

MESSAGE TITLED:
ACKNOWLEDGE THE LOVE OF GOD
APOSTLE JB MAKANANISA

Luke 7:36-43, 47

³⁶ When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. ³⁷ A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. 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. ³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner." ⁴⁰ Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. ⁴¹ "Two people owed money to certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³ Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven." ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little." (TNIV)

Not long I found that if you are aware of His love for you, you will rest and there will be prayers you will never pray again. Many times we are not aware that He is aware. When Jesus was on the cross the pain was so severe that it could not be expressed but all of us were in His mind. When Jesus spoke He said "***I lay down my life that I may take it back***", i.e. we were worthy to die. To say God loves you is to say that He has given you a chance when there was no chance. You will love God more because you know He loves you. Jesus availed Himself to those who were and are still ready and aware of His love. It is painful that someone would sacrifice His life and people would not be aware. Where we have just read, Jesus saw this woman and realized that she was aware of Him and could not judge her of her past.

When you come to Jesus aware of His love, He makes you a new creature and cancels all your past. If you read the parable, if you think you are righteous, you will always judge those you think are not righteous. Jesus is aware and ready to present Himself to anyone who is aware of what He has done, He doesn't care about your past; all He wants is you to surrender all to Him. Just remember that people will always remind you of your past mistakes, the question is; are you aware that Jesus has loved you that His life was given up for you? He died in your position. If you acknowledge what He did for you then there will be certain things that you will not do, if you do them then you say you want to die for He died for you that you may live.

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John 3:16

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (TNIV)

God decided to choose us and allowed His son to die for us. Reality comes when things are tough, Christianity is shown when you love Jesus; praising Him in any situation that you face. He chose us and let His son to die for us.

Roman 8:35-39

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, c neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, (TNIV)

There are things that are there to separate us from His love, when they happen they make us not to be aware for His love upon our lives. Persecution will come but you as a Child of God must not leave the Lord for you know where He took you. You need to know that you were transferred from the darkness to the light. What are you facing that makes you to forget the love of the living God upon your life?

1 John 4:19

19 We love because he first loved us. (TNIV)

We didn't know Him but now we are aware that He loves us and that is why we are to love Him too. You were not aware of the benefits of being loved by Him and you loving Him, benefits such as; miracles, blessings and etc. You must be aware of His love that you may hold on, carry on and move forward when it is tough.

Matthew 10:34-39

34 "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For I have come to turn " 'a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law— 36 your enemies will be the members of your own household.' 37 "Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves a son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it. (TNIV)

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Jesus says “***I have come to bring a war whereby people of the family will fight you.***” You will find that the very same people that you were raised with will be used to test the love of Jesus you have for Him. Are you sure you are aware that He loves you? So you rather leave your family and hold onto Jesus Christ of Nazareth. You cannot be robbed by your family if you are aware of the love of God upon your life. Jesus needs to be your first priority and then the family will follow. If you are aware, you will reach a level where you will realize that family comes second. Jesus has brought fire and not peace. The moment you believe that Jesus is Messiah; you will begin to say “***no***” to wrong things. Maturity means to be independent, and if you have not matured in the matters of the Kingdom of God then those around you will dominate you. Christians are there with awareness, you can be divorced but still continue holding on to Jesus. Many of you will be tempted by family. You must learn to say “***no***” to things which will compromise your love for Christ. In all generations there is a group of people who are blinded by materials. We need Christians who say “***Jesus first, family and friends later.***” If Jesus is first then you will not care who says what. Even your family loves you so much, they will dig you a whole and bury you. The moment you die when they finish crying they don’t remember you anymore. Don’t rob yourself.

This is why we love Jesus!

Romans 5:5-8

5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. 6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (TNIV)

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▪ **Promises**

We have hope because He has promised. What keeps us going is not what we are facing but because of the words we confess in our hope. We believe that He will never leave us until the end of the world. The love of God keeps you going for God can not lie. You can be disappointed but God can never disappoint you. When people turn their backs on you because of your failures, your God will still be around for He cannot leave you as He doesn't change His mind. You can't compromise and sin and play with sin for a while, you must know that God is watching you and He is trusting that your faithfulness in Him will take you to your destiny. The promises from above are about to come to pass in your life. By holding onto Jesus I see you ending all you're struggling. When you love Him, He leaves you for a while that they may talk as He is a God who changes the topics of your critics. They can compete with you but they cannot over take you, He has loved you, He is on your side, you and God are a majority. He loves you; He cannot allow your enemies to laugh forever for you will be the one to laugh last. Carry on hoping for the best because hope keeps you and holds so that you will keep following Christ for you know that Jesus loves you.

If you want Jesus Christ in your life, accept Him in your life now. Your friends and family will criticize you but you have made the right decision:

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, I come to you today. I am a sinner, I cannot save myself. Forgive me of all my sins. Wash me with your precious blood. Set me free from sin and satan, to serve the Living God. I accept you into my heart as my Lord and Savior today. I cancel every agreement that I have with satan or that was made on my behalf with satan in Jesus' name. I am born again! Thank you Jesus for saving me! In Jesus name amen!!!*

In this journey you have taken to follow Christ, satan will still tempt what you have just said, you will truly be saved after you have overcome those temptations.