

Luke 7:36-8:21 – 26 March 2023

“Loving Jesus & His Word”

Introduction

*Since Chap 4 Jesus has been teaching of His identity & His mission to bring the Kingdom of God to people

*It's on us to believe His Word & receive Him

*Jesus is teaching us in word and in deed

*Today we'll get one of each

*Opportunity to learn by example – as a woman comes to Jesus in a Pharisee's house

*Opportunity to learn by word – as Jesus teaches the famous Sower & the Seed Parable

*Where does the progress of our faith take us?

Today, we'll see 2 progressive results of loving Jesus and His Word

1st result of loving Jesus & His Word is worship (Vs 36-50)

Read Vs 36 – *A Women Washes Jesus Feet*

1. Some think it's hard to eat with sinners, I think it's hard to eat with religious hypocrites!
2. Jesus ate with both sinners & Pharisees!

Read Vs 37-38

1. Bold show of humility
 - a. Humble b/c this was place of the servant
 - b. Bold b/c she wasn't welcomed by Pharisees
2. This also was costly; she gave of what little reputation she had and of the expense oil
3. Notice Jesus didn't refuse this gesture
 - a. More than just needed; this was worship

Read Vs 39

1. Oh yes Jesus knows her AND HIM at heart

Read Vs 40-43

1. Laborer wages = a pence/day (\$50,000 & \$5000)

2. Those that are forgiven much, love much
 - a. Read II Cor 5:14 Love of God constrains us
 - b. Rom 2:4: God's goodness leads to repentance
 - c. We're motivated by His love/forgiveness for us

Read Vs 44-47

1. This demonstration of her great love shows she understands depths of her sins & need of forgiveness
2. Lack of demonstration of the Pharisee's love shows he doesn't understand his own sin & need
3. Jesus doesn't deny that she's sinned greatly, but also sees that she's desperate for forgiveness

Read Vs 48-50

1. Pharisees know Jesus' saying He's God
2. Her sins are forgiven b/c she's placed her faith & worship in the right place – Jesus
3. Sometimes new life comes from a place of death, when you'd least expect it
4. Notice the results of forgiveness is a rest that settles us from guilt, shame, & dissatisfaction

- a. Want to stay away from sin? Fall in love w/ Jesus: realize how much you're forgiven
- b. Read Psm 32:1-2a – Blessed in the man...

And Now We See Some Helpful Women (Vs 1-3)

Read Vs 1

1. Jesus preached AND showed
2. Our ministry is negated if your life doesn't align w/ our words
3. Read Acts 20:20 – We live the life

Read Vs 2-3

1. Magdalene means from the town of Magdala, by Capernaum
2. Their only earthly reward for this great sacrifice is to be listed here
3. It will be interesting to get their perspective in heaven, women tend to give great details

2nd result of loving Jesus & His Word is that we become family (Vs 4-21)

Read Vs 4-8

1. We'll get this explained in a few verses
2. What are we like when we hear the Word?
 - a. Some walk away
 - b. Some try listening until life gets hard
 - c. Some try listening until life get easy
 - d. Some listen and get it
3. He's trying to give them spiritual understanding
4. "Ears to hear, let him hear" - dismissive

Read Vs 9-10

1. Jesus is excited to reveal this to them...b/c they asked, they were motivated to inquire
 - a. Read Jam 4:2b-3
2. 'Mystery' isn't something foggy, but something previously not disclosed (like a password)
 - a. Read I Cor 2:14 – That's a mark of a born-again believer

3. Mark adds, (Read Mar 4:13) that this parable is essential, & basic for understanding the consistency of work pictures

Read Vs 11-12

1. Jesus will now explicitly lay this out for us
2. When you hear the Word & choose not to take it in by faith, you're demonstrating a hard heart
 - a. Soil conditions represent a person in general, but also represent each time we hear the Word

Read Vs 13

1. Matt account says this temptation is when tribulation and persecution come
2. We need to let the Word go deep in our hearts to withstand tribulations & storms that will come

Read Vs 14

1. Like vs 13, some are turned away from believing Jesus by stones & trials of this life...
2. But in vs 14, some are turned away from believing by thorns or good pleasures in this life

Read Vs 15

1. This is picture of the believer that knows Jesus
2. Some say stones & thorns are also believers: no
 - a. Notice vs 12 – they didn't believe
 - b. Notice vs 13 – believed for a while
 - c. Notice vs 14 – brought no fruit
 - d. We read in (Read) John 15:5 that Jesus is the Vine & we're the branches to bear fruit
 - e. In fact (Read) Matt 13:23 added to this vs

Read Vs 16-17

1. There will be a natural shine for all those that have God's Word, we natural want to let it out

Read Vs 18

1. To those receiving God's Word, you'll receive more revelation to unpack another layer of onion...
2. But to those given the Word that reject it, even what they seemed to have heard won't help them

Read Vs 19-20

1. Yes Jesus had half-brothers & sisters

Read Vs 21

1. Higher family to be concerned about are those that receive the Word of God & by faith live it

Conclusion

So how's your love for Jesus & His Word?

1. **When we realize how much we've been forgiven by our great God Jesus...**
 - a. **Then we love Him much...**
 - b. **And that leads to great worship**
2. **When we believe His Word...**
 - a. **We'll bear the fruit of His Spirit...**
 - b. **Thereby confirming in our hearts that we are in the very family of God**

*****Don't focus on our works, but His love**

*****Don't focus on just hearing the Word, but on reading a love letter from your Father**