

## NEITHER DO I CONDEMN YOU

JOHN 7:53-8:11

OPEN YOUR BIBLES TO JOHN'S GOSPEL. TODAY WE WILL START IN CHAPTER 7 AND END IN CHAPTER 8 VERSE 11. AT THE END OF CHAPTER 7 IN VERSES 45-52 WE SEE THE UNBELIEF OF THE PHARISEES AND THE CHIEF PRIESTS (SADDUCEES). THEY ARE FURIOUS WITH JESUS. WHY? BECAUSE JESUS, WHO FULLFILLS THE LAW OF MOSES IN EVERYWAY, IS RE ESTABLISHING RIGHTEOUSNESS ON THE FOUNDATION OF GRACE AND MERCY. THIS DRIVES THE JEWISH LEADERS' CRAZY BECAUSE THEY ARE FULL OF SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND VOID OF GOD'S SPIRIT. THEY HAVE TWISTED THE LAW OF GOD AND USED IT FOR MANIPULATION AND SELF EXALTATION. JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF GOD'S TRUTH EXPOSING THEIR FALSE RELIGION WHILE INVITING THEM AND EVERYONE ELSE TO REPENT AND PUT THEIR FAITH IN HIM. TODAY'S TEXT SHOULD BE IN BRACKETS OR ITALICIZED IN YOUR BIBLE. I WILL EXPLAIN THIS, BUT FIRST I WILL READ THE TEXT IN IT'S ENTIRETY.

John 7:53 NIV

*<sup>53</sup> Then they all went home,*

John 8:1-11 NIV

**8** *<sup>1</sup> but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.*

<sup>2</sup> At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. <sup>3</sup> The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group <sup>4</sup> and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup> In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" <sup>6</sup> They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. <sup>7</sup> When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." <sup>8</sup> Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

<sup>9</sup> At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. <sup>10</sup> Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

<sup>11</sup> "No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

TODAY I MUST TEACH BEFORE I PREACH. MANY BIBLE SCHOLARS BELIEVE THE SECTION OF 7:53-8:11 WAS NOT

WRITTEN BY JOHN AND SHOULD NOT BE IN JOHN'S GOSPEL. I AGREE, AND I'LL TELL YOU WHY. 1. THIS STORY IS MISSING IN ALL OF THE GREEK MANUSCRIPTS BEFORE THE FIRST CENTURY. 2. THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS DO NOT COMMENT ON THIS AND FLOW FROM JOHN 7:52-8:12. 3. THE TEXT FLOWS AMAZINGLY WELL IF YOU DROP THE STORY. 4. NO EASTERN FATHERS OF THE CHURCH CITE THIS STORY UNTIL THE 10<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY. 5. IT IS FOUND IN DIFFERENT PLACES IN THE MANUSCRIPTS THAT INCLUDE IT. 6. THE STYLE AND VOCABULARY ARE UNLIKE ANY OF THE OTHER VOCABULARY IN JOHN'S GOSPEL. HOWEVER, THESE SAME SCHOLARS, AS WELL AS THE EARLY CHURCH, AND I BELIEVE THAT THIS STORY IS TRUE. NOT ON THE BASIS OF WHETHER IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED OR NOT, BUT ON THE BASIS THAT IT POINTS TO THE REST OF THE NT. JESUS EXALTED OVER THE LAW, JESUS ELIMINATES AN APPOINTED PUNISHMENT IN THE LAW, AND HE RE-ESTABLISHES RIGHTEOUSNESS ON THE FOUNDATION OF GRACE. THIS IS THE POINT OF THE WHOLE NEW TESTAMENT. JUST TO SET YOUR MINDS AT EASE, I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU A COMPARISON OF 1ST CENTURY MANUSCRIPT EXAMPLES. CAESAR'S GALIC WARS WAS WRITTEN IN 50 BC. THERE ARE 10 HANDWRITTEN COPIES THAT START IN THE 10<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY THAT HAVE BEEN PRESERVED. OTHER WRITINGS RETRIEVED FROM THIS TIME VARY FROM 2 TO 20 COPIES. WE HAVE 5,800 HANDWRITTEN COPIES OF FRAGMENTS OR FULL WRITINGS OF

THE NEW TESTAMENT. THIS MEANS WE HAVE THE MOST ACCURATE DOCUMENTATION OF THIS TIME IN HISTORY, MORE THAN ANY OTHER ACCOUNT OF ANYTHING ELSE THAT HAS EVER HAPPENED IN THIS TIME. VARIATIONS ARE MANY, BUT THIS ENHANCES THE ABILITY TO DECIPHER WHAT COPIES ARE CLOSEST TO THE ORIGINAL. NO VARIATION EFFECTS THE HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION OR DOCTRINE OF THE BIBLE. WE CAN GENUINELY TRUST THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE BIBLE FOR FAITH AND CHRISTIAN PRACTICE IN OUR LIVES. THE TEXT WE WILL STUDY TODAY HAS ALL OF THE EARMARKS OF THE AUTHORITY AND VEROCITY OF SCRIPTURE, WHETHER IT REALLY HAPPENED OR NOT. SO, I WILL PREACH IT.

