



## UNLOCKING OUR HEALING

By Bill Subritzky

The gospel of Luke contains a remarkable story of a woman described as a sinner (probably a prostitute) who went to the house of a religious leader (called a Pharisee) with whom Jesus was having a meal.

Luke 7:36-50 says, Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil.

Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."

And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it."

"There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?"

Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more."

And He said to him, "You have rightly judged."

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

I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head.

You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in.

You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil.

Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little."

Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

### **What is the moral of this story?**

**We are aware that at the cross Jesus Christ forgave us of our sins. However, to receive this forgiveness we need to come to Christ our Lord and Saviour in true repentance. This means confessing our sins and turning absolutely away from them. I refer to it as the 180° turn, from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to the power of God. (Acts 26:18).**

**Without this complete and absolute repentance there will still be darkness in our life.**

I pray for many Christians who still have a lot of darkness in their lives and wonder why they are not healed. For example, many are in sexual sin, others have failed to honour and forgive their mother and father, while others have unforgiveness.

**They really do not know the love of God as they should. Hence they are unable to receive the full healing that God offers.**

**This story gives the example of a woman who was in deep sin but now seeking the forgiveness of God she shows her repentance the best way she knows. She humbles herself before Jesus and washes His feet with her tears. She wipes his feet with her hair and kisses his feet. She anoints His head and his feet with fragrant oil.**

On the other hand the proud arrogant religious leader missed the whole point. In his pride and arrogance he was not prepared to humble himself before Jesus and was therefore unable to receive the forgiveness that Jesus was offering.

**God commands us to love God with all our heart and soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Jesus gave the New Commandment that we were to love one another as He loves us.**

**This woman was expressing her love to God with all her heart and soul, mind and strength as she humbled herself. Accordingly she was able to receive the full forgiveness of her sins and salvation.**

As Jesus said, "Her sins which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little."

What a lesson for us!

### **Are you trying to receive healing from God?**

Are you really loving God with all your heart and soul, mind and strength and loving your neighbour as yourself? Are you loving your fellow Christians as Jesus loved us? He did this by laying down His life for us.

**We need to love God with all our heart if we are to know the fullness of His love; which includes healing.** We can't love God in this way if we have not repented from all sin especially unforgiveness, envy and jealousy as well as sexual sin.

**Are you really acting like the woman and humbling yourself before God?**

She surrendered herself absolutely in every way to Jesus. We need to follow her example.

As we begin to follow the above commandments of God it will lead to a complete change in our relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

**We will begin even more to see Him as a loving Father just as the woman saw Jesus as a loving person. We will then have confidence that our prayers are being heard and that the healing that we have sought after for so long is now ours.**

Compiled by Bill Subritzky and produced by Dove Ministries

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