

I. TEMPLE TEACHING

- A. After such abuse in the previous chapters
 - i. He went away into the mount of Olives (vs. 1)
 - ii. Where did He go? Mount of Olives
 - 1. This was a common resort for Him
 - 2. No one knows exactly where He stayed
 - 3. Did He pray all night? Did He sleep in a friendly home?
 - 4. Matthew 8:20 – “And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.”
 - 5. We can say this for certain:
 - a. Prudence took Him away from Danger
 - b. But NOTHING took Him away from Duty!
 - c. Nothing could ever harm Him, after all
 - d. Isaiah 49:2 – “And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me;”
- B. Apparently, no one was willing to be His host in the city
 - i. Can you imagine?
 - 1. Would I want Jesus to stay the night at my house?
 - 2. Would you?
 - 3. There’s the knock at the door! It’s the Lord!
 - 4. Quick! Put all that away!
 - 5. Put the dishes into the sink!
 - ii. No friends in the whole city?
 - 1. It was the feast of Tabernacles, so perhaps He had a booth
 - 2. And the Jews made it clear they wanted to kill Him...
 - 3. So very sad
 - a. Matthew 23:37 – “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!”
 - b. He WANTED to be their friend! But they would NOT!
 - c. He was a stranger in the city named for Peace with God!
 - 4. Mark 14:12 – “And the first day of unleavened bread, when they killed the passover, his disciples said unto him, Where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover?”
 - a. If He had any friends in Jerusalem, why would they ask?

- b. If He had had a friend in Jerusalem, they wouldn't have had to follow a man bearing a pitcher of water!
- C. Away from the Temple at night
 - i. But then back again the next day (vs. 2)
 - 1. Think about all the things that has happened in the last 2 chapters
 - 2. How many times they tried to kill Him, capture Him, take Him!
 - 3. They insulted Him and mocked Him
 - 4. But they had NO POWER OVER HIM – there He was
 - a. He was not hiding. He was not running scared
 - b. He was not skittering away or in a corner
 - c. He was SITTING! (vs. 2)
 - d. He sure wasn't acting like a man with a price on His head
 - ii. Not only was He Teaching in the Temple, but look at the time
 - 1. EARLY!
 - 2. He didn't slip in with the crowds
 - 3. Get This: He walked in like He owned the place!
 - iii. And now look at the audience
 - 1. All the people came unto Him
 - 2. Now, I don't know if you've ever noticed that before
 - 3. But I just have to believe the Word of God – God says "all"
 - 4. Those sad other teachers...where'd all their pupils go?
 - iv. But He's about to get interrupted (vs. 3-5)

II. ADULTEROUS ACTING

A. Marriage

- i. God takes marriage very seriously
 - 1. Genesis 2:24 – "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."
 - 2. God had a plan for families
 - a. He created Adam and then Eve
 - b. Let me just say it: Adam didn't go in for the dating scene
 - c. Genesis 2:23 – "And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."
 - 3. Adultery is sexual behavior that breaks the bonds of matrimony
- ii. Or betrothal
 - 1. That is why Joseph was considered a "just man"
 - 2. Matthew 1:19 – "Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily."
 - 3. In any other case, he would be within his rights
- iii. We must make certain we stay pure SPIRITUALLY as well

1. 2 Corinthians 11:2 – “For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.”
 2. We are not following men
 - a. We are not following the crowd
 - b. We are not following the fads
 - c. We are only following Jesus Christ
 3. Let us stay PURE before Him, as Paul puts it “a chaste virgin”
- B. Taken in the Act
- i. There was no disputing the guilt
 1. There were no denials heard (and this is key)
 2. No one came running in to say it was all a mistake
 - ii. And nothing heard from the woman herself
 1. Almost as though she admitted her own guilt
 2. Almost as though she had come to the end of herself
- C. The day before they called Him a deceiver
- i. Now they ask for His judgement as though they would rely upon it
 - ii. But, of course they wouldn't – vs. 6 tells the story
 - iii. Too bad they were such lazy lawyers

III. LAZY LAWYERING

- A. Wrong Again!
- i. Leviticus 20:10 – “And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.”
 1. And again, in Deuteronomy 22:22
 2. But NEITHER require stoning!
 - ii. There were special cases for stoning
 1. If it were the daughter of the priest
 2. But the witnesses were required to throw the first stones!
 - iii. Deuteronomy 17:7 – “The hands of the witnesses shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So thou shalt put the evil away from among you.”
 - iv. Where were the witnesses?
- B. Where was the man?
- i. Leviticus 20:10 requires not just the death of the adulteress
 - ii. But also, the ADULTERER!
 - iii. Where was he? Don't tell me he got away?
- C. How they hated Jesus
- i. They really thought they had Him
 - ii. If He condemned the woman, as the Law required
 1. They would call Him a hypocrite
 2. After all, He received harlots and publicans

- iii. If He acquitted, then they would call him the enemy of Moses
 - 1. He would truly be the Law breaker they thought Him to be
 - 2. They thought they HAD Him
- D. But they weren't ready for their conscience to be convicted.

IV. CONSCIENCE CONVICTING

- A. He stooped down
 - i. No one knows what He wrote
 - ii. Many people will try to say one thing or another, but no one knows
 - iii. The Bible does not say – but He turned a deaf ear to them
 - iv. Maybe He was writing Isaiah 59:1-4:
 - 1. Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:
 - 2. But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.
 - 3. For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.
 - 4. None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.
- B. But they kept asking
 - i. It's almost like they were gathered around Him yelling
 - ii. Will you deny the Law? (vs. 5)
 - iii. Like a pack of rabid dogs barking at His heels (vs. 7)
 - iv. So, He gave His answer
 - 1. The Bible says ALL have sinned and come short
 - 2. All we like sheep have gone astray
 - 3. There is NONE righteous, no, not one
- C. And then He stooped down again
 - i. No one knows what He wrote this time either
 - 1. Maybe it was dates and times. Maybe it was certain places.
 - 2. Maybe it was just a list of women's names
 - 3. Maybe it was only meaningful to the one that would read it
 - ii. But it convicted. The Word of God ALWAYS does
 - iii. Isaiah 55:11 – “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”
 - iv. It hit the eldest first (vs. 9)
 - 1. And continued to the last
 - 2. They had made a grand entrance
 - 3. Now they slipped away quietly in their shame

V. SIN SAVING

- A. They didn't have to go! The woman was still there, no doubt she was guilty
 - i. She wasn't clean sin. Neither were they. Neither am I. Neither are you.
 - ii. She waited on the Lord (vs. 11). They could have waited too!
- B. Jesus didn't ignore her sin (vs. 11) – He said sin no more
- C. Does any MAN condemn? No. Why? Because all have sinned!
- D. But here's the most wonderful thing:
 - i. Jesus is God and He didn't condemn either
 - ii. He could have. He would have been within His rights as God
 - iii. But instead, He gave her mercy and grace
- E. He offers that to you today!
- F. He is a sin saving Savior!