John 7:53 NIV

*<sup>53</sup> Then they all went home,*

JESUS WAS TEACHING IN THE TEMPLE TO A HUGE CROWD OF JERUSALEMITES, PILGRIMS, AND THE JEWISH LEADERS

John 8:1 NIV

***8**<sup>1</sup> but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.*

IT WAS COMMON FOR JESUS TO REMOVE HIMSELF FROM THE CROWD, ISOLATE HIMSELF WITH THE FATHER AND PRAY. THIS HE DID TO COLLECT HIS ENERGIES AND INTERCEDE IN A LABOR OF LOVE FOR THE LOST.

John 8:2 NIV

*<sup>2</sup> At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them.*

JESUS DIDN'T WASTE HIS TIME HERE ON EARTH

HE WOKE UP EARLY TO TEACH. "ALL THE PEOPLE" IS A HYPERBOLE MEANT TO SIGNIFY THAT THERE WAS A LARGE GROUP OF PEOPLE

John 8:3 NIV

*<sup>3</sup> The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group*

WE SEE THE HARSHNESS OF THE LAW WITH NO GRACE IN THESE JEWISH LEADERS. THE LAW CONDEMNS SIN AND THE SINNER. THEY MADE HER STAND THERE IN HER SHAME, CONDEMNING HER

John 8:4-5 NIV

*<sup>4</sup> and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup> In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?"*

CALLING JESUS "TEACHER" IS SAID WITH SARCASM AND DISDAIN. THEY DON'T CARE ABOUT THIS WOMAN; THEY WANT TO TRICK JESUS INTO A WRONG ANSWER. IF JESUS SAYS "STONE HER" HE VIOLATES THE ROMAN LAW FOR CAPITAL

PUNISHMENT. IF HE SAYS, “SPARE HER” HE DOES NOT UPHOLD THE LAW OF MOSES

Leviticus 20:10 NIV

<sup>10</sup> “If a man commits adultery with another man’s wife—with the wife of his neighbor—both the adulterer and the adulteress are to be put to death.

Deuteronomy 22:22 NIV

<sup>22</sup> If a man is found sleeping with another man’s wife, both the man who slept with her and the woman must die. You must purge the evil from Israel.

STONING WAS A BRUTAL EXECUTION-BURIED UP TO YOUR WASTE, HANDS TIED BEHIND YOUR BACK, ROCKS THROWN AT YOUR FACE UNTIL PRONOUNCED DEAD

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A CASE OF ADULTERY WHERE THERE IS ONLY ONE PERSON INVOLVED. SO WHERE IS THE MAN?

THESE HYPOCRITES BROUGHT ONLY THE WOMAN. THEY DO NOT CARE ABOUT JUSTICE

John 8:6-7 NIV

<sup>6</sup> *They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.*

*But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. <sup>7</sup> When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up*

*and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."*

NO ONE KNOWS WHAT JESUS WAS WRITING IN THE DIRT.  
SOME THINK HE WAS WRITING DOWN THE SINS OF THE JEWISH  
LEADERS, SOME SAY THE 10 COMMANDMENTS, OTHERS SAY  
THAT JESUS WAS JUST IGNORING THEIR QUESTIONS... BUT THAT  
IS JUST GUESSING

ONCE AGAIN, JESUS USES HIS WORDS OF TRUTH AS HIS  
WEAPON, PEIRCING THE HEARTS OF THE WICKED

Hebrews 4:12-13 NIV

<sup>12</sup> For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. <sup>13</sup> Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

THE LORD'S REPLY WAS SIMPLE BUT PROFOUND. HE DID NOT  
DENY THE WOMAN'S GUILT, AND BROADENED THE LAW'S  
POWER BY EXPOSING THE SINS OF THE ACCUSERS

*"Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."*

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH SOCIAL JUSTICE, THERE ARE  
NO EARTHLY JUDGES WITHOUT SIN.

THIS IS JESUS STANDING FIRM ON THE TRUTH OF GOD

Matthew 7:1-5 NIV

**7** “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. <sup>2</sup> For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. <sup>3</sup> “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? <sup>4</sup> How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

THESE JEWISH LEADERS THAT WERE SO SELF RIGHTEOUS WERE JUST AS GUILTY AS THE WOMAN. WISE JUDGEMENT FLOWS OUT OF HONEST MOTIVES

John 8:8-9 NIV

*<sup>8</sup> Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.*

*<sup>9</sup> At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.*

IT IS NOT WHAT WAS WRITTEN THAT CONVICTED, IT WAS WHAT WAS SAID BY JESUS THAT CONVICTED THEM

OLDEST TO YOUNGEST WAS FORCED TO LOOK IN THE MIRROR

THE TRUTH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS PIERCED THEIR WICKED HEARTS AND THEY BEGAN TO WALK AWAY CONVICTED AND ASHAMED

THIS IS A GOOD LESSON FOR EVERYONE

John 8:10-11 NIV

*<sup>10</sup> Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"*

*<sup>11</sup> "No one, sir," she said.*

*"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."*

JESUS DOES NOT CONDONE HER SIN, HE SHOWS HER GRACE

EVERY SINNER MUST EXPERIENCE THE GRACE OF GOD BEFORE GAINING THE DESIRE NOT TO SIN

"NOT SINNING" WITHOUT EXPERIENCING THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD LEADS TO LEGALISM AND PRIDE

IT IS THE GOSPEL!! THE SINNER WHO REPENTS AND PUTS THEIR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST IS FOUND NOT GUILTY

FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD, RENEWED MIND AND REGENERATED HEART, WE BECOME NEW CREATIONS IN CHRIST.

HOLY AND BLAMELESS IN GOD'S EYES!!

AMEN!! THANK YOU JESUS!!

