



Throwing Stones

By Taylor Braswell on September 22, 2022

TODAY'S READING: John 8

Growing up I was familiar with the story of the woman caught in adultery. Today, when people are caught in a sin, they are not dragged immediately from the situation and put in front of a crowd of people. Imagine the worst thing you have ever done and then imagine Pastor Johnny and me dragging you in front of the church and telling them what you had done right when you were caught. I always felt bad for this woman because this must have been humiliating. I also felt bad for her because she was obviously looking for satisfaction in life in all the wrong places. I used to think, "I wouldn't have wanted to throw a stone at this woman, I would've shown her grace." Although this may be true, I was reading this passage another time and it hit me, I am not a bystander in this story, I'm the woman. God knows the worst things I have ever done and because He is holy and just, I deserve death. God will not tolerate sin and you and I have spit in His face by rebelling against Him. When we deserved to be stoned to death, Jesus stood in the way and took our punishment for us. Where others look and see shame, guilt and sin, God looks at us through Christ as His children if we trust in Him! When others are quick to judge, God is slow to anger and shows us mercy.

I want us to look at what happens after this in John 8:11. People always love to say, "Jesus hung out with prostitutes and sinners." Jesus did not just "hang out" with sinners, He called them to repent and trust in Him. Jesus did not have compassion on this woman to just save her from getting stoned to death, he called her to new life in Him. The command "go and sin no more" does not mean this woman had to be perfect, that is impossible. When we put our trust in Christ, submit to His rule, and look to Him for satisfaction in life, our desires change. We will sin because we are sinful and live in a fallen world, but we will not want to sin anymore. Christians hate their sin and want to be more like Christ. The next time people are throwing stones at a sinner, remember that you are one and remember that God loves you too much to leave you there.

PRAYER: God, You are a good and righteous King. Forgive me for falling short of Your glory and looking to other things to satisfy me. Help me remember the grace You show me each day and give me a desire to show grace to others.

TOMORROW'S READING: John 9

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