

Date: 2/23/2020

Title: Truth and Grace in the Real World

By Pastor Eric Mann

Scripture: John 8:1-11

Sermon Topic: Woman caught in adultery. Forgiveness, Hard truth.

Sermon Notes:

John 7:53-8:11 (CSB)

⁵³ Then each one went to his house.

8 ¹ But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

² At dawn he went to the temple again, and all the people were coming to him. He sat down and began to teach them.

³ Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, making her stand in the center. ⁴ "Teacher," they said to him, "this woman was caught in the act of committing adultery. ⁵ In the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" ⁶ They asked this to trap him, in order that they might have evidence to accuse him.

Jesus stooped down and started writing on the ground with his finger. ⁷ When they persisted in questioning him, he stood up and said to them, "The one without sin among you should be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸ Then he stooped down again and continued writing on the ground. ⁹ When they heard this, they left one by one, starting with the older men. Only he was left, with the woman in the center. ¹⁰ When Jesus stood up, he said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

¹¹ "No one, Lord," she answered.

"Neither do I condemn you," said Jesus. "Go, and from now on do not sin anymore."

John 1:16-17 (CSB)

¹⁶ Indeed, we have all received grace upon grace from his fullness, ¹⁷ for the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the source of grace without ever compromising the truth.

"In the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?"

"The one without sin among you should be the first to throw a stone at her."

The religious leaders divided people into two groups: law breakers and righteous people. This system has no room for grace or mercy.

In order to promote their own righteousness, they were required to condemn the unrighteousness of others.

John 3:17 (CSB)

¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Jesus pointed out that all of us are lawbreakers in need of grace. So He changed the focus from condemning to saving.

A Christian's main purpose is not to condemn or pass judgment on the world. God calls us to be His representatives and His voice in this world to offer people salvation, which can only be found in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Jesus offers grace to everyone, coupled with truth. All have an opportunity to respond to Him.

Has no one condemned you?"

"No one, Lord," she answered.

"Neither do I condemn you," said Jesus. "Go, and from now on do not sin anymore."

Jesus' grace is accompanied with expectations that those who receive His grace will allow Jesus to transform their lives.

John 5:14 (CSB)

Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you are well. Do not sin anymore, so that something worse doesn't happen to you."

Jesus does not treat our sin lightly, but He offers grace and gives us an opportunity to start over with a new and better life.