

God Loves A Cheerful Giver

Notes by Franklin

Luke 7:36-50: THE PHARISEE and the SINNER

Vs. 36-38 **Would You do this? Why did she do this?**

- She believed Jesus was the Son of God, the Messiah.
- She knew she was a sinner
- She knew HE WAS WORTHY of all she was **Doing & Giving**.
- Her convictions and beliefs motivated her actions and blinded her to: (1) the fear of what other people thought of her, and (2) her future provision – holding on to valuables.

Vs. 39 **What did the Pharisee believe?**

- Jesus was an interesting person. A good teacher.
- The woman was a sinner and he was not.
- Jesus was not culturally sensitive & certainly not a prophet

Vs. 40-43 **What can we learn from this?**

- The more I realize how much I have been forgiven the greater my love for Jesus will be.

Vs. 44-46 This is a CONTRAST of: (1) a hard heart and a (2) grateful heart that gives in worship, time and treasure.

Vs. 47-50

- She believed Jesus had authority to forgive sin.
- Faith & Works go together - when motivated by love. James 2:20, 26
- The more we recognize how sinful we are, the more grateful we are, and the more our love for Jesus grows.

The issue and the Most Important & Primary thing is ->
OUR LOVE FOR JESUS !

And, our Love for Jesus is determined by how clearly we see our sin & how clearly we see HIS cross and the LOVE that took HIM there and held HIM there for our forgiveness.

The Measure of our LOVE for Jesus determines:

1. How repentant we are.
(how much sin we turn from and come to Jesus to forgive)
2. How bold we are before others (she was very bold)
3. How EXTRAVAGANT our worship is (her worship was exceedingly extravagant)
4. **How extravagantly we give**

THE DEGREE OF OUR LOVE is shown in -> OUR GIVING

YOU CAN TELL A GRATEFUL SINNER BY THE WAY THEY **GIVE** IN WORSHIP & APPRECIATION.

The DEGREE of our LOVE / OUR APPRECIATION for another is measured or seen by what we do for them!

Both for the Lord . . . and . . . for our wife / husband

Matthew 7:20 [you will know them by their fruits.](#)

GOD SO LOVED the world that HE **GAVE** . . . SON

LOVE --> GIVES --> THE Degree OF OUR LOVE is seen in
HOW and WHAT WE GIVE !
of our self > our time > our treasure

For where **your treasure is**, there **your heart will be** also
Matthew 6:21

The Heart of the Lord is with HIS TREASURE --> PEOPLE!

The Value of HIS Treasure is determined by the price He Paid to purchase.

Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost. PEOPLE !

- Love Pursues -> The degree of pursuit is determined by our Love

Luke 15:3-7

So He told them this parable, saying, "What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and **go after the one which is lost** until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, '**Rejoice** with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' I tell you that in the same way, there will be more **joy in heaven** over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

The HEART of Jesus is for PEOPLE and particularly THE LOST

- GIVING to Missions or to a Mission-minded church is PLEASING to the LORD.

A verse that is familiar to us and that we like to quote is:

- Philippians 4:19 *And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*

WHY will Jesus supply all we need?

This verse is spoken to those who had given a gift to support Paul's missionary work.

Philippians 4:15-19 (15) You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of GIVING and receiving but you alone; (16) for even in Thessalonica you SENT A GIFT more than once for my needs. (17) Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the **PROFIT WHICH INCREASES TO YOUR ACCOUNT**. (18) But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, WELL-PLEASING TO GOD. (19) **And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.**

THE RICH YOUNG RULER said: "all the commandments I have kept from my youth." Mark 10:20

HE WAS OBEYING > BUT WHAT WAS HIS MOTIVATION?
> WHAT DID HE LOVE?

Jesus said to him: *One thing you lack, sell all that you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven, and come, follow Me.* But at these words he was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property. Mark 10:17-22

- ❖ He loved the Word / he obeyed . . . but WHY?
- ❖ IT was A MATTER OF His HEART > WHAT he LOVED
- ❖ Giving away all that you have is not a requirement for everyone to follow Jesus. This was a test to show him what he loved, what was of greatest value to him.

