

Sept 24, 2023



# Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks  
Baptist Church**  
Grand Prairie, Texas

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:**

Before we critically judge another's behavior while looking lightly at our own sin, let's remember that all of us "fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23)

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:**

Dear Lord, thank You for loving us! Help us to look with compassion on others and to be gracious in all we say and do

**SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:**

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."

(John 8:7 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", May 23, 2019)

**Series: God's Law Is Love**

**UNIT 2: Faith Triumphs,  
Law Fails**

**NEXT WEEK**

**Inward and Outward  
(Rom 2:12-24, 28-29)**

## Jesus Prevents Two Stonings John 8:1-11, 56-59

### Lesson Background and Introduction

The events and teachings recorded in John 7 and 8 occurred during one of Jesus' visits to Jerusalem for the Festival of Tabernacles (see John 7:1-2, 37; 8:20). God instituted this festival for two reasons. First, it was a time of thanksgiving during the season of the olive and fruit harvests (the September-October time frame). Second, it was a time to remember deliverance from slavery in Egypt (see Leviticus 23:33-44). As something of an object lesson, many who celebrated this festival would live in tents ("tabernacles") outside the city to reenact the 40 years that the Israelites had lived in tents while wandering in the wilderness. "Then they all went home" (John 7:53) closes the day before the events considered in the first half of this lesson. The second half of this lesson begins in John 8:56. In John 8:12-55 (not in our printed text), Jesus responded to questions from a crowd of both laypeople (some who believed him, others who did not) and Pharisees. Of particular interest to the following episode are the conversational threads about being Abraham's descendants. Despite the Jews' confidence that they were Abraham's family, Jesus declared that their own actions revealed them to be children of the devil (John 8:44; compare 1:13)! No crowd would respond well to being called children of the devil, and this crowd was no different. They went so far as to claim Jesus must be demon-possessed to think that if Abraham and all the rest of the prophets died, Jesus' own followers would not (8:52-53). We do well to note that the contrast Jesus set up can apply broadly to anyone who claims to be a child of Abraham (and therefore chosen by God, including Christians today) but acts in evil ways that contradict this heritage. Neither Jesus' words here nor anywhere else justify violence against Jews, past or present.

Jesus was completely within his rights to condemn the adulterous woman, but He chose to offer mercy with His call to repentance. Jesus could have refrained from revealing Himself as I AM, but He chose instead to make Himself known. We certainly benefit from Jesus' self-revelation and his merciful call to turn to him. Considering who Christ is and who He calls us to be, what repentance is necessary in our lives? What "stonings" will we divert because of our love for Jesus? What rejoicing will we spread?

*(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)*

## NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

### **No Stoning of the Adulteress (John 8:1-11)**

#### *Jesus in the temple teaching (1-2)*

- Jesus teaches through His Holy Spirit (1 Cor 2:13)
- Jesus teaches through revelation (Gal 1:12)
- Jesus teaches about love (1 Thess 4:9)
- Jesus teaches the truth (Eph 4:20-21)

#### *Jesus was asked to judge the adulteress woman (3-6)*

- Jesus judges according to what has been done (Matt 16:27)
- Jesus is the judge of the nations (Matt 25:31-33)
- Jesus is the judge of the living and the dead (Acts 10:42)
- Jesus judges men's secrets (Rom 2:16)
- Jesus will judge at the judgement seat of Christ (2 Cor 5:10)

#### *Jesus provided His verdict by questioning the Pharisees (7-8)*

- Questioning about rights (Ps 50:16)
- Questioning about judging (Matt 7:1-2)
- Questioning about God's judgment (Rom 2:2-3)
- Questioning about hypocrisy (Rom 2:21)

#### *Pharisees were convicted by their consciences (9)*

- Conviction through God's Word (Psalm 25:4)
- Conviction through visions (Acts 10:11-15)
- Conviction through steadfastness to obedience (Dan 1:3-8)
- Conviction is something we don't want to ignore (Heb 2:2-4)
- Conviction that brings us to our knees (Acts 16:29-30)

#### *Woman was forgiven and pardoned of stoning (10-11)*

- Forgiveness that sanctifies (Acts 26:17-18)
- Forgiveness that rescues from a dominion of darkness (Col 1:13-14)
- Forgiveness that is through Jesus' blood (Matt 26:28)
- Forgiveness that is in accordance with grace (Eph 1:7)

### **No Stoning of Jesus (John 8:56-59)**

#### *Jesus spoke of His eternal existence (56-57)*

- Jesus eternally existed as God (John 1:1-6)
- Jesus eternally existed from the beginning (1 John 1:1)
- Jesus eternally existed before all things (Col 1:15-18)
- Jesus eternal existence has no beginning or end (Heb 7:3)

#### *Jesus proclaimed He and God are One (58) \**

- Jesus and God are One (John 14:9-11)
- Jesus is God in bodily form (Col 2:9)
- Jesus is with and is God (John 1:1)
- Jesus is the glory of God (John 1:14)

#### *Jesus escaped stoning (59)*

- Jesus escaped because He and God are one (John 10:30-31)
- Jesus escaped by walking through the crowd (Luke 4:28-31)
- Jesus escaped through people not recognizing Him (John 5:13)
- Jesus escaped from being seized (John 10:38-39)

**\* For Jesus being the great "I AM"** See also John 4:25-26; John 6:35; John 8:12; John 8:23-24; John 8:58; John 10:7; John 10:11; John 11:25