

# *EXTRAVAGANT WORSHIP*

## Extravagant Worship

36Afterward, a Jewish religious leader named Simon asked Jesus to his home for dinner. Jesus accepted the invitation. When he went to Simon's home, he took his place at the table.

37In the neighborhood there was an immoral woman of the streets, known to all to be a prostitute. When she heard about Jesus being in Simon's house, she took an exquisite flask made from alabaster, filled it with the most expensive perfume, went right into the home of the Jewish religious leader, and knelt at the feet of Jesus in front of all the guests. 38Broken and weeping, she covered his feet with the tears that fell from her face. She kept crying and drying his feet with her long hair. Over and over she kissed Jesus' feet. Then she opened her flask and anointed his feet with her costly perfume as an act of worship.

39When Simon saw what was happening, he thought, “This man can’t be a true prophet. If he were really a prophet, he would know what kind of sinful woman is touching him.”

40Jesus said, “Simon, I have a word for you.”

“Go ahead, Teacher. I want to hear it,” he answered.

41“It’s a story about two men who were deeply in debt. One owed the bank one hundred thousand dollars, and the other only owed ten thousand dollars. 42When it was obvious that neither of them would be able to repay their debts, the kind banker graciously wrote off the debts and forgave them all that they owed. Tell me, Simon, which of the two debtors would be the most thankful? Which one would love the banker most?”

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43Simon answered, “I suppose it would be the one with the greatest debt forgiven.”

“You’re right,” Jesus agreed. 44Then he spoke to Simon about the woman still weeping at his feet. “Don’t you see this woman kneeling here? She is doing for me what you didn’t bother to do. When I entered your home as your guest, you didn’t think about offering me water to wash the dust off my feet. Yet she came into your home and washed my feet with her many tears and then dried my feet with her hair.

45You didn't even welcome me into your home with the customary kiss of greeting, but from the moment I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet.

46You didn't take the time to anoint my head with fragrant oil, but she anointed my head and feet with the finest perfume. 47She has been forgiven of all her many sins. This is why she has shown me such extravagant love. But those who assume they have very little to be forgiven will love me very little.”

48Then Jesus said to the woman at his feet, “All your sins are forgiven.”

49All the dinner guests said among themselves, “Who is the one who can even forgive sins?” 50Then Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith in me has given you life. Now you may leave and walk in the ways of peace.”

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## Websters Collegiate Dictionary

### **Extravagant;**

2a exceeding the limits of reason

b lacking in moderation, balance and restraint,  
praise

c extremely or excessively elaborate

3a Spending much more than necessary

b profuse, lavish

*Roman 12:1*

*In view of God's mercy, offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.*

True worship involves your whole being. It's physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual and financial. It involves your relationships, your family, and it has major impact on the boundaries you've set for how you want to live. Worship has a complete focus – **God and His worth!**

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## Matt 25

**34** “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. **35** For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, **36** I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

**37** “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? **38** When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? **39** When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

**40** “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’