

Hos Jesus er du lige, hvor du skal være

Prædiken 11. august 2024 i Aarh og Kbh. pastor LGJ

Evangelium: Lukas 7,36-50

En af farisæerne indbød Jesus til at spise hos sig, og han gik ind i farisæerens hus og tog plads ved bordet. Nu var der en kvinde, som levede i synd i den by. Da hun fik at vide, at han sad til bords i farisæerens hus, gik hun



derhen med en alabastkrukke fuld af olie, stillede sig grædende bag ham ved hans fødder og begyndte at væde hans fødder med sine tårer og tørrede dem med sit hår, og hun kyssede hans fødder og salvede dem med olien. Da farisæeren, som havde indbudt ham, så det, tænkte han ved sig selv: "Hvis den mand var profet, ville han vide, hvad det er for en slags kvinde, der rører ved ham, at det er én, der lever i synd." Jesus sagde da til ham: "Simon, jeg har noget at sige dig." Han svarede: "Sig det, Mester!" "En pengeudlåner havde to skyldnere. Den ene skyldte fem hundrede denarer, den anden halvtreds. Da de ikke havde noget at betale med, eftergav han dem begge deres gæld. Hvem af dem vil så elske ham mest?" Simon svarede: "Den, han eftergav mest, vil jeg tro." Jesus sagde: "Det har du ret i." Og vendt mod kvinden sagde han til Simon: "Ser du denne kvinde? Jeg kom ind i dit hus; du gav mig ikke vand til mine fødder; men hun har vædet mine fødder med sine tårer og tørret dem med sit hår. Du gav mig ikke noget kys; men hun er blevet ved med at kysse mine fødder, siden jeg kom herind. Du salvede ikke mit hoved med salve, men hun har salvet mine fødder med olie. Derfor siger jeg dig: Hendes mange synder er tilgivet, siden hun har elsket meget. Den, der kun får lidt tilgivet, elsker kun lidt." Og han sagde til hende: "Dine synder er tilgivet." De andre ved bordet begyndte at tænke ved sig selv: "Hvem er han, som endog tilgiver synder?" Men han sagde til kvinden: "Din tro har frelst dig. Gå bort med fred."

Nåde være med jer og fred fra Gud vor Fader og fra Jesus Kristus, vor Frelser. Amen.

1.

"Du blev slået ned på værtshuset om lørdagen, men kom i kirke om søndagen. ... Du kan sidde med mig. Du er lige hvor du skal være. // Du er stofmisbruger, men kom i kirke i søndags. ... Du kan sidde hos mig. Du er lige hvor du skal være. // Du blev skilt, og den sidste kirke, du deltog i, fordømte dig for det. ... Du kan sidde hos mig. Du er lige hvor du skal være. // Du fik en abort, og det tærer langsomt på dit hjerte, men du kom i kirke i søndags. ... Du kan sidde hos mig. Du er lige hvor du skal være. // Du har været din ægtefælle utro,

With Jesus you are right where you need to be

Sermon 11 August 2024 in Aarh and Cph. Pastor LGJ

Lk. 7:36-50 NAU:

Now one of the Pharisees was requesting Him to dine with him, and He entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner; and when she learned that He was reclining at the table in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume, and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume. Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner." 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."

Grace be with you and peace from God our Father and from Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

1.

"You got hammered at the bar on Saturday but came to church on Sunday.... You can sit with me. You're right where you need to be. // You're a drug addict but came to church on Sunday.... You can sit with me. You're right where you need to be. // You're divorced, and the last church you attended condemned you for it.... You can sit with me. You're right where you need to be. // You've had an abortion and it's slowly eating away at your heart, but you came to church on Sunday.... You can sit with me. You're right where you need to be. // You've been unfaithful to your spouse but came to church on

men kom i kirke i søndags... Du kan sidde hos mig. Du er lige hvor du skal være."

