

Luke 7:36-50 Christ Alone: Grace-Induced Love for Christ

Jesus shines the spotlight on our hearts to expose our lack of love and to call us away from the shallows of self-righteousness into the depths of grace-induced love.

Definition: Grace-induced love is your love for Christ that is created and increased by the knowledge of His grace toward you.

- 1) There is moral beauty in grace-induced love (7:37-38).
 - a) What does grace-induced love look like?
 - b) Grace induced love:
 - i) purposes and plans to show love to Christ.
 - ii) fosters deep humility.
 - iii) produces tears of relieved sorrow and renewed joy.
 - iv) is full of adoration.
 - v) is magnanimous, big-hearted, lavish in devotion to Christ.
- 2) There is inhospitality in a graceless love (7:39-47).
 - a) What does a graceless love (love not produced by a knowledge of the grace of Christ) look like?
 - b) Graceless love:
 - i) passes judgment on the merciful ways of Jesus.
 - ii) prejudges others as out of bounds without any hope of forgiveness.
 - iii) is blind to the great sin of being unloving to Jesus and to other people.
 - c) Christ exposes Simon's lack of love to bring him to repentance. Jesus is merciful to the Pharisee.
- 3) It is the grace of Christ that creates and sustains love for Him (7:48-50).
 - a) The grace of Christ is displayed here in three ways:
 - i) Forgiveness of sin
 - ii) Salvation from sin as a controlling power and defining reality
 - iii) Peace with God
 - b) How can we stir up love for Christ in our hearts?
 - i) Consider your former condition apart from Christ.
 - ii) Consider the cost of your forgiveness.
 - iii) Consider the freedom of forgiveness.
 - iv) Consider that you are saved from wrath.
 - v) Consider the peace with God that you enjoy in part now and will enjoy in perfection forever.
 - vi) Consider that this peace is all of grace, received through faith alone.