

Behold the Lamb Series

WHERE ARE THINE ACCUSERS

JOHN 8:1-11

Text: John 8:10

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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?*

Introduction:

In the opening of John 8, we find the Lord in the temple and it's early. Verse 2 says, and ALL the people came unto him; and he sat down and taught them. Can you imagine for a minute, what that scene must have looked like? The thick silence that must have filled the early morning air as Jesus taught the people! The echo of the Masters Voice as it sounded throughout the Temple. The Author of the Bible was present. The Creator of the universe was there. And the people sat in awe of His teaching.

As the Lord is teaching there is a group of people who burst on the scene.

They've caught a woman in the very act of adultery.

And they have brashly interrupted the Lord and brazenly embarrassed this woman.

Note:

1. SHE WAS TAKEN AND ACCUSED (VS. 3-4)

John 8:3-4

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.

The scribes and Pharisees were nothing more than Religious Hypocrites. They were self-appointed custodians of morality in that day. There's still some around in our day. They are the ones who are the fault finders in every church.

Notice her accusations:

- Her Sin

She was GUILTY of adultery. This was not hearsay, they had the facts. Adultery was in direct violation of commandment #7- : Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Adultery is a sin that goes against the sacredness of marriage. This particular sin has become the one of the blatant sins of our day.

In this day Satan has waged war on the family. In an hour where Sin is attacking marriage, let me speak a warning to all of us!

Proverbs 6:28-29

²⁸ Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? ²⁹ So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent.

Proverbs 6:32-35

³² But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul. ³³ A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. ³⁴ For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. ³⁵ He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts.

Notice her sin and:

- Her Shame

Being “caught in the very act” could imply that she was taken without time to put clothes on her.

There she stood probably naked and certainly ashamed.

Her sin of secret pleasure led to public humiliation.

Notice not only her sin and her shame but also:

- Her Sentence

According to the Law, she deserved to die.

Leviticus 20:10

¹⁰ *And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.*

Deuteronomy 22:22

²² If a man be found lying with a woman married to an husband, then they shall both of them die, *both* the man that lay with the woman, and the woman: so shalt thou put away evil from Israel.

This woman was guilty and she deserved to die.

Note not only was she taken and accused but also:

2. SHE WAS TAKEN AND EXAMINED (VS. 5-9)

John 8:5-9

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.

Note:

A. Their Plan

The plan was to “get the Lord”. They were using this woman to get the Lord. If the Lord let the woman go, then He would be seen as being easy on sin and could have been arrested for being in violation of the Law.

If He gave permission for the woman to be killed, He would have destroyed His reputation as being the "friend of publicans and sinners".

They felt they had the Lord either way he went.

Note not only their plan but also:

B. Their Problem

They had met their match. Notice how He responded to their arguments.

- He Ignored Them (vs. 6)

John 8:6

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.

They didn't bother him. He just knelt down and began to write on the ground.

Whatever the Lord wrote on the ground, it got their attention.

- He Exposed Them (vs. 7-9)

John 8:7-9

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.

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

Conscience is God's Greatest Preacher!

Conscience is a Siren.

Conscience is the Whisper of God in the soul of man.

Conscience is a watch dog that refuses to be silent from Intruders.

Conscience is Divinely Installed Equipment within the human brain which emits a WARNING when we are tempted.

Conscience is controlled by an unseen operator, who sounds an alarm which foolish men ignore!

I can HEAR the THUD of the Rocks hitting the ground, as they dropped them and walked away.

You may have a rock picked up this evening that needs to be dropped.

Note not only was she taken and accused and taken and examined but also:

3. SHE WAS TAKEN AND LIBERATED (VS. 9-11)

John 8:9-11

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.

Put yourself in her shoes. She has to be terrified. When she first arrived she may have had a rebellious look on her face. But now she is left speechless. She knows she is guilty of adultery.

Notice:

A. The Lord Faced Her

Now it's just the Lord and her.

Someday you and I are going to have to face the Lord.

B. The Lord Forgave Her – “Neither Do I Condemn Thee”

The only One qualified to throw a stone refused to!

How could he excuse her?

Because He took her sins, He took my sins, he took your sins and he made them his very own.

He bore the burden to Calvary and suffered and died alone!

C. The Lord Freed Her

The Lord said to her, Go! And sin No More. She received a New LORD and a New LIFE.

How did it all start? With One little word she said; "LORD".

When she by faith called him Lord, she was granted Pardon.

Illustration:

George Wilson was sentenced to hang after he was convicted of killing a guard while robbing a federal payroll from a train. Public sentiment against capital punishment led to an eventual pardon by President Andrew Jackson. Unbelievably, Wilson refused to accept the pardon. Can one do that? The case became so legally confusing that the Supreme Court had to rule

on it. Chief Justice John Marshall delivered the verdict: "A pardon is a parchment whose only value must be determined by the receiver of the pardon. It has no value apart from that which the receiver gives it. George Wilson has refused to accept the pardon. We cannot conceive why he would do so, but he has. Therefore, George Wilson must die." Consequently, Wilson was hanged.

God's grace becomes a pardon from sin only to those who receive it.

Close:

Truly this woman was caught! She was caught by Compassion!

This woman received a pardon from the Lord. Have you accepted His pardon?

Are you holding any stones this evening, let me encourage you to drop them this evening.