



# CAPITOL COMMISSION™

## A Changed Life - 2

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Tom McCullough / PO Box 503, Granville, OH. 43023/ [tom.mccullough@capitolcom.org](mailto:tom.mccullough@capitolcom.org) / [www.capitolcom.org](http://www.capitolcom.org).

**In the Gospel According to Luke** (AD 60-61), Luke, a Gentile, is writing to Theophilus so that he would know the exact truth and record regarding the things he had been taught about Jesus the Messiah. Luke provided numerous testimonies of Jesus' identity as the Savior and Messiah. Jesus, during His ministry, traveled to many cities sharing scripture, teaching forgiving sin, physically healing people of demons and disease, and raising the dead. Jesus began to challenge the religious rituals of the day and most importantly shared the Kingdom of God. On this occasion, Jesus describes the change in a person's life when they accept His saving grace.

*“And Jesus answered him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.” And he replied, “Say it, Teacher.” “A moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. “When they were unable to repay, he graciously forgave them both. So 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 judged correctly.” Turning toward the woman, He said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. “You gave Me no kiss; but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet. “You did not anoint My head with oil, but she anointed My feet with perfume. “For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little.” Then He said to her, “Your sins have been forgiven.” Those who were reclining at the table with Him began to say to themselves, “Who is this man who even forgives sins?” And He said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.” (Luke 7:40-50 NASB)*

**Jesus responds.** Jesus, responding to the personal verbal attack by the Pharisee Simon, uses a parable to further explain a changed life in a person who puts their faith in Him. In the preceding verses (Luke 7: 36-39) the Pharisee saw great sin in the prostitute and very little sin in himself.

The Pharisees had drawn inappropriate conclusions on the value of a person by God based upon their levels of sin and had incorrectly elevated his value above others because of his religious position.

**The Parable of the Two Debtors.** Jesus describes a moneylender who was owed money from two different people. One owing a little and one owing much and neither could pay the lender back his money. The lender “*graciously forgave them both*” and the amounts that they owed. The lender absorbed their total debts. The lender provided grace, undeserved favor, and forgiveness, absolving of a debt to both of the debtors. Jesus then asked the Pharisee which debtor would love the lender more. The Pharisee correctly said the one who owed more to the lender. The greater love came from the one who had greater forgiveness.

**The Awareness of Sin and Forgiveness through Faith.** In the example, Jesus is uncovering the lack of understanding by the Pharisee of the grace of God in the forgiveness of sin, and that forgiveness is not determined by the amount of sin. The woman was aware of her sins and thankful for her forgiveness. The Pharisee was not aware of his sins and did not appear to be thankful. The woman, aware of her sins, expressed her soft forgiven heart by humbly lavishing Jesus with all that she had. While the Pharisee, unaware of his sin and need for forgiveness, pridefully admonished Jesus. The woman was aware of her sins of the flesh, while the Pharisee was unaware of his hard heart and his sins of the spirit.

Jesus forgave the woman her sins and directed that her faith had saved her.

### For Your Consideration:

- Are you aware of your sin (debt) and have you ask forgiveness through faith in Jesus Christ? Jesus paid your debt (sin) in full.
- If like the woman, “Your faith has saved you” and you are a changed person, do your behaviors reflect the changed life?
- Do you daily welcome Christ into your life?

### BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: SESSION OR HEARING WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE RM. 44

STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND CAPITOL SQUARE COMMUNITY: WEDNESDAYS AT NOON, STATEHOUSE RM.44