

# The Gospel of John Part 39: Our Divine Judge (Parts 1-3)

## John 8:1-11



*John 8:1-11  
But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2 Early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and began to teach them. 3*

*The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center of the court, 4 they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?" 6 They were saying this, testing Him, so that they might have evidence to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground. 7 But when they persisted in asking Him, He straightened up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." 8 Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 When they heard it, they began to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones, and He was left alone, and the woman, where she was, in the center of the court. 10 Straightening up, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?" 11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "I do not condemn you, either. Go, and from now on sin no more."]*

**1) The World Judges According to Appearance.** The religious rulers use a women accused of adultery as a test of Jesus to see how He would judge the Law. The problem is that this test of Jesus is corrupt. The work of Satan in the world is one that seeks to tear down and destroy people and their lives. While the work of Christ in the world seeks to build up

and restore people and their lives. The motives of the religious rulers show that they had no interest in the welfare the women, she was merely a pawn in their evil schemes against the Son of God. What appeared as an open and shut case of adultery by worldly standards becomes an opportunity not for condemnation but for restoration.

**2) God Judges All Things in Righteousness.** Jesus tells the religious rulers that the only one among them fit to rightly judge and condemn this women to death is the one who has not sinned. When it comes to the judgement of sin and death because of sin, God alone sits as the righteous judge. Only God can judge all mankind in righteousness. Only God is free from bias due to false motives, free from errors due to not knowing all the facts, and free from hypocrisy due to sin. The divine standard for condemning another is nothing short of perfect righteousness. The work of God in the world, and of His people in the world is not one of condemnation but one of forgiveness and restoration. The time to condemn will come, but today is the season of restoration.

**3) Jesus Alone Has the Power to Forgive the Accused.** Jesus tells the women that she is not condemned but forgiven. So long as any person draws the breath of life then Jesus is not their divine judge, He is their savior. God has appointed a time in which Jesus will sit as judge of all mankind. That time has not yet come. Until that day, Jesus stands before and among all of humanity as the only one who has the power to forgive the accused. All have sinned and are guilty before God. If it were up to the world, all would be condemned in their sin. But since it is God alone who judges all things and all people, He has chosen to extend grace and mercy to the guilty through one man. Jesus did not come to judge the world but came so that the world might be saved through Him. It is better to know Jesus today as Savior rather than meet Him in the end as Judge.