



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel

John 8:1-11

From Sermon 1.21.24

Read *John 8:1-11*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Chapter 8 opens with one of the most beautiful acts of grace and forgiveness in the Gospels—the woman caught in adultery. What was designed to trap Jesus, turns out trapping the religious leaders in their own sin and hypocrisy. The controversy in this passage doesn't end up being Jesus' position on the Law, but whether this passage was in John's original writing at all.

1. What do we do with the very few portions of Scripture that aren't consistently in the best ancient manuscripts? 1) We first note the uniqueness, usually pointed out in our Bibles from the publisher/commentator. 2) accepting that an account may be true, but not be Scripture. And 3) we don't build an entire doctrine around that portion nor take a specific action without finding that teaching elsewhere. Example *Mark 16:9-20*

2. What facts concerning the case did both Jesus and the Pharisees agree on?

- The Woman was Caught in the Act (Guilty).
- Adultery is against the Law.
- The Punishment prescribed by God's own Law is Death.

3. Does this account show the death penalty (civil process) is against God's command and nature? No _____. How do we know? Multiple places in Scripture/the Law clearly define God's requirement for capital punishment. See also *Romans 13:1-4*

4. Does this account show that there's never a time, place, or situation where judgment (even harsh judgment) is allowed? Not at all. We need to judge all the time. In the family, in society, in church. See *1 Corinthians 5:12-13*. The pivotal factor is our motive and method of judgment. The sin is judging someone else's lot in life without knowing the whole truth (Job's friends).

5. How can we make the bold statement that "Jesus only associated with and saved sinners?" Because that's the only kind of person there is. See also *Romans 3:23*.

5a. Although He associated with them and saved many, then commissioned the Church to go into the culture and do likewise, does that mean 1) the very definition of sin has changed, or 2) the church should allow, in her membership, unrepentant sin or even celebrate sinful lifestyles? No. It's saving from sin, not condoning sin.

[Note: Jesus' command to "go and sin no more" is more like the police officer that lets you off on a speeding ticket you fully deserved, but then stops you again later...and you're going faster. "I showed you grace...don't abuse it."]

6. Did the woman's sin go unpunished? No. Explain. The Law and requirement of God stands. The Law is right and holy. However, in His grace, God allows for a substitute in faith. Sin is always punished. Either by Jesus Christ on the Cross or by the sinner in eternity. See *Isaiah 53:5-6*