

A Sinful Woman Forgiven

Luke 7:36-50

by Don Falkos

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A Pharisee named Simon invited Jesus to his home for a meal. During the meal, a remarkably wicked woman from that town came in and knelt by Jesus. The woman was crying and her tears fell on Jesus' feet. She dried his feet with her hair, and kissed them. Then she broke open a small, but very expensive jar of perfume and poured it on Jesus' feet. The magnificent aroma of the perfume pervaded the entire house.

Simon thought, "If this man really were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him."

Jesus said, "Simon: Two men owed money to the same banker. One owed 500 pieces of silver; the other, 50. But neither had the money to pay him back; so the banker forgave both debts. Which of these men do you think will love him more?"

"I suppose the one with the bigger debt."

"Yes, that's right. Now you see this woman. When I came into your home, you didn't give me any water to wash my feet, yet she has washed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You didn't greet me with a kiss, yet she has been tenderly kissing my feet this whole time. You didn't put even ordinary oil on my head to refresh me, yet she just poured exquisite perfume on my feet. So you see it's clear her many sins have been forgiven. Otherwise she wouldn't be able to express such great love."

Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven."

The other dinner guests were incensed, "Does he think he can forgive sins?"

Jesus ignored them and spoke again to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."