

JOHN:THE WORD: GRACE AND TRUTH #13

John 8:1

We saw Jesus in **John 7** teaching at the Feast of Tabernacles and telling his listeners..."He who believes in Me...From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water." (**John 7:38**) This resulted in quite a controversy among the people; some people claimed that Jesus was the Messiah while others thought He had a demon and should be arrested. At days end, and at the end of **John 7:53** "every one went to his home...except Jesus.

But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ² Early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and *began* to teach them. ³ The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center *of the court*, ⁴ they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act. ⁵ Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?" ⁶ They were saying this, testing Him, so that they might have grounds for accusing Him. But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground. ⁷ But when they persisted in asking Him, He straightened up, and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him *be the first* to throw a stone at her." ⁸ Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ When they heard it, they *began* to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones, and He was left alone, and the woman, where she was, in the center *of the court*. ¹⁰ Straightening up, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?" ¹¹ She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more."] **John 8:1-11 NASB**

- The case of the adulterous woman.
 - Jesus spent the night on the Mount of Olives...but got up early to go teach in the temple.
 - This is another 'set up' by the Jewish leaders who were trying to trick Him and catch Him in a mistake so they could 'lawfully' accuse Him.
 - **V5** – The Law 'commands' us to stone such women...what do You say??
 - That is not exactly what the Law says.
 - The woman had to be a virgin who was betrothed to another man to merit being stoned to death...and the man she shared herself with was to be punished with the same death.
 - Notice...no man was even presented.
 - What was Jesus doing?? In **v6** and **v8**, He wrote with His finger on the ground and then said..." He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.
 - What words or pictures did his finger draw in the dust? He wrote, He spoke, and He wrote again. (**v6-8**)
 - **V9**...when they heard it...they started leaving one by one...they heard what His mouth said and what His finger put down in the dust...and they all left.

JOHN:THE WORD: GRACE AND TRUTH #13

- He asks the lady...where are they that condemn you?? (She may be the first person to live out **Romans 8:1-2**, before it was written!)
- He tells her, "I don't condemn you..."
 - Can you hear Him speaking that to you?
- He says go...from now on...sin no more...repent...change the way you think, change what you value most, change what you think about Me, and about you...and when you do you will change your behavior too.
- Change your mindset...change of lifestyle...His kindness leads us to repentance...a Kingdom mindset...a mind renewal where mercy triumphs over judgement, light over darkness, and life over death.

"To receive the Lord's mercy means living henceforth for God's glory...mercy from God calls for a life unto God..." – Beasley Murray

- What about the Pharisees?
 - They left the scene conscience-stricken...the words spoken and written were etched into their conscience and they simply could not follow through with their evil plans.

¹² Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life." ¹³ So the Pharisees said to Him, "You are testifying about Yourself; Your testimony is not true." ¹⁴ Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I testify about Myself, My testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵ You judge according to the flesh; I am not judging anyone. ¹⁶ But even if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone *in it*, but I and the Father who sent Me. ¹⁷ Even in your law it has been written that the testimony of two men is true. ¹⁸ I am He who testifies about Myself, and the Father who sent Me testifies about Me." ¹⁹ So they were saying to Him, "Where is Your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also." ²⁰ These words He spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one seized Him, because His hour had not yet come. **John 8:12-20 NASB**

- Jesus tells them that He is the Light of the world.
 - The Pharisees reply by judging Him because He spoke about Himself...not about the validity of His statement.

You [set yourselves up to] judge according to the flesh (by what you see). [You condemn by external, human standards.] I do not [set Myself up to] judge *or* condemn *or* sentence anyone.

John 8:15 AMPC

JOHN:THE WORD: GRACE AND TRUTH #13

Jesus said these things in the treasury while He was teaching in the temple [^lcourt]; but no one ventured to arrest Him, because His hour had not yet come. **John 8:20 AMPC**

- Jesus is speaking from the treasury...I think He was trying to help them see what they truly valued, what mattered most to them.
- He spoke of significant things, eternal things, from the treasury, hoping to reach their hearts. He told them of things He treasured and wanted them to treasure as well.

²¹ Then He said again to them, "I go away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin; where I am going, you cannot come." ²² So the Jews were saying, "Surely He will not kill Himself, will He, since He says, 'Where I am going, you cannot come'?" ²³ And He was saying to them, "You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world. ²⁴ Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins." ²⁵ So they were saying to Him, "Who are You?" Jesus said to them, "What have I been saying to you *from* the beginning? ²⁶ I have many things to speak and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and the things which I heard from Him, these I speak to the world." ²⁷ They did not realize that He had been speaking to them about the Father. ²⁸ So Jesus said, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am *He*, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me. ²⁹ And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him." ³⁰ As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him. **John 8:21-30 NASB**

- Jesus speaks some 'heavy' things to them.
 - He says, "I am going to go away and you are going to die in your sin...you can't go where I am going unless you believe."
 - They don't 'catch on'...they think that He is considering suicide.
 - Jesus reiterates...I am from above and you are from below and you are going to die in your sin if you don't believe.
 - Their response..."Who are you?" (**v25**)
 - They didn't realize He had been speaking of the Father. (**v26-28**)
 - The crucifixion (**v28**).
 - Jesus M.O. - ..." I always do the things that are pleasing to Him!" (**v29**)
 - Many believe! Yes!

³¹ So Jesus said to those Jews who had believed in Him, if you abide in My word [hold fast to My teachings and live in accordance with them], you are truly My disciples.

³² And you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.

³³ They answered Him, we are Abraham's offspring (descendants) and have never been in bondage to anybody. What do You mean by saying, you will be set free?

³⁴ Jesus answered them, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, whoever commits *and* practices sin is the slave of sin.

JOHN:THE WORD: GRACE AND TRUTH #13

³⁵ Now a slave does not remain in a household permanently (forever); the son [of the house] does remain forever.

³⁶ So if the Son liberates you [makes you free men], then you are really *and* unquestionably free.

³⁷ [Yes] I know that you are Abraham's offspring; yet you plan to kill Me, because My word has no entrance (makes no progress, does not find any place) in you. **John 8:31-37 AMPC**

- Jesus talks about being a disciple.
 - You must 'continue' ...put roots down in My Word. (**v31-32**) The Truth is freeing!
 - They claim that they have never been in bondage to anyone...even though they were in bondage to Rome in that very moment.
- If the Son liberates you...sets you free, then you are unquestionably free!

"True freedom is not the liberty to do anything we please, but the liberty to do what we ought; and it is genuine liberty because doing what we ought to do now pleases us." – D.A. Carson

- Comments on **John 8:37**
 - "My Word is not advancing in you...not making progress or moving forward in you...it is not making room or having place in you...because you are refusing the advance of my Word in you." **N.T. Transline**
 - "The Word which is Mine is not having free course in you.." **Wuest**
 - "My teaching gains no ground in you." **Weymouth**
 - "My Word makes no headway in you." **Moffat**
 - "My Word finds no place in you!" **Rotherham**
 - "My Word finds no room in your hearts." **E.V. Riey**

And we also [especially] thank God continually for this, that when you received the message of God [which you heard] from us, you welcomed it not as the word of [mere] men, but as it truly is, the Word of God, which is effectually at work in you who believe [exercising its superhuman power in those who adhere to and trust in and rely on it]. **1 Thessalonians 2:13 AMPC**

Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You. **Psalms 119:11 NASB**

Your words were found and I ate them, and Your words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I have been called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts. **Jeremiah 15:16 NASB**

Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. **Colossians 3:16 NASB**