1 Samuel 16:7 God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.

Matthew 6:19-21 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; *for where **your treasure is**, there **your heart will be** also.*

THE LORD IS CONCERNED ABOUT **YOUR HEART** . . .

- WHAT IS VALUABLE TO YOU
- WHAT YOU LOVE

IT'S ALL ABOUT >> THE **HEART** >> WHAT YOU **LOVE** >>>

The Truth is: **LOVE** is the **MOTIVATION** FOR WHAT we DO.

The Question is:

- What do you love?
- What is your treasure? . . . for there your heart is.

"GOD SO LOVED the world that HE GAVE . . . His SON"

Luke 6:38 **"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be given to you. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."**

❖ **A Key To Prosperity !**

Another verse we like is: 2 Corinthians 9:8

"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." NIV

This verse follows Vs. 7: *"God loves a cheerful giver."*

❖ It is the Lord's response to generous giving.

IT IS SPOKEN TO THOSE THAT HAVE GIVEN TO SUPPORT MISSIONARY WORK:

Please Read: 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

Example: Abraham

Genesis 12:1-3 Now the LORD said to Abram, **Go forth from your country, (obey) . . . And I will bless you . . . and you will be a blessing.**

We are blessed so that we can be a blessing to others.
If we do not GIVE the blessings away to others we are not being a good steward of HIS Blessings and they will decrease.

The LORD is looking for stewards who will be faithful with what He gives them. (Matthew 25:21, 23)

Genesis 22:12-18 THE OFFERING OF ISAAC

He said, "Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, . . for now I know that you fear God, since you have not **withheld your son**, your only son, from Me." . . . Abraham called the name of that place **The LORD Will Provide.** "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, indeed **I WILL GREATLY BLESS YOU,**"

THE MORE ABRAHAM OBEYED & GAVE OF HIS TREASURE ->
THE MORE THE LORD'S BLESSINGS INCREASED!

- ❖ The measure of our blessing is determined by the measure of our giving.
- ❖ And the measure of our giving is determined by the measure of our love.

Malachi 3:8-11 CONCERNING GIVING, THE LORD SAID:
Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, How do we rob you? **In tithes and offerings.** You are under a curse, the whole nation of you, because you are robbing me. **Bring the whole tithe** into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. **Test me** in this, says the LORD Almighty, and **see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.** I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit, says the LORD Almighty. NIV

TITHING is NOT part of the Old Testament Law.

- As the covenant and promises to Abraham were 400 years before the law, and were not part of the law (Galatians 3:17), so was tithing. And this command still stands today.
- Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek (Hebrews 7:1-2) out of a grateful and appreciative heart, 400 years before the law.
- "Abraham is the father of all who believe". Romans 4:11
- For New Testament Believers, the Old Testament is: ". . . an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come." 1 Corinthians 10:11
- **Joshua 6:17-19, 24; 7:1, 11-13 Please Read.**

This is a very important principle. It demonstrates the Truth of: Proverb 3:9-10 **Honor the LORD from your wealth** and from THE **FIRST** of all your produce; **so that** your barns will be **filled with plenty** and your vats will overflow with new wine.

1 Corinthians 4:2-3 it is **required** of stewards that one be found **trustworthy**

This truth is brought out in: Matthew 25:14-30: **For it is just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them.**

- The LORD has entrusted His possessions to us: Genesis 1:28; Revelation 5:9 (His most prized possession)
- Stewardship means that you are taking care of someone else's possessions as if they were your own.
- 1 Corinthians 4:7 **What do you have that God did not give you? And if all you have is from God, why boast as though you have accomplished something on your own?**

(15) To one he gave **five talents**, to another, **two**, and to another, **one**, each according to **his own ability**; and he went on his journey.

- His slaves were not equal in their ability as stewards. Some were more talented, educated or experienced than others.
- A talent, in those days was \$1,000 in silver. It's buying power today would be about \$2,000,000.

