

WHERE ARE THINE ACCUSERS?

(How Jesus Ministers To The Woman Taken In Adultery)
John 8:1-11



What A Lesson In The Temple:

- ◆ The "Carnal Exploitation" (v. 1-6A)
- ◆ The "Conviction Experience" (v. 6b-9)
- ◆ The "Crowning Exit" (v. 9b-11)

"Neither Do I Condemn Thee; Go, And Sin No More" (John 8:11)

Bill Kirk

“WHERE ARE THINE ACCUSERS?”

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John 8:1-11

“Woman, where are thine accusers?...Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more” (John 8:10,11)

INTRODUCTION

1. Jesus had retreated unto the Mount of Olives. (v. 1)
2. Early next morning, Jesus made His way into the temple. (v. 2)

Question: Why did Jesus go to the temple?

Answer: (v. 2) “And all the people came unto Him, and He sat down and taught them”.

*Jesus went there to teach the people!

Fact: The Feast of Tabernacles has just ended.

Fact: Jesus uses the opportunity to minister to the pilgrims.

Fact: He teaches in the court of the women where the treasury is located. (8:20)

Fact: He is about to become the target of an evil plot against Him.

Questions With Answers

- #1. Pastor, why did the Scribes & Pharisees really bring the woman to Jesus?
- #2. Pastor, why did they bring her publicly and not privately?
- #3. Pastor, what did Jesus write on the dirt floor in the temple?
- #4. Pastor, why were the accusers convicted in their conscience?
- #5. Pastor, how does Jesus deal with sin and sinners this morning?

I. The Carnal Exploitation (v. 1-6a)

(2 Carnal Acts Are Exposed)

#1. The Scribes and Pharisees Exploit Jesus

In (v.3) the accusers bring in the woman.

In (v.4) “We caught her in the very act Lord”.

In (v.5) “Moses said stone her, what do you say?”

Question: Why did the accusers interrupt Jesus teaching and barge right in with the woman?

Answer: (v.6) “This they said, tempting Him, that they might have to accuse Him.”

Question: Accuse Jesus of what?

Question: What was their plot?

Question: How were the Jewish leaders planning to sink Jesus?

1. If Jesus says, “Yes, stone the woman”: then He loses His reputation of loving and showing mercy in forgiving sinners.
2. If Jesus says, “No, don’t stone the woman”: then He openly breaks the Law of Moses and is subject to arrest.

- Fact: It's a deliberate plot to trap Jesus.
Fact: It's a plan (in their minds) that's a closed case.

(Carnal Act #2)

#2. The Scribes And Pharisees Exploit The Woman

- Question: Were the Pharisees grieved over the woman's sin?
Question: Were they broken over her dilemma?
Question: Were they wanting to restore the woman?

(Not At All)

- A. They were happy to catch her!
B. They were happy to trap Jesus!
C. They were happy to expose her before all!

- Fact: True spirituality is revealed by how we respond to the failures of other people!
Fact: God gives clear instruction as to our response of another's failure:

(Galatians 6:1) "Brethren, if any man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of meekness, considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted"

- Fact: The Greek word for "considering" is (SKOPEO).
Fact: It's the word we get our English word microscope from.

- Question: What's a microscope for?
Answer: "To examine more closely"

- Question: Who do we "microscope" when we see another fall?
Answer: We "consider ourselves" (or) search our own heart in times like these.

(3 Common Responses When Soldiers Fall)

- #1. Anger: "How could they do this when I trusted them?"
#2. Pride: "I'm not so bad after all in comparison to them".
#3. Grief: "How sad that the devil has taken ground over that shames the cause of Christ".

II. "The Conviction Experience" (6b-9)

- Question: How did Jesus respond to the Pharisee's question of (v. 5) "What sayest thou?"
Question: How did Jesus react to the hypocrites who judged the woman (but not themselves)?

(v.6) "Jesus stooped down, and with His finger wrote on the ground, as though He heard them not".

(v.7) "So when they continued asking Him"

(Asking Him What?)

- * "What do you think about this Lord?"
- * "What do you say about this Lord?"
- * "What do you feel about this Lord?"
- * "This sinful woman caught in the very act of breaking the Law of Moses (what about it Lord)?"

(What Did Jesus Do?)

#1. He Stooped Over In Silence:

Ask: Why act as though He heard them not?

Ask: Why the period of silence?

*To allow the Spirit time to work.

*To allow the Spirit to search my heart today.

#2. He Scribbled In The Ground:

Ask: What did Jesus write in ground?

*Was it their names He wrote?

*Was it their sins He surfaced?

*Do I see my name there in need of "scoping"?

#3. He Spoke To The Heart In (V.7):

"He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her".

(In Other Words)

*Is there anyone here today who has something God needs to address?

*Anyone here God wants to speak to?

(Oh What A Discovery!)

A. That Jesus speaks to them again the second time!

B. That Jesus will deal with us once (and again if need be) to bring about a change in us.

C. That Jesus doesn't give up on you when others do!

Question: What happened to the accusers?

Answer: "And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one". (v.9)

Fact: Jewish law (according to Deuteronomy 17:7) required that the accusers cast the first stones.

Questions:

*What happens when you get a glimpse of the holiness of God?

*What happens when Jesus gets in our face and we see Him and see ourselves?

(Only One Thing Can Happen)

- *Instead of feeling good about the sins and failures of other people,
- *I see my own sin and am reduced to tears and cry out for mercy.

(I Love Jesus' Response To The Pharisees)

- Fact:** He could have hung them out to dry!
- Fact:** He could have exposed them (royally).
- Fact:** He could have embarrassed them like they did the woman.

(But Instead)

- * Jesus quietly stoops over and writes only to the accusers.

(Why?)

- *Because Jesus wants to restore us (not exploit us).

III. "The Crowning Exit" (v. 9b-11)

"And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst" (v.9)

- Fact:** It's one on one now (Just you & Jesus).
- Fact:** The exploiters are out of sight.

(Notice The Accusers)

1. They file out one by one.
2. Filing out they confess their own guilt.
3. Having been exposed, they prove they are in no position to judge another.

(Notice The Woman)

1. She makes no attempt to escape with her accusers.
2. She makes no attempt to deny her guilt.
3. She makes no attempt to delay the needed change of heart.

- Question:** How do I respond when God convicts me?
- Question:** How do I respond when the Word gets under my skin?
- Question:** How do I respond when the preacher gets in my world?

- *Do I huff & puff and chose not to change?
- *Or do I align my heart with God's heart?

(What's The Glory Of V. 11?)

- #1. The Pharisees, condemn the woman (Jesus forgives the woman)
- #2. The Pharisees saw only the woman's past (Jesus saw the woman's redeemed future)
- #3. The Pharisees dragged her in for what she was (Jesus sent her out for what she could become)

(Jesus Knew Some Things)

- #1. He knew that her greatest sin, could become her greatest conviction.
- #2. He knew that her greatest failure, could forever remind her of God's great forgiveness.
- #3. He knows that your greatest past failures, sin and blunders, can be covered and forgiven never to be used against you again!

Question: Do you have any accusers this morning?

Question: Do you carry what Jesus already forgave at Calvary?

Conclusion

(What Does It Mean)

“Neither do I condemn thee, go and sin no more?” (v.11)

(It Doesn't Mean)

*That Jesus is soft with sin (not at all)

(It Does Mean)

- #1. That Jesus hasn't come to condemn, but to forgive you.
- #2. That Jesus plans for you to leave here with power to go and sin no more.

(Or)

Live above the power of every sin to control your life any longer!!!

AMEN!
Bill Kirk, Pastor