

July 31, 2022 "From Out of the Depth There Rises" Luke 7:36-50

The Clear Point of the Short Parable

One who has received much forgiveness will love much and the converse is true as well Extending principles:

- We can't give others what has not been given to us
- Spiritual work requires spiritual fuel
- God always loves us first: 1 John 4:19

Three Counterfeit Love Fuels

Duty: loving another person because I am supposed to

Fear: loving another person because I God will do X to me if I don't

Lack: loving another person because I want to be loved by that person

Duty runs out of gas, fear yields to cost, lack gives up if no return

Overflowing love is the answer: Eph 3:19,20

Getting in Touch with God's Forgiveness of Us

Over-familiarity or lack of proper scale

The greatness of a "small" sin against God's holiness and love Spilled grape juice on the priceless artifact of Cleopatra's wedding The tragedy is measured against the worth of thing injured

The cost of God's remedy signals the gravity of the situation

Moving from Regret to Realization of God's Gift

The strange sequence of events

The woman expresses gratitude for forgiveness before it is pronounced

What was it about Jesus that broadcast His forgiveness before His words?

Jesus adds "faith" into the equation

The forgiveness of God exceeds our capacity to learn it in our heads: see Eph 3:19

It must be personally encountered

Our love and forgiveness can be a foretaste for another person