Denne tekst ligger på pastor Roger Ziegers FB-side (sekretær for Lutherische Kirchenmission i Bleckmar), og den fortsætter sådan: *Mennesker kommer ikke i kirke for at blive dømt af andre kirkegængere. De kommer i kirke, fordi de i deres dybeste og mest smertefulde øjeblikke hørte om en mand, der hed Jesus, og som kunne redde deres sjæl, og de ville lære ham at kende.*

Sådan havde kvinden i byen det. Hun kom ikke ind i Simons hus for at blive fordømt af ham. Og selv om han fordømte hende, kom hun alligevel. For Jesus var der. Hun kom, fordi hun i sine dybeste, mørkeste og mest smertefulde øjeblikke havde hørt om en mand ved navn Jesus, som kunne redde hendes sjæl. Og mere end det: Hun kom, fordi hun allerede havde mødt ham og er blevet tilgivet af ham.

Det ved vi fra det, hun gør: Hun vasker Jesus' fødder med sine tårer og tørrer dem med sit hår, og hun salver hans fødder med olie. Og vi ved det, fordi Jesus forklarer det, hun gør, med, at hun har fået mange synder tilgivet. Derfor elsker hun meget. Så var hun altså tilgivet, før hun kom.

Simon tænkte, at kvinden var en synder, men han indså ikke, at han selv var en synder, som havde brug for Frelseren. Han tænkte, at synd er noget, mennesket kan holde op med at gøre. Det mente han, at undervisning i loven kunne hjælpe mennesker til. Det var farisæernes forståelse af mennesket og Loven.

2.

Paulus taler om det i Romerbrevet, som er brevlæsning i dag. Han siger: *For Kristus er enden på loven til retfærdighed for enhver, som tror (Rom 10,4).* Før han fik troen på Jesus, var han en lovtro farisæer. Loven var for ham frelsesvejen. Men efter at han havde mødt Jesus som den korsfæstede, var det slut med loven som frelsesvej.

Det fattede Simon intet af. For ham at se skulle kvinden sendes hjem og ændre sit liv. Han mente, at stofmisbrugeren, ægteskabsbryderen, morderen og den utro må undervises i Loven og sendes hjem, så de kan forbedre sig. For står der ikke i Loven, at vi skal overholde den? Jo. Og derfor kan ingen blive frelst, hvis de ikke overholder loven. Ingen. Det er sandt ifølge Guds lov. Paulus fortæller os, at det er sådan det er: *Om den retfærdighed, som kommer af loven, skriver Moses: "Det menneske, der holder budene, skal leve ved dem."* - Så har Simon ret mht. Loven: Kvinden skal holde budene. Og det skal vi også. Hver eneste af dem. Gud kræver det. Så øv dig hver eneste dag i de 10 bud.

Tag det 7. bud: *"Du må ikke stjæle!"* Dvs. at du skal frygte og elske Gud, så du ikke synder din næste,

Sunday....You can sit with me. You're right where you need to be.

This text was posted by the secretary of the Bleckmar Mission, Pastor Roger Zieger, on his Facebook page, and it continued like this: *People do not come to church to be judged by other churchgoers. They come to church because, in their deepest and most painful moments, they heard about a man named Jesus who could save their souls, and they wanted to get to know Him.*

That's how the woman in town may have felt. She did not enter Simon's house to be condemned by him. And even though he condemned her, she still came. For Jesus was there. She came because in her deepest, darkest, and most painful moments, she had heard about a man named Jesus who could save her soul. And more than that: She came because she had already met him and has been forgiven by him.

We know this from what she does: She washes Jesus' feet with her tears and wipes them with her hair, and she anoints his feet with oil. And we also know that she was forgiven before she came because Jesus explains what she does by saying that she had been forgiven. That's why she loves a lot.

Simon thought rightly that the woman was a sinner, but he didn't realize that he himself also was a sinner who needed the Savior. He thought that sin is something that man can stop doing. He believed that teaching the law could help people to do so. That was how the pious pharisees taught about human beings and salvation.

2.

Paul talks about it in his letter to Rome, which is a letter reading today. He says: *For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes (Romans 10:4).* Before he believed in Jesus, he was a lawful Pharisee. The law was for him the way of salvation. But after he had met Jesus as the crucified, the law was finished as the way of salvation.

Simon didn't understand that. In his view, the woman had to be sent home and change her life. He believed that the drug addict, the adulterer, the murderer should be taught by the Law and sent home so that they can improve.

