

*“And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto Him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, They say unto him, ‘Master, This woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the Law commanded us, that Such should be stoned: but what sayest Thou?’ This they said, tempting Him, that they might have to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down, and with His Finger wrote on the ground, as though He heard them not. So when they continued asking Him, He lifted up Himself, and said unto them, ‘He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.’ And again He stooped down, and wrote on the ground. And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had lifted up Himself, and saw none but the woman, He said unto her, ‘Woman, where are those thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee?’ She said, ‘No man, Lord.’ And Jesus said unto her, ‘Neither do I condemn thee: **Go, And Sin No More.**” John 8:3-11 KJV*



Many have speculated on what it was Jesus wrote, but that is not the point of the narrative. These men were the top theologians and lawyers of the city who had studied and knew God’s Word, the Law, from memory. They thought to catch Jesus in a point of Law, so they could bring charges against Him, but little did they know, with all their learning, they stood before the Law’s very Author! They thought He was ignoring them and perhaps He was, because, after all, He was Eternity’s Sovereign. But they persisted. Christ knew the very thoughts and intents of their hypocritical lives and could have lambasted them with detailed accounts of their own trespasses, but instead posited a simple condition which none among them could meet. Sinlessness. You see, they did not hate Him, because He was good; they hated Him, because He was sinless and made even their little sins appear monstrous. His perfect Life condemned them in their own eyes! He had rebuked them publicly several times and they still “*could find no fault in Him,*” though diligently worked to find one. His Words to them were scathing rebukes. “*Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye shut up the Kingdom of Heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye devour widows’ houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater Damnation. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte (convert), and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.*” Sounds like a lot of “Christians” I’ve known. They know the Word, but don’t live the Word. They spend their lives looking down their noses at others; criticizing every little fault they see. These are Satan’s “useful idiots.” The difference in the sins of the woman and the lawyers was; one was under a justified death sentence. Until you see yourself guilty before God with no hope, you will not see Him as Merciful Saviour. When the condemned sinner hears the Words, “*Neither do I condemn thee,*” and realizes they are directed at them, the Truth becomes the New Beginning that enables them to “*Go and sin no more!*” Obedience of God’s Word is the opposite of sin. If you obey because of your own sense of morality, you have not truly repented. “*Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain (self-centered) in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fool.*” It is only the forgiven penitent that is truly grateful for the Mercy bestowed and it is that thankfulness that ignites their love of the Forgiver!

O to Grace how great a debtor,  
Daily I’m constrained to be;  
Let Thy Goodness, like a fetter,  
Bind my wand’ring heart to Thee! –Robert Robinson, 1758

If our only accuser is God’s own Word, what Grace and Mercy can be found therein by the justifiably guilty!  
What Majestic Forgiveness will be granted to the humble penitent who is found guilty!

*“Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.” John 6:37b KJV*