



### 1. The Trap! (1-6a)

<sup>1</sup> but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup> Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. <sup>3</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst <sup>4</sup> they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup> Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?"

<sup>6</sup> **This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him.**

### 1. The Trap! (1-6a)

John 8:1-11

<sup>6</sup> This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him.

The Old Testament listed adultery as a capital crime (Lev. 20:10). *"If a man commits adultery with his neighbor's wife, both the man and the woman who have committed adultery must be put to death."*

**Seditious or false teacher**

The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' (Matt. 11:19 and Luke 7:34)

### 2. Jesus' Word to the Accusers (6b-9a)

<sup>6</sup> ... Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground.

➤ **This crime was punishable by execution**

<sup>22</sup> "If a man is discovered committing adultery, both he and the woman must die. In this way, you will purge Israel of such evil. (Deut. 22)

Jesus says; "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." (vs. 7b)

### What did Jesus write in the dirt?

<sup>6</sup> ... Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground.

<sup>18</sup> And he gave to Moses, when he had finished speaking with him on Mount Sinai, the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God. (Ex. 31:18)

<sup>12</sup> There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor? (James 4:12)

### What did Jesus write in the dirt?

<sup>6</sup> ... Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground.

<sup>7</sup> 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.**"

<sup>8</sup> And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground.

You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with a wicked man to be a malicious witness. <sup>2</sup> You shall not fall in with the many to do evil, nor shall you bear witness in a lawsuit, siding with the many, so as to pervert justice, (Ex. 23:1-2)

<sup>16</sup> If a malicious witness arises to accuse a person of wrongdoing, <sup>17</sup> then both parties to the dispute shall appear before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who are in office in those days. <sup>18</sup> The judges shall inquire diligently, and if the witness is a false witness and has accused his brother falsely. <sup>19</sup> then you shall do to him as he had meant to do to his brother. So you shall purge the evil from your midst. (Deut. 19)

<sup>9</sup> But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones,...

<sup>27</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'<sup>28</sup> But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. (Matt. 5)

### 3. Jesus' Word to the Woman (9b-11)

<sup>9</sup> ... and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him.

<sup>10</sup> Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" <sup>11</sup> She said, "No one, Lord." And...

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



### The basis of our forgiveness

<sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. (Jas. 2)

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home.

<sup>2</sup> Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them,

<sup>3</sup> four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat.

<sup>4</sup> They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."

(Mark 2)

### The basis of our forgiveness

**How can Jesus forgive them without making a complete mockery of God's justice?**

**1) Because he is willing to pay the penalty for her sins himself!**

<sup>1</sup> ...if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous.

<sup>2</sup> He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world. (1 Jn. 2NLT)

### The basis of our forgiveness

**How can Jesus forgive them without making a complete mockery of God's justice?**

**1) Because he is willing to pay the penalty for her sins himself!**

<sup>23</sup> *For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.* <sup>24</sup> Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. <sup>25</sup> *For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past,* (Rom. 3NLT)

### The basis of our forgiveness

**How can Jesus forgive them without making a complete mockery of God's justice?**

**2) God the Father has given Jesus the authority to forgive all those who believe in Him.**

<sup>21</sup> For just as the Father gives life to those he raises from the dead, so the Son gives life to anyone he wants. <sup>22</sup> In addition, the Father judges no one. Instead, he has given the Son absolute authority to judge, <sup>23</sup> so that everyone will honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son is certainly not honoring the Father who sent him. <sup>24</sup> "I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life..." (Jn. 5NLT)

### The motivation for a changed life!

"Neither do I condemn you; go and from now on sin no more." vs.11b

**RELIGION SAYS:** "Change or I will condemn you." I respond to guilt.

**JESUS/ GRACE SAYS:** "I have forgiven and accepted you. Now respond to my love by allowing me to change your life."

### The motivation for a changed life!

#### The Law will only increase our sin problems!

<sup>20</sup> God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant. <sup>21</sup> So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 5 NLT)

### God's Law reveals our sin!

<sup>7</sup> Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, "You must not covet." <sup>8</sup> But sin used this command to arouse all kinds of covetous desires within me! If there were no law, sin would not have that power. <sup>9</sup> At one time I lived without understanding the law. But when I learned the command not to covet, for instance, the power of sin came to life, <sup>10</sup> and I died. So I discovered that the law's commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead. <sup>11</sup> Sin took advantage of those commands and deceived me; it used the commands to kill me. (Romans 7)

<sup>56</sup> For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. <sup>57</sup> But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. 15)

<sup>5</sup> Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will.

<sup>8</sup> That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God. (Romans 8)

### How does this become a reality in *your* life?

- As a believer break the bondage of your sinful thinking by letting the Holy Spirit control your mind by His Word.
- Have you come to the point like the woman and called Jesus... *your* Lord? If not will you receive Jesus Christ into your life and become a child of God like this woman?