According to God's law that we must keep it and fulfill it. And no one can be saved if they do not obey the law. Nobody. That is true according to God's law. Paul tells us that this is how it is: *Regarding the righteousness that comes from the law, Moses writes: "The man who keeps the commandments must live by them."* - So: Simon is right about the law: The woman must keep the commandments. And so should we also. Every single one of them. God requires it. So: practice every single day in the 10 commandments.

sælger ham dårlige varer for høj pris, men hjælper ham, så han kan beholde hvad han ejer, og få det bedre i morgen, end han har det i dag. Det er meget konkret. Gør det!

Og øv dig i det 2. bud: *Du må ikke misbruge Guds navn.* Dvs. at vi skal frygte og elske Gud, så vi ikke bander, sværger, øver trolddom eller bedrager og bruger Guds navn til det, men i stedet kalder på ham i al nød, beder takker og lovpriser ham for han hjælp i liv og død. Hvilken god vejledning! Åh, hvor var det godt, hvis vi gjorde sådan. Og hvor er det dog tydeligt, at vi ikke har holdt loven, og derfor ikke kan få liv og frelse ved den.

3.

Derfor siger Jesus nu til Simon og til os: *"Jeg har noget at sige dig!"* Og vi svarer: *"Sig det, mester!"* Jesus svarer: *"En pengeudlåner havde to skyldnere. Den ene skyldte fem hundrede denarer, den anden halvtreds. Da de ikke havde noget at betale med, eftergav han dem begge deres gæld. Hvem af dem vil så elske ham mest?"* Simon svarede: *"Den, han eftergav mest, vil jeg tro."* Jesus sagde: *"Det har du ret i."*

Jesus fortæller ikke om en retfærdig og en synder, men om to skyldnere. Og det er fordi vi alle er skyldnere. Både Simon og kvinden. Den eneste afgørende forskel på mennesker, er, om de er tilgivet af Gud. Den, som har fået meget tilgivet, vil elske mest. Kærligheden til Gud og vor næste kommer fra tilgivelsen. Det er ikke det gode, vi gør, der frelser os. Vi frelses ved tilgivelsen, når Gud lader sin egen Søn bære vore synder på korset, når han lider straffen for os, og opstår på den tredje dag. Og når dette evangelium forkyndes ind i vore hjerter. Sådan kommer Frelsen til os. Paulus siger: *Men den retfærdighed, som kommer af tro, siger således: "Ordet er dig nær, i din mund og i dit hjerte," og det ord er troens ord, som vi prædiker. For hvis du med din mund bekender, at Jesus er Herre, og i dit hjerte tror, at Gud har oprejst ham fra de døde, skal du frelses. For med hjertet tror man til retfærdighed, med munden bekender man til frelse, for Skriften siger: "Ingen, som tror på ham, skal blive til skamme." Og "enhver, som påkalder Herrens navn, skal frelses" (Rom 10,5ff).*

Så kommer vi i kirke, ikke for at lære om Loven, så vi kan blive lidt bedre mennesker, end vi var i sidste uge og komme Gud lidt nærmere. Nej. Vi kommer i kirke for at lære at sørge over vore synder og at tro i liv og død på Jesus! Derfor er vi, hvor vi skal være, når vi er i en kirke og menighed, hvor vi lærer om vore synder og hvor Jesus tilgiver os ved prædiken og sakramenterne.

Take the 7th commandment: *"Thou shalt not steal!"* That is, you must fear and love God, so that you do not sin your neighbor, sell him bad goods at a high price, but help him so that he can keep what he owns, and be better off tomorrow than he is today. That is very concrete. Do it!

And practice the 2nd commandment: *You must not take God's name in vain.* That is, we must fear and love God, so that we do not swear, practice sorcery or deceive and use God's name for it, but instead call on Him in all need, pray, give thanks and praise to Him for His help in life and death. What a great guide! Oh, how good it would be if we did that. And how evident it is that we have not kept the law, and therefore cannot get life and salvation by it.

3.

