

Summary
Gospel of John: John 7:53-8:11

An adulterous Faces The Light of The World

NB: Everything changes when Jesus steps in.

Q. What was the scribes and Pharisees Response to the woman “caught in the act of adultery”?

Q. What did The Law of Moses say should happen ? (Leviticus 20:10; Deuteronomy 22:22-24).

Q. Where was the man who committed this act of adultery with this woman?

Q. What was Jesus’s response to the scribes and Pharisees?

Q. What do we learn from Luke 5:31-32?

Q. Why did Jesus come according to Luke 19:10 & John 3:16-17?

Q. How did God demonstrate His love to us? Romans 5:8

Jesus is a friend of sinners, our advocate, our great intercessor, our mediator, our Great High Priest and Redeemer.

Q. How do we live this truth out practically in our daily lives?

Q. What was the motive of the scribes and Pharisees? (To embarrass both the woman and Jesus publicly.

“Caught” - means to be taken with her SHAME upon her.

Q. Did Jesus apply the law or grace?

Q. Was Jesus endorsing or approving sexual immorality or was He doing what He came to do? (“To seek and save the lost”)

Q. How many witnesses were required according to the law?

These witnesses had to agree perfectly.

Q. Did those witnesses identify themselves?

Q. Why do you think they didn’t?

Q. How did the scribes and Pharisees try to trap Jesus? (By asking Him “What do you say”? in comparison to what Moses said.)

Q. What similar trap did they lay for Jesus in Matthew 22:15-22?

Q. How should we respond to people who ask us for our “opinion” regarding sexual immorality etc? (Our opinions are not important but what God says in His Word is what matters most.

Q. What is the Final Authority on all matters in life? The Bible - The Word of God!

- If Jesus said “let her go”, then He would seem to break the law of Moses.
- If Jesus said “execute her for her crime”, then Jesus would seem harsh and perhaps cruel.

Q. Why did Jesus ignore the accusers? They used this woman as a weapon against Him. To trap Him. To accuse Him.

NB: THEY PRESENTED HER AS A SINNER BEFORE JESUS, BUT IGNORED THEIR OWN SIN IN THE MATTER!

- They were hypocritical, judgmental and critical.
- They were self-righteous!
- They were not looking at this woman as a person, but as a thing - an instrument to formulate a charge against Jesus.
- Jesus however, always knows the evil intentions of men.

Q. What was Jesus’s response to the woman? “He stooped down” - indicates humility. He identified with her humiliation. He did not come to condemn, but to save.

- He didn’t react with anger or immediate outrage.
- He did not scream at her or those who brought her.
- He paused and stooped down and began to write on the ground.

Q. What did Jesus write on the ground? (“Write” also means to “draw”). Bible doesn’t specify but there are numerous possible speculations:

- Some think that Jesus simply doodled in the dirt.
- Some think Jesus simply stalled for time.
- Some think Jesus wrote down the passage in the Law that condemned the adulterous woman.
- Some think Jesus wrote the names of the accusers.
- Some think Jesus wrote the sins of the accusers.
- Some think Jesus followed Roman Judicial practices and write out His sentence before He said it.
- The Greek Word “to write “ is “katagrapheine”, which means “to write down a record against someone “.

Q. what sentence did Jesus pass? “He who is without sin among you, let him cast a stone at her first “.

- In Jewish law, the witnesses began the stoning by casting the first stone.
- Jesus was the only One without sin and He could have thrown the first stone.

- Jesus in a sense “drops the stone” and “picks up a cross”.
- Jesus did not come to stone people and put them down, but to pick them up.
- Jesus wanted to get to the heart of the “self-righteous” Leaders.
- He simply demanded that justice be fairly and righteously applied.
- In this, Jesus exposed a common sin: “A desire to punish the sins of others, while ignoring our own sin”! See Matthew 7:3-5
- There is still a place for exposing and rebuking and directly dealing with the sins of others in God’s family, but it must always be done with a heart that recognizes itself as a forgiven sinner.
- When done right, confronting sin is done more often with tears and a broken heart than with anger and condemnation.

Q. How did the accusers respond? By leaving from oldest to youngest.

Q. Do you think that they were convicted by what Jesus said?

Q. What was Jesus’s challenge to the woman? “To go and sin no more”. Stop your sinful life. “No more” points to the thought of no return. Calling for true repentance and a change of behavior.

Q. What does Romans 8:1 tell us?

Conclusion:

- He recognized that what the woman had done was sin, because He told her to “sin no more “.
- He told her to repent, and to not continue her sin.
- He gave her hope that her life could go on in freedom from sexual sin.
- He gave her a word of hope to speak against the shame that would later likely threaten to overwhelm her life.
- She needed hope to deal with the consequences of her sin.
- Hope to deal with being shunned by her community.
- Hope to deal with possible rejection by her husband, perhaps even divorced (if she was married).

Q. What does 1 John 1:9 say?