



True Grace Part 2

In **True Grace Part 1**, I taught that true Grace will empower you to live rightly in an effortless manner out of a pure heart. More Grace will get people out of sin and into a life of wholeness. So let's continue to teach not only Grace, but an abundance of this true Grace!

This is true of a woman who was involved in a sinful lifestyle. The Bible says that everyone regarded her as the worst of the worst in the city. She was an outcast and regarded with a low opinion.

One day she was informed that the One who embraces even wicked sinners with the Grace of God was in her town. She had heard how this Man hung out with them, dined with them, and was even seen blessing them. Who was this Man who was called a friend of sinners? After much inquiring to locate this man, she found Him gathered with one of the church leaders of the day – a Pharisee.

She knelt down and approached Jesus just as she was. That day she discovered true grace.

Luke 7:38

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.

The Bible says “how beautiful are the feet to those who bring good news.” It was no coincidence this woman was caressing Jesus’ beautiful feet. What was the good news that made this woman fall to her feet in thanksgiving and worship Jesus?

On the other hand, the presumptuous Pharisee knowing the woman’s reputation only passed judgement unto her and nods of disapproval towards this Grace shown by Jesus. Regardless, Jesus continued to affirm acceptance and peace to her heart, despite whom she was or what she has done. This woman went from having a life of debauchery to a life of uttermost worship towards Jesus. She had a radical change from the heart level. What caused such a radical change? Radical Grace did! Check it out for yourself...

Jesus tells this story:

Luke 7:41-43

“A man loaned money to two people—500 *dollars* to one and 50 *dollars* to the other. But neither of them could repay him, so the lender kindly forgave them both, **freely canceling their debts**. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?” - Jesus asks. “I suppose the one for whom he canceled the 500 *dollar* debt,” the man answered. “That’s right!”- Jesus replied.

While reading this passage of Scripture, the Lord spoke to my heart and said, “I knew what that woman had done in secret prior to that instance, but her wicked sin didn't stop my abundant grace from flowing in her life.” Talk about being radical!

Firstly, the Pharisee was like the one who owed 50 dollars - whom did not receive the abundance of Grace but trusted in his own obedience and holiness, according to the Law, for righteousness. On the outside it may seem as if this person owed only a “little debt” to God. This represents he who believes has been partially forgiven and in need to keep short accounts of their sins with God and trusts in their performance in order to become righteous on a daily basis. They are like the person whose 50 dollar debt was cancelled.

Luke 7:47

I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love.

Secondly, the woman is like the one who owed 500 dollars - whom receives the abundance of Grace for righteousness, inspite of her faulty performance and lifestyle. On the outside it may seem as if this person owed “much debt” to God. This represents he who believes their sins of their entire life (past, present, and future) have been freely forgiven and now eternally righteous in the eyes of God.

Now, did this Grace produce a sinful lifestyle in this woman's life? Of course not! Jesus said that whoever has been forgiven much will love much. On the contrary, your life will overflow with love towards your Redeemer and live a life that honors and produces the uttermost worship to glorify Jesus Christ.

A great theologian says it in this manner:

- “Grace is the very opposite of merit... Grace is not only undeserved favor, but it is favor, shown to the one who has deserved the very opposite.” – **Harry Ironside**

You see, transformation begins to occur when the heart experiences God’s unconditional love and warm acceptance regardless of what you have done or will continue to do.

Luke 7:48, 50

Then He said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”... Then He said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”

We all owed the same amount of debt to God yet true Grace is about believing that all your sins of your entire life have been forgiven and receive the eternal righteous by the blood of Christ. Jesus confirmed to her that all her sins have been forgiven so her heart may be emancipated.

Only then will you go live your life with peace at the heart level and wholeness in every area of your life. As the Pharisees were questioning True Grace, He turned to the woman and said... ..”Go in peace!” Amen.

By Joyner Briceño