

Jesus and Woman

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I. Women in the 21st Century

A. Today

1. Make own decisions.
2. Relatively free.
3. Have come a long way.

B. In Jesus' Day

1. Man could divorce his wife by merely saying it three times.
2. Pharisees thanked God daily not to be a woman.
3. Did Jesus care about women?

II. Jesus with Women

A. Woman caught in adultery. (John 8:3-11)

1. Jesus in action.
 - a) No condemnation.
 - b) Accused the Pharisees (men) of sin.
 - c) Protects her from the law.
 - d) Protects her from men.
 - e) Liberates her to leave .
2. Attitude toward woman.
 - a) Forgiveness.
 - b) God does not remember our sins. (Isaiah 43:25)
 - b) Satan wants us to remember and feel guilty.

B. Widow whose only son died. (Luke 7:11-17)

1. Jesus entered into her suffering. (Isaiah 53:9)

2. We are not alone in our suffering - Jesus is walking with us. (Isaiah 43:2-3)

C. Mary pours expensive ointment on his feet and wipes it with her hair. (Luke 7:36-50)

1. Jesus implies she who is forgiven much, loves much.

2. Attitude of men - condemnation.

3. Attitude of disciples - misuse of money.

4. Attitude of Jesus - beautiful act.

a) He looked at her heart.

b) He honored her.

c) He protected her.

d) He elevated her.

D. Mary and Martha. (John 11:5)

1. Called “dear friends” of Jesus.

2. Jesus took time to teach women.

a) The most important thing is to sit at Jesus’ feet.

b) Mary kept her priorities straight.

E. Women at the foot of the cross.

1. Weeping.

2. Doing nothing but being something.

3. Jesus had liberated, comforted, elevated and befriended women.

4. Now women were standing with him in his hour of need.

F. Women after the resurrection. (John 20:1ff)

1. Jesus revealed himself first to a woman.

a) Mary Magdalene weeping outside the tomb.

b) Jesus tells her he will ascend to the father.

c) She told the disciples the news.

2. Jesus showed women are equal in value to men.

a) Different functions and responsibilities.

b) Just as precious to Jesus as men.

G. Women traveled with Jesus. (Luke 8:1-3)

1. Part of Jesus team with the disciples.

H. Women in the upper room. (Acts 1:12-14)

1. Waiting for the Holy Spirit with the men.

2. Received the Holy Spirit simultaneously with men.

3. God poured out his spirit on both men and women. (Acts 1:16ff)

III. How close of a friend are you to Jesus Christ?

A. Qualities we want in a friend.

1. Accept as we are.

2. Enjoys you as a person.

3. Talk things over with.

B. Jesus as our very best friend.

1. Not a fair weathered friend. (Proverbs)

2. Sufficient to meet our needs.

C. If Jesus were on the cross today, where would we be?

1. Screaming with the crowd "Crucify him!"

2. Hiding with the disciples to protect ourselves.

3. Identifying publicly with the women at the feet of the cross.

D. Commit everything to God and enter into a friendship with Jesus.