 feet of water or the guy drowning in 500 feet of water?
 5. It would be ridiculous for the guy in 50 feet of water to look at the guy in 500 feet and think, "Well, at least I'm better off than that poor wretch!"
 6. And, it wouldn't do any good for the guy in 500 feet of water to think, "If I can just swim over to where that guy is in 50 feet of water, I'll be okay!"
12. Simon answered, 'I suppose the one whom he forgave more'

13. You have answered correctly
14. Jesus loves both of them
 - a. He doesn't prefer one better than the other
15. They are both in trouble
16. This must have taken Simon by surprise
 - a. I'm in debt to God?
 - b. I live as though God would be in debt to me...
17. The sinful woman realized her sinfulness when she entered Jesus' presence
18. Simon couldn't or wouldn't see it
 - a. What is the difference between Simon and this woman
 - b. **The difference is in the preparation**
 1. **Prov 16:1** the preparation of the heart belong to man
 2. Solomon's son, Rehoboam did not prepare his heart to seek the Lord (**2 Chron 12:14**)
 3. **Josh 3:5** Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you.
19. She was prepared because she brought the alabaster box with her
 - a. This was a very precious and expensive thing
 - b. **It comes out when you're ready to use it**
20. Simon wasn't prepared because he didn't do what is customary for a guest

21. His hard heartedness caused him to remain unchanged
22. Her step of faith caused her to worship to the point of letting down her hair
 - a. Something happens in the presence of Jesus that causes you to lose yourself and be lost in worship
 - b. And she wept as she sensed her shame and Masters grace at the same time
23. As believers, the more you walk with God, the more you realize how sinful we are, the more we love God
24. As Paul began his ministry
 - a. Least of the saints
 - b. As he matured – I’m a sinner
 - c. Toward the end of his ministry - To the chief of sinners
 1. It’s not that his sin increased
 - i. But his awareness of what sin is did
 - ii. The more you realize your sin, the more you love God
25. He who is forgiven little, loves little, but he who is forgiven much loves much
26. The extend of my love for the Lord is the extent of my realizing what He saved and saves me from my sin
27. **Your sins are forgiven**
 - a. Who can forgive sins but God alone?
 - b. Jesus is God
28. **Your faith has saved you**
 - a. The Master has spoken
29. **Go in peace**

a. You now have the right to live in peace