

A Tale of Two Sinners

Luke 7:36-8:3

Review:

1. In our modern political climate, we often pit the pursuit of holiness against the right to liberty
2. But Jesus sees both self-righteous separatism and immoral licentiousness as equally blameworthy
3. Those who see their sin as insignificant tend to dismiss Jesus' offer of salvation, while those who know they are sinners are grateful for His grace
4. Jesus draws near to all kinds of sinners, offering His grace to those who repent and trust in Him

Reflect:

1. Is your sin problem more like Simon's or more like the unnamed woman's?
2. Thinking about the way Jesus looks at you and your sin, what can you do to demonstrate your gratitude for His grace?

Go Further: Read John 8:2-11

1. According to verse 2, where was Jesus teaching? Who had come to hear Him?
2. Whom did the scribes and Pharisees bring to Jesus? Where did they put her?
3. Of what did the scribes and Pharisees accuse the woman?
4. According to verse 5, what did they say should happen to her?
5. According to Leviticus 20:10, who does the Law of Moses say should be put to death if a man commits adultery with another man's wife?
6. According to verse 6, why did the scribes and Pharisees ask Jesus this question?
7. Instead of answering their question, what did Jesus do?
8. According to verse 7, whom did Jesus think should be the first to throw a stone at the woman?
9. According to verse 8, what does Jesus continue to do?
10. According to verse 9, how did the woman's accusers respond to Jesus' challenge? Who were the first to leave? Who were the last two left?
11. What two questions does Jesus ask the woman in verse 10?
12. According to verse 11, what is her answer to Jesus' second question?
13. What does Jesus say He will not do?
14. What two commands does Jesus give the woman?

Summary and Application:

1. There are only two other places in the Bible where someone is said to write with His finger: Exodus 31:18 and Deuteronomy 9:10 both describe God writing His Law on the tablets of the testimony. Given this, what do you think Jesus was writing in verses 6 and 8? To Whom does He seem to be comparing Himself?
2. Given that Leviticus 20:10 says that both parties involved in adultery should be put to death, to whom do you think Jesus is referring when He mentions the one "who is without sin?"
3. According to John 8, does Jesus take a side in the holiness vs. liberty debate? How does His decision concerning the woman uphold the Law of Moses? How does it demonstrate mercy?