



“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 8:1-12:

but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2 At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. 3 The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group 4 and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. 5 In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" 6 They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. 7 When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." 8 Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. 10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" 11 "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." 12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

This is probably one of the most familiar passages in the Bible, especially amongst Christians. We have read and referenced this passage many of times, but there something different about our reading this passage this time. Do you see what it is? "**Verse 12**" - notice it says, Jesus "*spoke again*" to the people.

Meaning, there was still a crowd of people after the woman's accusers dropped their rocks and left. If you see at the beginning of this passage it says, "*He appeared again in the temple courts, where "all" the people gathered around him.... The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery.*" What many people don't get or see from this passages is that, "it was the religious people – **vs. 3:** "*teachers of the law and the Pharisees*" that wanted to condemn and stone the woman to death". The teachers of the law is the word *γραμματεύς, έως, ό grammateus* or scribes, it's where we get our word "grammar". Scribes are those who studied the letter of the law. The word/title Pharisee is *Φαρισαίος, ου, ό Pharisaios*; means, a Jewish sect of religious leaders separated from sin. What we see is in the middle of Jesus was teaching the people - **vs. 2** "*At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them*" - some of the students of the letter of law and the religious leaders, who claimed to be "separated from sin," had set a trap for Jesus, interrupted his teaching the people and brought the woman before Him.

Now, Jesus, the giver of the law, knows both the letter and the spirit of the law. This was an opportunity for Jesus to teach the fulfilling of the law through grace upon grace. The inward versus the outward. The lovekindness of God through the giving of grace to the repentance of the heart. So, Jesus, says to them who brought the woman caught in adultery, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." He did this to expose the hypocrisy in their heart, to both the letter of the law and the unrighteousness of man. He knew both the scribes, students of the law, did not follow it, and the Pharisees were hypocrites proclaiming to be without sin. They each dropped their stones, choosing to hide their inward hypocrisy, then to face the one of Grace and Truth, and left. Jesus then shows her and teaches the rest of the people about of a righteous God's grace and mercy should cause one to turn from their wicked ways in gratitude towards God's mercies change their lifestyle before God – "*10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman,*

where are they? Has no one condemned you?” 11 “No one, sir,” she said. “Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”

This incident and this woman were but a teaching example for Jesus teaching of Grace through mercy and forgiveness from God.

Luke 4:18-19

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Mark 2:17

When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

John 3:16-18

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Versus 12 show us, that after the interruption by certain Scribes and Pharisees, He turned back to the crowd of people and resumes His teaching, explaining to the people what they just witnessed, as he tells them, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Why does Jesus resume His teaching, right after the people witnessing and hearing Jesus telling the woman caught in adultery, He doesn’t condemn her and for her to leave her sins of adultery behind, by telling the people, “*I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life*”?

Jesus said, “*whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life*”. The word “Darkness” **σκοτία skotia**; means, darkened eyesight or blindness, a metaphor of ignorance respecting divine things; together with persons in whom darkness becomes visible and holds sway. Jesus is telling us, that believing in Him, we will not be in spiritual ignorance and blind to spiritual truth of God, who is light. Being in the light is not about our sin but our fellowship with God

1 John 1:5-9

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. 8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just

and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

Being out of fellowship with God is being in the darkness and being with the god of this world who has your mind blinded – darkness is blindness – spiritual blindness.

2 Cor. 4:4

In whom the god of this world has those minds blinded, lest glorious light of the gospel should shine unto them.

Jesus tells Paul, Acts 26:15-18:

*“Then I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ “‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ the Lord replied. 16 ‘Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. 17 I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them 18 **to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.**’*

What Jesus was teaching the crowd was, don't be like the Scribes and Pharisees, who live outwardly, pretending not to have sin, but that we should live in spirit and in truth in a relationship with Him, believing His forgiveness, cleansing and washing by faith and to walk according to God's grace and mercy.

Luke 7:36-49

When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. 37 A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. 38 As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. 39 When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner.”

40 Jesus answered him, “Simon, I have something to tell you.” “Tell me, teacher,” he said. 41 “Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?” 43 Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.” “You have judged correctly,” Jesus said.

44 Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. 47 Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.” 48 Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

49 The other guests began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?” 50 Jesus said to the woman, “**Your faith has saved you; go in peace.**”

Luke 11:34-35

Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are healthy, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are unhealthy, your body also is full of darkness. 35 See to it, then, that the light within you is not darkness. 36 Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it dark, it will be just as full of light as when a lamp shines its light on you.”

Jesus is the light!

John 1:4-9

In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. 6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

Ps. 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

1 Pet 2:9

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.