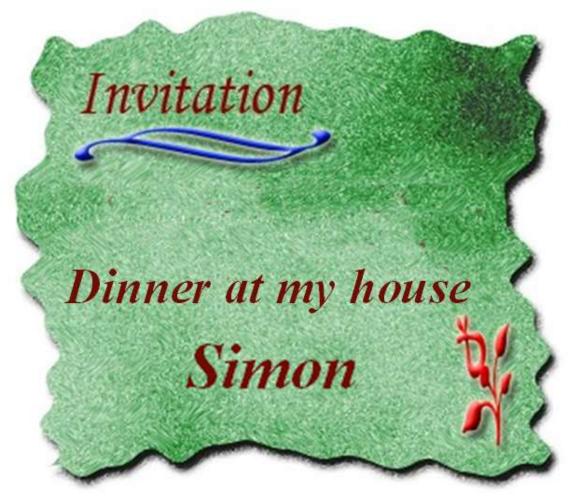


The Pharisee and the Sinful Woman

As different as ...



From very different backgrounds, status, culture etc.





When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table.

Invited!

Usual Eastern Hospitality









So why did Simon invite Jesus?

A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

What made her come there and do that?





When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know (see) who is touching him and what kind of woman she is--that she is a sinner."

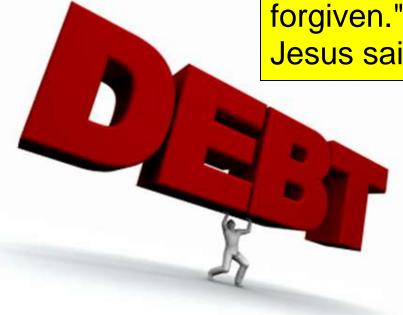
Jesus <u>answered</u> him,
"Simon, I have something to tell you."
"Tell me, <u>teacher</u>," he said





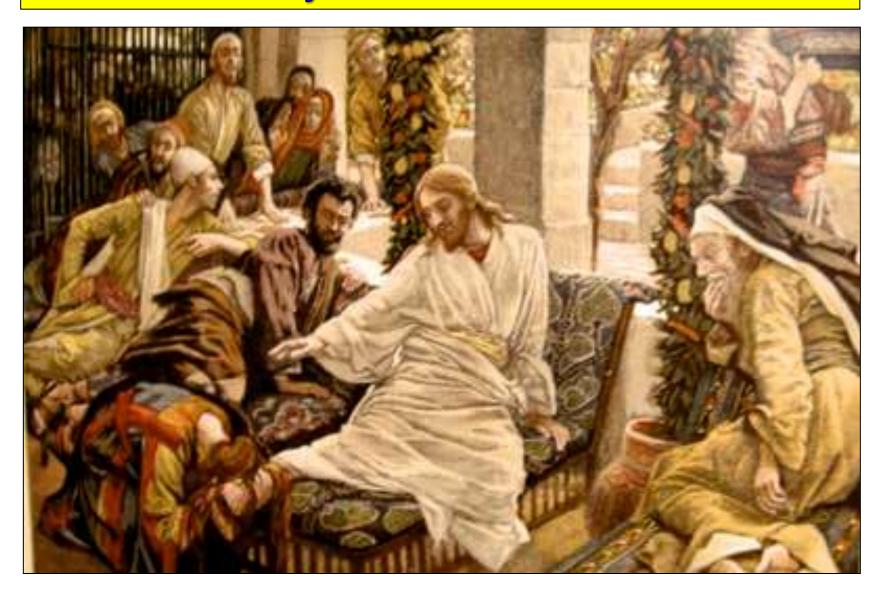
The Back-Door Method

Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more? Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said.





Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman?"



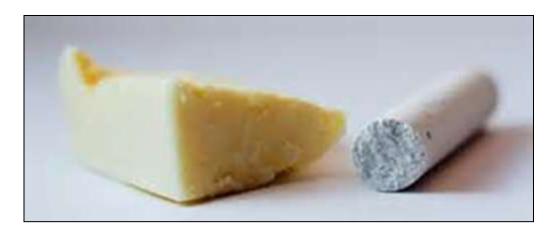
I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet.







Who is what now?



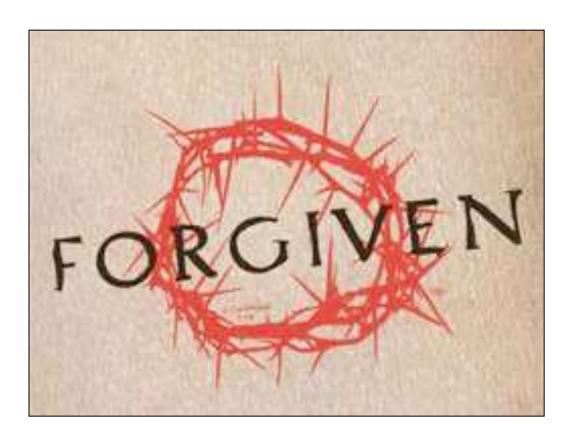
Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven--as her great love has shown.

But whoever has been forgiven little loves little."



Do you really appreciate what God has done for you?

Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ... Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."



Jesus confirms what her heart had believed.

Questions

The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"



What were they thinking?

Why did Jesus go to dinner at Simon's? They need to know it too!

What made her come?

Had she heard Jesus already?

Matthew 11:28



What do you see?

God's mercy does not make sin tolerable; it makes sin forgivable.

- Beth Moore, Whispers of Hope