

**Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting**  
January 6, 2021

**John 8: 1 - 11**

**Jesus went unto the mount of Olives. 2 And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them. 3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, 4 They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? 6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. 7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. 8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. 9 And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. 10 When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? 11 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.**

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After Pastor Tom read this familiar yet meaningful account, he posed this question: Have you ever been falsely accused, shamed or made to feel like trash? He then asked us to put ourselves in this woman's shoes.

## **Verses 1 & 2**

*“Jesus went unto the mount of Olives. 2 And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them.”*

\*These verses set the stage for this drama at the Temple. After debating with the Pharisees at the Feast of the Tabernacles, Jesus went to the mount of olives alone. He knew what would unfold the next day at the Temple so He needed to pray and have quiet time with His Father. If quiet time is essential for Jesus, how much more for us to have that discipline to align ourselves with the Holy Spirit.

\*So in the morning He came to ‘church’ and so did the people. He began to teach God’s word in a worship setting where we praise and glorify God. This was a holy moment in the Temple.

\*Satan will try to interrupt every time we are in these holy moments or rob you of your quiet time. He does not want us to study the word so we can tell the difference between the Truth and his lies.

Pastor Tom related to his own quiet prayer time before bed each night and how he gets tired or distracted.

## **Verse 3**

*“And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,”*

\*And here in this story, the devil uses the Scribes and Pharisees, ‘holy men,’ to interrupt this holy time. Think about that!

\*These ‘holy men’ brought in a woman caught in adultery. Why would they do that?

\*Scholars guess that in this culture anyone caught in the act of adultery would be stripped naked, made a spectacle by parading them around. This may or may not be true.

\*None-the-less, this woman was brought into God's House (not taken outside the city gate), a place for grace, but was further shamed in front of the congregation.

\*Also "caught in the act" could mean it was a set up, that she was framed so they could use her to confront Jesus.

Discussion held on why the man was not brought in with her. Sis B. asked why not? Women in that time were not considered equals with men. Then Barb D. shared the verses from Leviticus 20:10 and Deuteronomy 22: 22 - 24. In these verses both the man and woman were punished by the Law. So the Scribes and Pharisees were leaving out the man and NOT following the Law they wanted Jesus to interpret. Last week in Revelation, we learned we are not to change, add or delete anything from the Word or risk death.

### **Verse 4 & 5**

*"They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?"*

\*The Scribes and Pharisees leave out the man (possibly as his 'payment' for getting this woman caught in the act as she was set up). It is a harsh law.

### **Verse 6**

*"This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not."*

\* Here is the real intent or purpose for them doing this: They didn't care about the woman but wanted to tempt or trip Jesus up. They wanted to

hear Him say something about upholding the Law (which they didn't even follow!).

\*Funny thing though, Jesus knows the Law better than they do because He was the One who wrote the Law in the first place!

\*But Jesus does not get into an argument with the religious leaders. He just stoops down (humbling position) and writes in the dirt. We are not told what He wrote but maybe He wrote Leviticus 20:10. We do know this is the only account in the Scriptures of Jesus writing anything. His rebuttal was a physical action not a verbal battle. Wars of words usually do not get you anywhere and you are only trying to vindicate yourself.

### **Verses 7 & 8**

*“So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. 8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground.”*

\*The religious leaders keep pressing Jesus and He stands up and lets the Holy Spirit speak. Then He stoops again and just continues to write in the dirt.

\*We often want things to happen in our plan or timing but we should just let the Holy Spirit do the work.

### **Verse 9**

*“And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.”*

\*Jesus allowed the Holy Spirit to convict the Scribes and Pharisees. They knew they had desecrated the Temple by interrupting the worship time and bringing that woman in.

\*When they heard Jesus' words (which are powerful in themselves), they began to leave, oldest to youngest...those who knew the Law better had to

leave first because they had no recourse but to be confronted by their sin. They have to move out of the Presence of a Holy God because they know they are wrong!

\*When they are all gone from the Temple, Jesus is left alone with the woman in the middle of all the other people there to worship that morning. By now she knows Jesus is not a common, ordinary man. He is the only one (God!) who could condemn her. Jesus is still in the humble, stooped position...

### **Verse 10**

*“When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?”*

\*He does not pay attention to the people, just the woman and asks her where her accusers are. What a picture of the Grace of God...she sinned but the people get a lesson in salvation!

### **Verse 11**

*“She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.”*

\*Even though Jesus did not condemn her (judge her) He did tell her to sin no more. To repent means to go in the opposite direction (do a 180).

\* If we truly experience the Grace and Forgiveness of Jesus Christ, we must take that blessing to heart and try to live like Jesus wants us to. Do not take Grace for granted. Such an assurance of grace: our forgiveness is not just personal but needs to be spread by the church today.

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Pastor Tom had us open the lines and say...

Good night, everyone!

