

## Moments with the Master Part #2

Last week we looked at a *transforming moment!* When Jesus touched the Leper!

### **A TERRIFYING MOMENT - John 8:1-11 NKJV**

8 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, <sup>4</sup>they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. <sup>5</sup>Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?” <sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>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.” <sup>8</sup>And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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?”

<sup>11</sup>She said, “No one, Lord.”

And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go and <sup>[k]</sup>sin no more.”

### **Intro:**

This poor sinful woman, **she knew fear.**

- As she is led ***trembling into the presence of Jesus***, she knows in her heart that she is about to die a horrible death by stoning.
- However, ***her path had led her into the presence*** of “***the great God of the universe***”.
- And, when she met Him, ***everything changed***, forever!

I want you to know that **what Jesus did for this poor, wretched women, *He will also do for you.***

You see, she **came into His presence** as a condemned sinner, but **she left His presence** a changed woman with a new lease on life.

Let's look at this passage as I share with you **A Terrifying Moment**.

I. **Vs 3 A CONDEMNED SINNER** - <sup>3</sup>The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in **a woman caught in adultery**. They made her stand before the group

A. **Her Sin** - According to the narrative, she was caught in the very act of adultery.

She was guilty before the face of the Lord and before the world.

- Now, adultery is a vile sin, but it is no worse than any other.

### **Romans 3:10 NIV**

<sup>10</sup> As it is written: "There is **no** one righteous, not even one;

We're all as **guilty** as this woman, our problem is that **we simply won't admit it!!!**

### **Proverbs 28:13 NIV**

13 Whoever **conceals their sins** does not prosper, but **the one who confesses and renounces** them finds mercy.

B. **Her Shame** - In their haste to bring this woman to Jesus, ***her accusers*** probably **didn't give her sufficient time to get properly dressed** before they brought her into public.

- Certainly **humiliated by the public accusation and disclosure** of her sin.
- ***Sin is a shameful thing!***
- No matter how skillfully it is hidden from the eyes of men, ***Jesus knows!!!***

C. **Her Sentence** - Her accusers were absolutely correct! According to the Law, ***she deserved to die*** –

### **Leviticus 20:10 NIV**

<sup>10</sup> “If a man commits adultery with another man’s wife—with the wife of his neighbor—both the adulterer and the adulteress are to be put to death.

There was one small problem here:

- ***Where was her partner?***
- Both were supposed to die for this sin!
- The man may have been part of this scheme to attack Jesus.
- He may have been allowed to slip away.
- Nevertheless, this woman was guilty and ***she deserved to die.***

The penalty of sin always come due...

- There will come a payday someday!
- The only hope any sinner has is to **flee to the arms of Jesus.**
- ***He is the only way!!!!***

In their effort to ***humiliate this woman*** and to ***discredit the Lord***

- They brought her to the **best possible place.**
- They brought her to the very man ***who could deal with her past and her problems...***

Never think that Jesus doesn't care for you.

- He is the sinner's Friend!
- **Jesus proved His love** and His friendship when He died at Calvary
- ***Jesus isn't concerned about His reputation***
- ***He is only concerned with your eternal soul!***

## **II. Vs 3-9 A CRUEL SCHEME**

- A. **The Plan** - These men were attempting to pin Jesus on a dilemma. If Jesus simply 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 could then be accused before Rome as a seditionist or subversive act
- He would have destroyed His reputation as being the "***friend of publicans and sinners***".
- ***They felt*** that no matter what Jesus said, He had no wiggle room.

These religious men are just like legalists in our day.

- They couldn't have ***cared less about this woman***, her sin, her soul, or her eternal destiny.
- All they cared about was ***pressing their agenda***
- Their brand of righteousness.
- Thing ***haven't*** changed!

- B. **The Problem** - Their plan might have succeeded with an ordinary man, but ***they were dealing with Jesus Christ***, and ***He refused to play by their rules!***

When they tried to stump Jesus, They discovered that they had met their match.

***Notice how He responded to their arguments.***

1. **Vs 6 Jesus Ignored Them** - While they were talking to the Lord, He just knelt down and began to write on the ground, ***as though He did not hear***

He had no use for their pettiness and lack of love for sinners.

***What did Jesus write?*** Well, for 2,000 years, men have tried to solve that little mystery.

Today, I am going to give you a deep theological answer: **I don't know!**

Maybe He wrote:

- **The Ten Commandments.** After all, it was his finger that wrote them the first time!
- **Perhaps He wrote their names in fulfillment of Jeremiah 17:13.**
- **Maybe He simply wrote the names of their girlfriends in the sand.**
- **Maybe He simply wrote the word "Forgiven"!**

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

By the way, ***He knows how to speak to your heart as well!***

- How much better it is to **come to Him by faith**
- **Miss all that exposure and punishment!**

**2. Vs 7-9 Jesus Exposed Them** - When Jesus did speak, He said, "***He that is without sin among, let him first cast a stone at her.***"

Jesus **wasn't** requiring that any judge be sinless.

