

THE GOOD NEWS

- every day we are bombarded with the pain and suffering of a fallen world
- it seems like the only things that make the headlines today are those things which show how evil and depraved the world is, and frankly is downright depressing
- we long for some break in the constant beat of all that is wrong with humanity
 - That's why many of us like movies where the good guy wins in the end
- there is some good news that I want to share with you this morning
- God loves you and has provided the way to happiness and eternal life through His Son
- in our text, we find Jesus ministering to the hurts and pains of the people He came in contact with
- here we have 4 pictures of Jesus ministering to people in their hurt, pain, suffering, questioning, and even shame
 1. The Centurion's servant
 2. Raising the widow's son from the dead
 3. The questions and doubt of John the Baptist
 4. The joy of having our sins forgiven

1. FORGIVEN AT LAST

(36-38)

- at this point some of the Pharisees at least were curious about Jesus, and one in particular invited Jesus over for dinner

- a woman, a notorious sinner whom many believe was a prostitute, had the courage to enter the Pharisee's house
- no doubt flooded with guilt, she came to the only One who could forgive her

[\(39-40\)](#)

- notice how quickly this self-righteous Pharisee identified the woman as a sinner
 - Aren't we quick to do the same thing!
- Jesus was aware of what Simon was thinking and muttering
 - What goes on in our mind and thoughts does not escape the attention of Jesus

- Jesus used this as an opportunity to talk to Simon, possibly with the intent to get him to see the state of his own heart

[\(41-43\)](#)

- Jesus used a story to illustrate the point that the more we are forgiven, the more we should love
- Simon, somewhat hesitantly, responded

[\(44-47\)](#)

- "Do you see this woman?" = her love and devotion, her sorrow for her sin, her joy in being forgiven
- David Guzik = "She wasn't forgiven *because* of her great love; her great love was evidence that she had been forgiven, probably privately on a prior occasion and now publicly."

[\(48-50\)](#)

- Jesus lets the woman know that her sins are forgiven
- this gives another occasion for the religious righteous to condemn Jesus