(16) Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and **gained five more** talents. (17) In the same manner the one who had received the two talents **gained two more**. (18) But he who received the one talent went away, and dug a hole in the ground and **hid his master's money**.

(19) Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and **settled accounts** with them.

- 1 Corinthians 3:8-15; 9:16-27

(20) The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have **gained five more** talents.' (21) His master said to him, '**Well done**, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

(22) Also the one who had received the two talents came up and said, 'Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have **gained two more** talents.' (23) His master said to him, '**Well done**, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

(24) And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed. (25) 'And **I was afraid**, and went away and **hid your talent** in the ground. See, you have what is yours.'

(26) But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no seed. (27) 'Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received **my money back with interest**. (28) 'Therefore **take away** the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.'

(29) For to everyone who has, **more shall be given**, and he will have an **abundance**; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away. (30) Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. NASU

This parable ends by changing from a discussion on what we do with the earthly talents given to us, to an exceedingly more serious matter of what we do with The Truth given to every man of the One True God (Romans 1:18-23).

God was in Christ reconciling **the world** to Himself, **not counting their trespasses against them** (2 Cor.5:19).

To **Reject** this, to **bury** this, and **do nothing** with it and have **no gratefulness** from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away. (30) Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Galatians 6:7-10

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, this he will also reap**. (8) For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. (9) Let us not lose heart in doing good, for **in due time we will reap** if we do not grow weary. (10) So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.

- **WHATEVER** you sow you **WILL** reap (anger, unforgiveness, love, money).
- If you **DO NOT SOW** you **WILL NOT REAP**

I asked a person if their business was good. They answered, "*my tithes and offerings are in the ground.*" Meaning, they had given money to the LORD and HIS work, their seed was planted, in the ground, and the person knew blessings were coming. Excellent faith.

John 12:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless** a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies (planted), it **bears much fruit**.

- Seed must be planted. Put into the ground – out of our hand – out of our reach – we cannot control what happens then – how long it will take - BUT the PROMISE is "it bears much fruit."

Luke 8:5-8

The **SOWER** went out **TO SOW HIS SEED**; and as he sowed, some fell beside the road, and it was trampled under foot and the birds of the air ate it up. (6) Other seed fell on rocky soil, and as soon as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. (7) Other seed fell among the thorns; and the thorns grew up with it and choked it out. (8) Other seed fell into the good soil, and grew up, and produced a crop a hundred times as great. As He said these things, He would call out, He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

- Not all seed sown will produce a crop
- We **MUST** be Very Careful about where we sow or give or spend our money.
- If you want the LORD to bless and multiply your seed sown you **MUST** give it where HE, the Master directs. It is HIS seed / money anyway. We are just faithful, obedient stewards.

2 Corinthians 9:7-15 Each one must do just as he has **purposed in his heart**, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER.

- It is your decision as to how much you give
- You must give because you love the LORD JESUS and what HE has done for you.
- And when you give this way . . .

(8) And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that **always** having **all sufficiency in everything**, you may have an **abundance** for every good deed; (9) as it is written, "he scattered abroad, he gave to the poor, his righteousness endures forever." (10) Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will **supply** and **multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest** of your righteousness; (11) you will be **enriched in everything for all liberality**, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God. (12) For the ministry of this service is not only fully supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing through many thanksgivings to God. (13) Because of the proof given by this ministry, they will glorify God **for your obedience** to your confession of the gospel of Christ **and for the liberality of your contribution to them and to all**, (14) while they also, by prayer on your behalf, yearn for you because of the surpassing grace of God in you. (15) Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

Luke 6:38 **Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure — pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.**

Our Father is a Giver (John 3:16) we are His children, and should be like Him. We should be Givers.

Giving is the 'key' that opens the windows of heaven for blessings to flow down to us.

You hold the key to your future prosperity.

Proverb 8:20-21 I walk in the **way of righteousness**, in the midst of the **paths of justice**, (21) **to endow those who love me with wealth**, that I may **fill** their treasuries.