That is why Jesus now says to Simon and to us: *"I have something to tell you!"* And we answer: *"Say it, Master!"* Jesus answers: *"A moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, the other fifty. Since they had nothing to pay with, he forgave both of them their debts. Which of them will love him the most?"* Simon answered, *"The one he forgave the most, I believe."* Jesus said, *"You are right."*

Jesus does not speak of a righteous person and a sinful person. He speaks about two debtors. And that's because we're all debtors. Both Simon and the woman. The only crucial difference between people is whether they are forgiven by God. He who has been forgiven much will love the most. The love of God and our neighbor comes from forgiveness. We are saved by forgiveness, when God allows His own Son to bear our sins on the cross, when He suffers the punishment for us, and rises on the third day. And when this gospel is preached into our hearts. This is how Salvation comes to us. Paul says: *But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "The word is near you, in your mouth, and in your heart," and that word is the word of faith that we preach. For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, with the mouth one confesses unto salvation, for the Scripture says, "No one who believes in him shall be put to shame." And "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:5ff).*

Therefore we do not go to church to learn about the Law, so that we can become a little better people than we were last week and get a little closer to God. No. We come to church to learn to grieve for our sins and to believe in Jesus in life and death! Therefore, we are where we should be when we are in a church and congregation, where we learn about our sins and where Jesus forgives us through the sermon and the sacraments.

4.

Og af det, Jesus siger til kvinden til sidst, mærker vi, at tilgivelse ikke er noget, vi fik for et halvt år siden eller i vor dåb, og derfor ikke behøver længere. Synd er nemlig ikke kun noget, vi gør, og som vi kan vænne os af med. Synden bor i os, findes i os, og som gør os skyldige. Paulus fortæller om det i Romerbrevet 7: *For jeg forstår ikke mine handlinger. Det, jeg vil, det gør jeg ikke, og det, jeg hader, det gør jeg.* ¹⁶ Men når jeg gør det, jeg ikke vil, giver jeg loven ret i, at den er god. ¹⁷ Men så er det ikke længere mig, der handler, men synden, som bor i mig. ¹⁸ Jeg ved, at i mig, altså i mit kød, bor der intet godt. Viljen har jeg, men udføre det gode kan jeg ikke. (Rom. 7,15-18). Sådan var Simon, uden at han vidste om det. Og sådan var kvinden, og hun vidste det. Derfor havde kvinden i byen brug for tilgivelse, selv om hun måske for nogle dage siden var ophørt med at være prostitueret i byen. Hun behøvede tilgivelse for forgangne synder, for mørket, der rugede i hendes hjerte, for al den skyld, som dukkede op hos hende i mørke stunder og hvis og når hun fik tilbagefald.

Det er derfor, du har brug for at høre evangeliet hver søndag! Du har brug for tilgivelse – at den bliver gentaget og gentaget. For vi bærer synden i os og er syndige hjertet? Men netop for kvinden og for Simon og os, som er syndere, døde og opstod Jesus. Og han tager os ind i Frelsen, nu, når vi hører denne prædiken, og når vi i nadveren får Jesu legeme og blod, og når vi hører fra Herrens tjener: "Dine synder tilgives dig." Derfor kan vi også gå hjem fra kirke i dag med FRED. Amen.

4.

And from what Jesus says to the woman at the end, we sense that forgiveness is not something we received six months ago or in our baptism, and therefore do not need anymore. Sin is not just something we do. Sin dwells in us, exists in us, and makes us guilty. Paul tells about it in Romans 7: *For I do not understand my actions. What I want, I don't, and what I hate, I do.* ¹⁶ But when I do what I do not want to do, I give the law that it is good. ¹⁷ But then it is no longer I who act, but sin that dwells in me. ¹⁸ I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, nothing good dwells. I have the will, but I can't do the good. (Rom. 7:15-18). That's what Simon was like, without him knowing it. And that's how the woman was, and she knew it. Therefore, the woman in the town needed forgiveness, even though she might have stopped being a prostitute in the town a few days ago. She needed forgiveness for past sins, for the darkness that brooded in her heart, for all the guilt that appeared in her in dark moments and if and when she relapsed.

That's why you need to hear the gospel every Sunday! You need forgiveness – repeatedly. For we carry sin in us and are sinful in heart? But precisely for the woman and for Simon and us, who are sinners, Jesus died and rose again. And He takes us into salvation now, when we hear this sermon, and when in the sacrament we receive the body and blood of Jesus, and when we hear from the servant of the Lord, "Your sins are forgiven you." Therefore, we can also go home from church today with PEACE. Amen.