

A Lesson of Love and Forgiveness (Luke 7:36-50)

I. A Sinful Woman Shows Her Love For Jesus (36-38)

A. Jesus is invited to dinner with Simon the Pharisee (36)

1. Semi-public events in the courtyards of homes
2. Not uncommon for people to spectate

B. A Sinful Woman Shows Her Love for Jesus (37)

1. She brought expensive ointment
 - although many spectators, the outcasts were never invited to the table.
2. She humbly demonstrated her affection (38)
 - a. She washed his feet with her tears
 - b. She wiped them with her hair
 - c. She kissed his feet
 - d. She anointed his feet with the perfume

It was basic courtesy when someone came to your house to offer them water for their dusty feet, a kiss of welcome (both cheeks), and oil for the head. For the sinner woman to do this was scandalous in the Pharisees home. The Pharisees and Jews saw contact with sinners as defiling.

II. Jesus Instructs on Love and Forgiveness (39-43)

A. Jesus Admonishes the Judgmental Pharisee (39-42)

1. The Pharisee looked judgmentally at the woman
 - a. The Pharisee's doubt of Jesus Prophethood
 - b. The Pharisee saw the woman as untouchable
 - c. "She is a sinner" – Saw her as a different class
2. Jesus immediately addresses Simon (40)
 - a. Jesus saw the opportunity to teach Simon about sin forgiveness and to prove that he is a prophet
3. Jesus Teaches Simon in a Parable (41-42)
 - a. Two money lenders owe different size debts
 - b. Both are forgiven
 - c. Who would love the lender more?
4. Simon recognizes Jesus' Point (43)
 - a. The man who was forgiven more, loves more.

III. Simon is Scolded By the Woman's Love (44-50)

A. The Woman loved Jesus and Simon Did not (44-46)

1. The woman washed Jesus feet, Simon did not (44)
 - a. She washed them with tears, wiped them with her hair
 - b. Simon had offered no water
 - i. For Simon, as host this was simple courtesy.
 - ii. For the woman it was extravagant love
2. The woman kissed his feet, Simon didn't kiss him at all (45)
 - a. Only servants kiss the feet of people
 - i. The woman was humbling herself in love
 - b. All Men of respect greeted each other with a kiss

(cheek,cheek)

- c. Simon didn't even offer simple courtesy
- d. The woman gave extravagant love
- 3. The woman anointed Jesus' feet, Simon offered no oil (46)
 - a. The host would commonly offer oil for the head of the honored guest
 - b. Simon did not offer any
 - c. The woman offered extravagant perfume for His FEET!
- B. Jesus' Parable is Applied to Simon and the Woman (47-50)
 - 1. Those Forgiven Much, love Much (47)
 - a. The woman recognized her great sin and forgiveness
 - b. Therefore her level of Love was greater
 - 2. The Woman was Saved By Faith (48-50)
 - a. Jesus says her sins have been (perfect) forgiven
 - i. This causes the crowd to question
 - b. Jesus says her faith has saved (perfect) her.
 - c. She can go in peace

Notice the tenses of the verbs. The woman was saved before she ever wept, kissed, and anointed Jesus. Her act of love was the result of her great forgiveness not the cause. That is the whole point of the parable. He who is forgiven much will love much. Jesus looks at the woman who has loved him greatly and says your sins have been (perfect, completed action in the past with continuing results) forgiven. He knew this because she loved (aorist, undefined past) much. The forgiveness preceded the love. Then Jesus says her faith had saved (perfect) her. It does not seem clear that she believed while ministering to Jesus. She had believed prior and because of her great sin and forgiveness, she loved much.