

### **Go and Sin No More (John 7:53-8:11)**

- Many question these verses as to whether they should be in John's Gospel
- It is a good picture, theologically, on Jesus' teaching of "light of the world" ch. 7
- Jesus confronts spiritual darkness: the light of God, bringing souls into that light
- Jesus is the one really on trial. Jews could not put anyone to death in Roman law

#### **I. A Dishonest Question (7:53-8: 6)**

- Real concern for the law would have brought both offenders to Jesus (Lev 20:10)
- These religious people were not interested in justice, they wanted to trap Jesus
- Their aim: get Jesus to violate the Law of God, prejudice the people against Him
- One hand, they would accuse Him of ignoring the Law of God if He didn't agree
- On the other hand, if He condemned her, what about His claims to save sinners?
- Jesus did not answer but began to write in the sand, while the accusers waited

#### **II. A Piercing Response (8:7-9)**

- He stood up, said: "**Let him ...without sin be the first to throw a stone at her**"
- The Lawgiver turns the piercing light of His law to bear upon the accusers
- Their consciences burning with conviction they all went away, one by one
- Warning, they were convicted, but rather than turn to Christ they went away.
- Jesus upheld the law, He was insisting upon rules of evidence and equal justice
- The law required witnesses in capital crimes (Deut 13:9-10; 17:7)

#### **III. A Gracious Warning is Given (8:10-11)**

- Jesus said: "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"
- Jesus did not bend or turn a blind eye to the law: "Go and sin no more"
- These words are free grace proclaiming a benediction of forgiveness upon faith & personal repentance and a divine produced resolve to live a holy life (Ps 130: 3-4)