

THE TESTIMONY & LOVE OF A FORGIVEN WOMAN Luke 7:36-50

PREP WORK: The Crowds...

Luke 4:42 ...the crowds were seeking him... 5:3 ... Jesus sat down and taught the crowds... 5:15 ...the news about him spread even more, and large crowds were gathering together to hear him... 8:42 ... the crowds pressed around him. 9:11 ... the crowds... followed him. He welcomed them, spoke to them about the kingdom of God...11:29 ...the crowds were increasing... (See also "Crowds"—Luke 7:24; 9:18; 11:14; 12:54; 14; 25; 23:4; 23:48)

Who was in the crowds that Jesus spoke to?

What was Jesus's central message to the crowds? (Matt. 4:7) _____

In this passage, we observe an unusual encounter, between Jesus, Simon the Pharisee, and an unnamed, sinful woman. We witness a powerful demonstration of love, and we see the incredible depth of God's mercy, and the unmerited gift of grace, that comes through Christ. Let's explore Luke 7:36-50, making observations along the way.

THE PECULIAR DINNER PARTY

36 Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. **37** When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, **Observations:**

THE WOMAN'S ACT OF LOVE IN RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

38 and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. **Observations:**

THE PHARISEE'S JUDGEMENT & MISUNDERSTANDING OF FORGIVENESS

39 When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is--that she is a sinner." **Observations:**

THE PARABLE & MESSAGE OF FORGIVENESS

40 Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said.
41 "Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

Observations:

THE CONTRAST BETWEEN TWO ATTITUDES OF MIND & HEART CONCERNING FORGIVENESS

44 Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. **45** You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. **46** You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet.

THE POWER & PRINCIPLE OF FORGIVENESS

47 Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven--for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." **Observations:**

THE AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE & THE PATHWAY TO RECEIVE FORGIVENESS

48 Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."
49 The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"
50 Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."
Observations:

SHALOM: _____

RESPOND: Faith in Christ, ushers in forgiveness, salvation, and lasting peace. (See Romans 5:1,2)

- 1. Recognize (Rom. 3:23, 6:23; Titus 3:3; 1 Jn. 2:2)...
- 3. Receive (Jn. 1:12)...

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- 2. Repent (Acts 3:19; 1 Jn. 1:9; Lk. 13:3)...
- 4. Rejoice (Ps. 13:5; Rom. 5:1, 2)...

<u>Songs</u>

"HOUSE OF THE LORD"

"GRAVES INTO THE GARDEN"

"HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US"

"HYMN OF HEAVEN"

Crossing Music Pastor: Dan Gillette (dan@vbc.online)

Behold Podcast: vbc.online/behold

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: WEEKLY NEED:

Y-T-D GIVING: \$ 763,647.64 Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$ 850,655.00

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND: (Last Entry – 06/07) \$ 79,654.78

VBC FAMILY ROSTER



<u>Communications & Giving</u>: Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please deposit the envelopes in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!