

Jesus the Sympathetic Savior of Sinners John 8:1-11

Introduction: Of all the public scandals that rivet people's attention there is nothing quite so universally fascinating as a sex scandal. Whether it is a fallen religious figure, political leader or pop icon, typically someone will quote Jesus' famous words found in John 8, "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone." Perhaps our fascination with this story is a statement of how personal this sin is to our human condition, but it is also a statement of how great God's power is to forgive us.

A missing narrative?

Dirty dealing at dawn (vs. 2-6)

"The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst."

God's finger in the dirt (vs. 6-8)

"Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, 'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.' And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground."

Three things that Jesus' response did:

First, Jesus brought the accusers face to face with their own sin.

Second, Jesus demonstrated to the woman's accusers that they were unfit to judge her.

Third, Jesus let the guilty woman know that she was not the only sinner in the crowd.

The great release (vs. 10-11)

"And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.'"

Jesus treated this sinful woman as her Savior.

a. He looked at her – *"He straightened up..."*

b. He questioned her – *“Woman, where are they?”*

c. He forgave her – *“Neither do I condemn you...”*

d. He challenged her – *“Go now and leave your life of sin.”*

Conclusion: The dawn breaks bright and clear

John 8:12—Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”