



# "Go and Sin No More"

*"...Will God continue to forgive you if you commit the same sin over and over again?"*

## **John 8:1-11 NLT**

*[1] Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives, [2] but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. [3] As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd. [4] "Teacher," they said to Jesus, "this woman was caught in the act of adultery. [5] The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?" [6] **They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger.** [7] They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, "All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!" [8] Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust. [9] When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. [10] Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?" [11] "No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more."*

## Introduction

The present episode took place in the temple court at dawn. The entire affair had the appearance of trickery, a trap specially prepared to catch Jesus. The Sanhedrin forced their way into the center of the group and interrupted Jesus' teaching by bringing a woman before him. The guilt of the woman was indisputable; she had been "caught in the act of adultery," and Jesus did not challenge the charge. The dilemma that the scribes and Pharisees posed was this: **According to the law, she should be put to death** (see Lev 20:10; Dt 22:22-24). **If, then, Jesus**

**refused to confirm the death penalty, he could be charged with contradicting the law of God and would himself be liable to condemnation.** If, on the other hand, he confirmed the verdict of the Pharisees, he would lose his reputation for compassion; and possibly, he could have been reported to the Romans as inciting the Sanhedrin to independent exercise of the death penalty.

## Convicted by their own conscience

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The accusers "began to go away one at a time, the older ones first." The older ones either had more sins for which they were answerable or else had more sense than to make an impossible profession of righteousness. Finally, the woman was left alone.

**Conscience is a wonderful thing. It is the faculty that decides the lawfulness of our actions as to right and wrong (Rom. 2:12-16).**

### Six Causes of Conviction:

1. Their own evil designs against Jesus, not so much against the woman,
2. Their failure to include the man who was guilty with the woman
3. They couldn't find out what Christ wrote on the ground
4. The challenge to start throwing if they were sinless themselves
5. Their hypocrisy which was known to Christ and others present
6. Their guilt of committing the same sin (**character assassination**)

*Romans 2:1 NIV - You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.*

## Where are your accusers?

**Jesus, standing silently and studying the whole scene, did not miss a clue. How could this have taken place without a trap?**

How did they catch her "in the act of adultery"? Where was her partner in this act? Hadn't he been committing adultery as well? *John 8:3 NLT- As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd.*

They set Him up for - they thought - only two possible responses, a situation they thought would be lose-lose for Him.

- **First**, if He said, "Yes, stone her," then they could call Him a hypocrite because He was the one teaching His followers about compassion and forgiveness and love and grace.
- **The second** possibility was that He could say, "No, let her go." Then they would have Him for breaking the law of Moses and condoning adultery.

## Go sin no more

**The only person on earth qualified to condemn the woman in her shame didn't.** *John 8:11 NLT - "No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more."*

That's what Jesus does for us. He doesn't come to condemn; He comes to save. **When we experience His salvation, our gratitude makes us want to "go and sin no more."**

- *Ephesians 4:32- Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.*

**Will God continue to forgive you if you commit the same sin over and over again?"**

- *1 John 3:8-9 NLT - But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. [9] Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God.*