

John 8 The Adulterous Woman

But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2 And early in the morning He came again into the temple area, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and began teaching them. 3 Now the scribes and the Pharisees *brought a woman caught in the act of adultery, and after placing her in the center of the courtyard, 4 they *said to Him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the very act of committing adultery. 5 Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?" 6 Now they were saying this to test Him, so that they might have grounds for accusing Him. But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground

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 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 Now when they heard this, they began leaving, one by one, beginning with the older ones, and He was left alone, and the woman where she was, in the centre of the courtyard. 10 And 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 do not sin any longer."

Jesus Is the Light of the World

12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; the one 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 am testifying about Myself, My testimony is true, because 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 people 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 [f]in the treasury, as He taught in the temple area; and no one arrested Him, because His hour had not yet come.

21 Then He said again to them, "I am going away, and you will look for 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, you will die in your sins.” 25 Then they were saying to Him, “Who are You?” Jesus said to them,

[h]What have I even been saying to you from the beginning? 26 I have many things to say and to judge regarding you, but He who sent Me is true; and the things which I heard from Him, these I say to the world.” 27 They did not realize that He was 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, and I do nothing [on My own, but I say these things as the Father instructed 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 said these things, many came to believe in Him.

The Truth Will Set You Free

31 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then 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 descendants and have never been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, ‘You will become free’?” 34 Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. 35 Now the slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free. 37 I know that you are Abraham’s descendants; yet you are seeking to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. 38 I speak of the things which I have seen [with My Father]; therefore you also do the things which you heard from your father.”

39 They answered and said to Him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus *said to them, “If you are Abraham’s children, do the deeds of Abraham. 40 But as it is, you are seeking to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth, which I heard from God; this Abraham did not do. 41 You are doing the deeds of your father.” They said to Him, “We were not born as a result of sexual immorality; we have one Father: God.” 42 Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I came forth from God and am here; for I have not even come on My own, but He sent Me. 43 Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you cannot listen to My word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of lies.

45 But because I say the truth, you do not believe Me. 46 Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me? 47 The one who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason, you do not hear them, because you are not of God.” 48 The Jews answered and said to Him, “Do we not rightly say that You are a Samaritan, and You have a demon?” 49 Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon; on the contrary, I

honour My Father, and you dishonour Me. 50 But I am not seeking My glory; there is One who seeks it, and judges. 51 Truly, truly I say to you, if anyone follows My word, he will never see death.”

52 The Jews said to Him, “Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham died, and the prophets as well; and yet You say, ‘If anyone follows My word, he will never taste of death.’ 53 You are not greater than our father Abraham, who died, are You? The prophets died too. Whom do You make Yourself out to be?” 54 Jesus answered, “If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God’; 55 and you have not come to know Him, but I know Him. And if I say that I do not know Him, I will be a liar like you; but I do know Him, and I follow His word. 56 Your father Abraham was overjoyed that he would see My day, and he saw it and rejoiced.” 57 So the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and You have seen Abraham?” 58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly I say to you, before Abraham [s]was born, [t]I am.” 59 Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and left the temple grounds.

Pauls Insights

1. Early in the morning Jesus was teaching the people, those that came to Him.
2. They brought a sinful woman to Him with the intention of Jesus condemning her to death, but He saw through their schemes.
3. The law says adultery deserves stoning to death, but where was the man who was also caught?
4. Why did they want to trap Jesus?
5. Would you expect Jesus to agree with them in this matter or not?
6. He makes it very clear what God’s perspective is.
7. In Roman law the Jews were only allowed to apply the death penalty to certain religious laws.
8. Why did Jesus doodle on the ground and what did He draw?
9. Why did Jesus show a reluctance to stone her?
10. The religious leaders left that place condemned by their own personal actions. Why didn’t they stone her?
11. Jesus left with the woman and although he had the right to stone her, he chose not to. Why?
12. Why did He ask her where are your accusers?
13. Amongst the accusers there was no one their worthy to condemn her.
14. Why did He tell her to ‘sin no more’?
15. You won’t follow Jesus if you prefer to live in the darkness. The light of life is the Spirit of God.
16. Jesus could testify about Himself because He wasn’t veiled.
17. Did the people know where Jesus came from?

18. Did they know where He was going?
19. When Jesus judges, He will do so in righteousness because He knows all things.
20. Jesus likens Himself to God, so the leaders want to stone Him, they saw this as an act of blasphemy.
21. Knowing Jesus Christ is knowing God.
22. Despite their attempts to kill Jesus, there was no-one able to imprison Him.
23. Why could they not come to where Jesus was going?
24. Jesus accused the people of being of this world and doing the deeds of this world.
25. To die in your sin is to die having not been reconciled to God.
26. There are many things that Jesus can judge the people for, being of this world is being controlled by sin. Jesus was from above.
27. Only if you can truly believe Jesus is God can you enter into a relationship with Him.
28. They asked the question 'who are you'? Meaning who do you think you are? They just did not get that He was the Son of God.
29. 'To be lifted up', Jesus was saying the Son of Man is to hang upon the cross.
30. Jesus only ever did what God the Father told Him to do. Can we say we only do what pleases God?
31. These words about Himself and the Father drew some of the people to God.
32. The disciples are those who do what the Father is doing.
33. Knowing truth is entering into the experience of that truth for yourself.
34. Sin enslaves, but God in Jesus brings freedom from slavery, but we must believe and know that truth.
35. Abraham's children did what Abraham said, but Jesus accuses these people of not doing so!
36. They wanted to kill Him for teaching them the truth! But this truth was too hard for them to accept.
37. Jesus told them 'not doing God's will is to do the devil's will, so align yourself with your father, the devil'.
38. He said, 'if God were your Father, you would embrace me and the truth I am saying'.
39. 'Why won't you receive the things that I say to you'?
40. The devil is a liar and does evil, when we do evil we reveal we are of the devil. Those of the devil can't receive truth!
41. Hearers of God hear truth from God.
42. They accused Jesus of having a demon and being a Samaritan. It shows how little they thought of the Samaritans!
43. Jesus said, 'to receive my truth and keep my words you will never see death'.
44. Jesus knows God and keeps His word. To the crescendo of this contention he declares 'before Abraham was, I am'.
45. They came to Him with the intention of Him condemning the woman but at these words they pick up stones to kill Him!