

Seriously! We are guilty of sin in the light of our **HOLY GOD!** We have rightfully earned eternal punishment in hell.

No matter how “clean” we look to other people... God is **HOLY**, and in the light of His holiness we are not clean at all! Through Jesus alone we are clean, and that is the reason to love Him with all our being.

We should be far more than “head over heels” in love with Jesus! He gave us His righteousness in exchange for taking our sin. He paid the penalty for our sin!

Our Love Should Be Extravagant!

Like the sinful woman, our love for Jesus should be absolutely unmistakable! Everyone should clearly see and be convicted by our expressions of love for the One Who saved us! Like this woman...

*“And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but **she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head.** (45) Thou gavest me no kiss: **but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my***

***feet. (46) My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment.”** (Luke 7:44-46)*

Love Overflows From Forgiveness!

Love expresses itself most fervently when it comes from a heart most painfully aware of it's sin! According to the Word of God, if we are guilty of violating one aspect of the Law, we are guilty of breaking it all!

Think of the worst human being you know or know about. Consider the fact that you are as guilty of sin before God as that person.

Ponder the fact that Jesus death on the Cross paid for your horrible guilt of sin. Then love Him like the woman in this passage of Scripture.

Love Jesus EXTRAVAGANTLY!

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By: Robert Dallmann

*“Wherefore I say unto thee, **Her sins, which are many, are forgiven;** for she loved much: but to whom **little is forgiven, the same loveth little.”**
(Luke 7:47)*

It is all a matter of perspective!

How much do we love Jesus?

The answer to this question likely depends on many variables, such as: How much time am I spending reading the Bible? How is my prayer life? How is my faith? How do I feel? etc. etc.

HOW MUCH DO YOU LOVE GOD?

In the verse quoted at the top of this message, Jesus focuses on "FORGIVENESS". He says that those who are forgiven the most are the ones that love the most.

The Context Of This Verse

Jesus had been teaching and preaching and was invited to dine at the house of Simon a Pharisee. While there, a sinful woman came and wept tears upon Jesus' feet and dried them with her hair. She was heart broken over her sinful life and wept in sorrow and repentance.

Simon the Pharisee thought to himself, "if Jesus were a prophet, He would have known what a sinful woman she was". Jesus knew what Simon was thinking and addressed the differences between the woman's love for Jesus and that of Simon.

The Perception

"There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. (42) And when they had noth-

ing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?"
(Luke 7:41-42)

Jesus tells the parable of the creditor who forgave two debtors, one owed a large sum and the other a small one. Jesus asked Simon which one would love the creditor the most, and Simon accurately replied that the one who was forgiven the most.

Jesus then compared the love demonstrated by the sinful woman against the love NOT displayed by Simon the Pharisee. These comparisons that Jesus made, can result in two lines of thinking.

- 1) We may conclude that the woman was far more sinful than Simon the Pharisee; therefore, when she was forgiven of her many sins, she was more FULL of love.
 - 2) We may conclude that the woman was far more AWARE of her sins than Simon was of his own; therefore, she loved Jesus more.
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The Reality

"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." (James 2:10)

The Pharisee was filled with self-righteousness. He lacked understanding of the holiness of God. He did not comprehend that his own sinfulness would destine him to the same eternal punishment (hell) as this woman.

Like so many today, the Pharisee judged sin by "degrees". If he even acknowledged his own pride, he would never have accredited an equal weight to his sin of pride and this woman's depravities. Yet in God's holiness, both are deserving of hell.

The absolute holiness of God demands absolute perfection for salvation. The Pharisee and the sin-laden woman both equally needed the perfect salvation of Jesus.

How Should This Affect Our Love?

We should have "MUCH LOVE" for Jesus!