

Portraits of Christ from Luke

Christ - caring for the outcast woman

Luke 7:36-50

Portraits by Masters have a distinction all their own

Leonardo Da Vinci, Raphael, Michelangelo

Luke, although one of the synoptic gospels give us a unique view of Christ

In Luke and later in Acts we find the unique emphasis on:

Christ and the outcasts -the economy - prayer -the Holy Spirit- sinners

Who is this Luke?

Probably a non-Jew, well educated, physician by profession, historian - relying on eyewitness accounts, companion with Paul from 2nd missionary journey on (note is Acts the use of “we”). He wrote to desire to give a complete and accurate account of the life of Christ.

Why was the emphasis on Christ and women unique?

At the time of Christ women could not own property or hold high offices, they did not work outside the home, they would not be invited to any banquet - most were slaves or at least treated as slaves. A rabbi would not even speak to a woman.

I. The Party

Luke 7:36-39

Jesus invited to home of Pharisee and then snubbed.

Simon’s question was, Is Jesus really a prophet or not. The unnamed woman was a known sinner (probably a prostitute) heard and came - open access to such banquets made it possible - reclining at the table with feet away from the table made it possible for her to anoint His feet. She washed with tears and her hair before anointing them with costly perfume

II. The Parable

Luke 7:40-43

Money lender was owed money by two

Both substantial - one 2 years of salary and one 10 weeks

Both forgiven

Question - Which would love him more?

Answer - the one whom he forgave more - deemed correct

III. The Pronouncement

Luke 7:44-50

Note - Jesus turned toward the woman **44** and invited all to see her

Account of the lack of common courtesy - and ministry of love

She washed my feet with tears and her hair and kissed and anointed them

Note: Forgiven little - in reality no one - all have sinned

Love little - not love- but in reality rejection

Sins are forgiven - direct pronouncement to the woman

Sins forgiven because of her faith and not her actions

Three main Characters

1. The Labeler - Simon

Good man - active church attender - law keeper

Prideful - he was the standard and judge of others

Labeled woman as a sinner -And Christ as a false prophet

Saw only her past and failed to see her humanity, courage, brokenness, repentance and gratitude

2. The Labeled - the woman

Lived a life of shame - shamed but used by men

Saw herself as hopeless - until Christ

Gave up all - faced ridicule, rejection and loss of wealth

Wept and gave in response to Christ’s love

3. The Lover of Mankind - Christ

Concerned about all - Pharisee and outcast

Saw the heart of his host and the hope of the woman

Saw her future and forgave her past

Jesus came to earth to seek and save the lost

He was willing to give all that we might know the love and forgiveness

Who are we in this story?

How do you see others - Are we a labeler?

How do you see others - by race, or past or group?

Man misses the real value of people

How do you see yourself - Are you labeled?

Are you beaten down by others?

See yourself as dependent on others or God

Do you listen to the lies of Satan?

God wants you to see yourself as one loved by God

You were created by God to be loved

You by faith can have all your sins forgiven

You are a child of God through salvation

Have you truly repented of your past sins?

Have you yielded every part of your life to Christ?

Have you by faith taken on the role as Child of God?