

John 8

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I. 8:1-11 Jesus and the Adulteress

A. 8:6 The Dilemma:

- i. If Jesus doesn't agree that she should be put to death, they can accuse Him of going against the law of Moses, which demanded the death penalty. (Method not specified)
 - a) This sentence would have been very rare, because Jewish law also required the testimony of two or more witnesses whose testimony agreed completely.
- ii. If Jesus condemns her to death, they can accuse Him before the Romans, because the Romans had taken the right to capital punishment away from the Jews at this time.

B. One major detail they overlooked: She was caught in the act, so where is the man?

*Leviticus 20:10 (NKJV) **The man who commits adultery with another man's wife, he who commits adultery with his neighbor's wife, **the adulterer and the adulteress**, shall surely be put to death.***

C. Christ's conclusion: The woman goes free, but He tells her to “sin no more.”

Two wrong extremes, which Jesus avoids:

- i. **I condemn you**; go and sin no more.
- ii. Neither do I condemn you; **go and sin**.

*John 3:17 (NKJV) **For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.***

II. 8:12-20 I am the Light of the World

1 John 1:5-7 (NKJV) ⁵This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

A. 8:19 As in the last chapter, He informs them that they do not know God.

III. 8:21-30 “You will die in your sins.”

A. 8:22 An insult against Jesus, due to their current teaching:

“They suggest the depths of Gehenna for him as the abode of suicides (Josephus, War III. viii. 5). Of course the rabbis could not join Jesus there!” (Robertson – in his Word Pictures)

B. 8:24 Another claim to deity: *“If you do not believe that I am (He) you will die in your sins.”*

C. We have to acknowledge Christ's deity to be saved from our sins. Believing that He is a nice guy, great moral teacher, founder of a great religion, etc. will not do the job.

D. 8:28 *then you will know that I am (He).* This would remind them of their Scriptures:

*Exodus 3:13-14 (NKJV) ¹³Then Moses said to God, “Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What is His name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘**I AM has sent me to you.**’”*

*Deuteronomy 32:39 (NKJV) Now see that I, even **I, am He**, And there is no God besides Me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; Nor is there any who can deliver from My hand.*

*Isaiah 43:10 (NKJV) “You are My witnesses,” says the LORD, And My servant whom I have chosen, That you may know and believe Me, And understand **that I am He**. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me.*

IV. 8:31-36 Slavery v. Freedom

A. 8:31 Application: Abiding in the Word of God makes us real disciples.

i. 8:34 Sin enslaves us. It brings us into bondage to itself.

ii. 8:32 The truth makes us free.

iii. 8:36 The Son makes us free.

*John 14:6 (NKJV) Jesus said to him, “**I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.**”*

■ By living in His Word, Jesus frees us to become what God always intended us to be.

Romans 8:1-4 (NKJV) ¹There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. ³For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

V. 8:37-47 Family Resemblances

- A. 8:37,43,47 The children of the devil cannot tolerate the Word of God.
- B. 8:46 *Which of you convicts Me of sin?*
- i. I couldn't say this to my closest friends and family without getting a speedy answer.
 - ii. Jesus asked His enemies in the midst of a public debate, yet they couldn't accuse Him of anything.
- C. We were the devil's children, but we have become the children of God:

*Ephesians 2:1-3 (NKJV) ¹And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ²in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³among whom also **we all** once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and **were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.***

*1 John 3:1-3 (NKJV) ¹Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that **we should be called children of God!** Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ²Beloved, now **we are children of God**; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, **we shall be like Him**, for we shall see Him as He is. ³And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*

VI. 8:48-59 "Before Abraham was, I AM"

- A. 8:48 In response to Christ's earlier question (8:46), all they can do is insult Him.
- B. 8:51 Another radical statement: *"If anyone keeps My word he shall never see death."*
- C. 8:55 Again, these people do not know God.
- D. 8:58 His ultimate statement of Deity: *"Before Abraham was, I AM."*

Conclusion:

*John 8:7 (NKJV) ... "He who is **without sin** among you, let him throw a stone at her first."*

Jesus was the only one there who fulfilled that requirement.

*Hebrews 4:14-16 (NKJV) ¹⁴Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet **without sin**. ¹⁶Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*