

I Am Forgiven

John 7

Could This Be the Christ? - He speaks boldly, and they say nothing to Him.

Who Is He? - “Truly this is the Prophet.” ⁴¹ Others said, “This is the Christ.”

Rejected by the Authorities - the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees - Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee.”

An Adulteress Faces the Light of the World - ⁵³ And everyone went to his *own* house.

John 8:1-12 – NKJV - 8 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

² Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them.

³ Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, ⁴ they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.

⁵ Now **Moses**, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But **what do You say?”**

⁶ This they said, testing Him, that they might have *something* of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with *His* finger, as though He did not hear.

⁷ So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, “**He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.**”

⁸ And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹ Then those who heard *it*, being convicted by *their* conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest *even* to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

¹⁰ When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, “**Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?**”

¹¹ She said, “**No one, Lord.**”

And Jesus said to her, “**Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.**”

¹² Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “**I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.**”

In every period of time there are those who stand in Judgment of others, regardless of how hard they try to change.

Some of the worst criticism that you will receive will come from - - -

- Family
- Church members
- Friends, even close fiends

I am sure the woman caught in the act of adultery could testify to what I am preaching today.

Even though her accusers could not carry out the death sentence because of their own sins, ***I am sure they or her husband never forgave her.***

John 8:11 - She said, “**No one, Lord.**”

And Jesus said to her, “**Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.**”

- The scars of sin can only be ***washed away, by the blood.***
- The blood that was shed by the Lamb of God
- Was shed to take away ***the sin of the world.***

Your sins are forgiven and forgotten by the Lord Himself.

Psalm 103:12-13 - NKJV

¹² As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

¹³ As a father pities *his* children, So the Lord pities those who fear Him.

- It really **doesn't matter** what humanity still thinks of you.
- It **doesn't really matter** about how they criticize your new life.
- ***What matters is I am forgiven!***

I know that sometimes when people say bad things about the changes in your life, it hurts.

Especially when it comes from the ones you love and respect.

I know when you came to God –

- You thought everyone would be as happy as you are
- You wanted to share your new experience with everyone
- But a lot of people will not accept the change you are making.

But I am forgiven.

- I am a new creature in Christ Jesus....
- Because I can feel the change.....

The old me has passed away and the new me has come alive.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - NKJV

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

- Because **I am forgiven!**
- My new Father loves me so much that if I fall He will lift me up.

So if you fall tell your enemy what the prophet Micah said:

Micah 7:8 NKJV - Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; When I fall, I will arise;

When I sit in darkness, The Lord *will be* a light to me.

- Tell the world you may not like my new life.
- You may criticize everything I do.
- You may even call me a hypocrite when I make mistakes...

But I am forgiven!

I've been washed in the blood of the crucified Lamb of God!

- All my sins have been washed away by repentance in Jesus name.
- I am a child of God.
- Nothing you say, nothing you do against me will prosper
- Because **I am a child of God. I am Forgiven!**

Don't be offend by criticism, don't be on the offence, Jesus says:

Matthew 5:12 - NKJV

¹² Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Tell them ***"I AM FORGIVEN!!"***

Isaiah 54:17 - NKJV

¹⁷ ***No weapon formed against you shall prosper***, And every tongue *which* rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their righteousness *is* from Me," Says the Lord.

When people speak evil of you remember that

- God is your refuge and strength
- God fights your battles
- If God be for me then who can be against me?

I am forgiven!!!

Apostle John writes these encouraging words to the children of God.

1 John 2:1-2 - NKJV

2 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

I am Forgiven!

People that are in the world who will not accept Christ and follow him:

- Have no business telling you how to live for God - - -
- Because - **they love the world, not God.**

1 John 2:15 – NKJV - **Do Not Love the World**

¹⁵ **Do not** love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father **is not** in him.

Tell someone I have been born again ***I am Forgiven!!***

John 3:17 - NKJV

¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

That means I am forgiven!

John 3:18 - NKJV

¹⁸ “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

When you fall in love with God, **you want to do whatever it takes to please God.**

When people criticize you –

- It is because the Spirit of God is contrary to the spirit of the world
- And **God’s spirit bears witness against the world.**

They know what they are and it convicts them of their sin.

John 3:19-21 - NKJV

¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

²⁰ For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

²¹ But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

- ***Keep making changes*** it shows the world you mean business.
- ***Let the world see Jesus in you***, the Hope of Glory.
- You are now ***a witness for Christ.***
- ***I am FORGIVEN!!!***

The world cannot change someone who is a born again believer in Jesus!

But we are to help change the world through our testimony that Christ is in us, because **we are forgiven.**

Close:

John 8:36 - NKJV

³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

⁷ So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, “**He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.**”

Let's bring our stones to the altar of Repentance, we're all sinners in need of Grace.

Jesus made us free and we are free indeed.

We are FORGIVEN!!!