

Outline – March 20, 2022
Jeremiah 17:13-14; John 8:2-12
Romans 8:1, 35-39
Grace Changes Everything

This Is Your Story
This Is My Story

- I. **The problem with sin**
 - A. Sin promises happiness, but always brings regret
 - B. To choose to willfully sin is to choose to suffer
- II. **The problem with religion**
 - A. It points out all that is wrong with you
 - B. It reveals our insecurities
 - C. Insecurities bring us to places and people that often abuse us and hurt others
 - D. Toxic patterns are then created
 - E. Toxic patterns are only changed by grace and truth
- III. **The problem with the Pharisees (their plot and ploy against Jesus)**
 - A. They didn't like Jesus
 - 1. He was changing things
 - 2. He was minimizing their power
 - 3. He was restructuring their way of life
 - B. They wanted to trap Jesus in an area He couldn't escape
 - C. They wanted to create a dilemma
- IV. **The scheme/situation that unfolded catching a woman in the act of adultery**
 - A. They wanted to do 3 things
 - 1. Gain back their power
 - 2. Condemn this woman
 - 3. Discredit Jesus
 - 4. Religious people can do wicked things
 - B. The Pharisees:
 - 1. Were ready to judge
 - 2. Wanting to judge
 - 3. Willing to judge
 - 4. Waiting to judge
 - 5. Watching to judge
 - C. The Pharisees were:
 - 1. Feeling superior (pride)
 - a. Pride is the mother of all sin
 - 2. Pointing fingers
 - 3. Desiring to condemn
 - 4. There was no gentleness, grace or godly wisdom
 - 5. Galatians 6:1

V. The response of Jesus

- A. He writes in the dust
 1. The very finger that wrote the 10 commandments
 2. The very finger that warned Belshazzar in Daniel (writing on the wall)
 3. Is now writing in the sand to set a woman free caught in adultery

VI. This was a serious offense (then and today)

- A. Spiritual/legal/relationally
 1. The breaking of a covenant
 2. Causing great pain (perhaps the greatest) in the human soul
 3. A pain that has collateral damage (others are impacted and hurt)
 4. What was Jesus writing?
- B. Jesus comment
 1. "He who is without (this type) sin cast the first stone"
- C. This was a moral examination
- D. A legal maneuver
 1. Must have 2 to 3 witnesses testify, bring accusation
 2. They all left
- E. Jesus got between her and judgement
 1. That's your story
 2. That's my story
 3. That's our story
 4. That's grace

VII. The question Jesus asked her (has no one condemned you)?

- A. They could have
- B. They should have according to their law
- C. Jesus gets between them and says "neither do I condemn you"
- D. What we must understand is that Jesus:
 1. Doesn't approve
 2. Doesn't condone
 3. Doesn't support
 4. Doesn't excuse
 5. Doesn't defend

VIII. His advice, counsel, and declaration: "Go and sin no more"

- A. You are more than this
- B. You are created for greater things
- C. She didn't see it (she settled)
- D. On the toxic cycle
 1. Broken life
 2. Broken in relationship
 3. Broken in her soul
- E. She can now live out a new identity found in God's grace
- F. She can break the insecurity that enslaved her

- G. She can now walk in His freedom
 - H. She can walk in His love
 - I. She has a new option - follow Him and His Word
 - J. She is no longer condemned, but she is given new life
- IX. What life often brings**
- A. People may point fingers
 - B. Religion may condemn us
 - C. Self-imposed guilt may shame us
 - D. Satan may accuse us
 - E. Sanctimonious people may deride us
- X. But grace changes everything**
- A. Changes us
 - B. Forgives us
 - C. Frees us
 - D. Provides a future
 - E. Brings hope
 - F. Brings healing to heart and soul
 - G. Happiness and joy unspeakable
 - H. Jesus is our hero
 - I. A health in spirit, soul, body
 - J. Grace saves us

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