I think what Jesus may have been saying to these hypocrites was, "***He that is free from this particular sin, let him first cast a stone at her.***"

- **Adultery can be committed with the head and the heart or with the body!**
- At this point, **all the shouting came to a stop**
- **All you could hear was the dropping of rocks the shuffle of sandal's.**
- **These men had been exposed** before their fellow man, the accused lady and **before the Lord.**

Let's at least give them credit for the fact that ***when they saw themselves as they really were...***

- They stopped calling for the death of this woman.
- I want you to know that one of the hardest things you can face ***is yourself as you really are!***
- However, **when you see yourself as being sinful**
- Then **you can do something about it.**

### III. Vs 9b-11 **A COMPLETE SALVATION**

- A. **V. 9b -10 Jesus Faced Her** - Only Jesus could have cleared the Temple after that fashion, and when the last rock had hit the Temple floor,

Jesus stood up and faced this sinful woman.

### As He stood before her

- He was the only One the world has ever known ***Who was qualified to take up the first stone***
- When *she faced Jesus*, she was facing the ultimate judge!

She had reached a place in her life where *it was just her and Jesus.*

- ***It always comes down to that!***
  - Someday you are going to have to *face Jesus.*
  - Someday you are going to have to *bow to Jesus!*
- B. ***Vs 11 He Forgave Her*** - The only One qualified to throw a stone ***refused to!***
- **Jesus dealt with her** on the basis of grace.
  - The religious men had condemned her and considered her as good as dead
  - Jesus however, **saw someone** worthy of His love and worth salvaging.

When she came to Jesus, she received ***A New Lord*** –

- By her simple confession of Christ as Lord...
- ***Salvation became hers...***
- That is all there is to being saved!

**Rom. 10:9** says, "***That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God has raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved!***"

- C. ***He Freed Her*** - She got ***A New Life*** - All of her life, she had been subject to the god of this world, *Satan.*
- She had been ***a prisoner of her own lusts and desires***
  - Jesus, however, came and unlocked the shackles that ***held her bound in sin***

***He set her free!***

- **How her life changed!**
- Think of her years later as she looks at her children and her husband.
- ***A family she would have never had if she hadn't met Jesus.***

Jesus specializes in taking wasted, ruined lives and saving them **by His grace** and **restoring them to usefulness.**

- ***Every person who comes to Jesus*** for salvation receives this new lease on life –

### **2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone **is in Christ**, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

We get a chance to begin again, and this time, **we actually have a chance of making something out of our lives** -

**Note:** Jesus called her **“Woman”**, **verse 10**. He only used this term twice in the Gospel of John. Once in **chapter 2** and again in **chapter 19**.

Both times it was a title of honor applied to **His mother Mary**.

It would be equivalent to the term **“Lady”**. It was a term of honor given to a woman worthy of honor.

This woman was anything but a **“Woman”**. But, ***Jesus has a way of seeing things that are not as though they were.***

He did not see this woman as she was, He saw her **as she could become through Him!**

***Jesus took a*** wicked, godless, carnal person and ***turned her into a lady!***

When Jesus looks at a lost sinner, surely **He sees the potential** in their lives.

Like He did with this woman, He sees them as they can be **through Him**.

**\*\*\*At a special chapel service in an Ohio penitentiary**, the governor was to grant freedom to several convicts.

The suspense mounted as it came time for the governor to announce the names of those selected. "Reuben Johnson, come forward and receive your pardon!"

***No one responded.....***

The chaplain directed his attention toward Johnson and said, "Reuben, it's you, come on!" But the man looked behind him, supposing there must be someone else by that name.

Then, pointing directly at him, the chaplain exclaimed, "**That's right, you're the man!**" After a long pause, he slowly approached the governor to receive his pardon.

Later when the other prisoners marched to their cells, Johnson fell in line and began to walk with them.

The warden called, "Reuben, you don't belong there anymore. You're a free man!"

**\*\*\*Caleb Young, in Kentucky**, thought that a man in the state's prison who was serving a life term had been too heavily sentenced. Bringing influence to bear upon the governor, he obtained a pardon for the man.

He went to the prison and had a talk with the man. He said to him, "If you were to be released from this place, what would you do?"

The man vindictively replied, "I would go and shoot the judge that sentenced me, the lawyer that prosecuted me, and the witnesses that testified against me."

Mr. Young said nothing to the man about the pardon. He went out of the prison and tore the pardon to pieces.

***Jesus doesn't pardon sinners to leave them as He found them.***

- He pardons them to change them forever!
- **He won't** save you and leave you in your sins.

Along with His salvation comes a new life and liberty from sin's dominion

**Romans 6:14 NIV**

<sup>14</sup> For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, **but under grace.**



**Conc:**

Maybe, like this woman, **your life has been wrecked and ruined by sin.**

Maybe you have been hurt by religious people.

Maybe you are looking for a compassionate Savior, **One who will make everything right.**

I want to invite you to come to Jesus.

- **He cares about you** just like you are.
- **He loves you** and wants to save you.
- **He wants to deliver you** from your bondage.
- **He wants to set you free.**
- He invites you to come to Him today.

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.**

There is a **pardon available to you** if you will have it!

You see, Jesus, **the same gracious Savior Who intervened in this woman's life** and changed everything for her, **went to a cross** at a place called Calvary.

There, He died on that cross. ***When He died, He was dying for you.***

He was dying so that you might live.

**Jesus stands ready to pardon** and to receive you if you will come to Him.

**Is He calling you to come?**

If He is, then come to Him for salvation today!

***If there are issues in your life that need to be settled,*** this altar is the place where they be taken care of forever.

Will you ***bring your life to Jesus*** and let Him make it over?