

Speaker: Adrian Ferguson

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Readings: John ch 7 v 53 and ch 8 v 11; Luke ch 23 v 34; I Timothy ch 1 v 12-15

Subject: Forgiveness

Here are examples of men who forgave those who wronged them in some way.

Nelson Mandela forgave those who imprisoned him; Elisabeth Elliot forgave those who murdered her husband but there is nothing like the Saviour who can forgive all of sin. In the first incident, He is faced with a test by men. The previous night He had gone to the mount of Olives because He had no home to go to. He had said, "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." (Matt 8:20)

Early in the morning the Lord Jesus Christ headed to the temple: What are our first thoughts in the morning? His thoughts were towards His God.

The people came to Him; He would say "Come unto me" (Matt 11:28). Have you come to Him?

"The common people gladly heard Him" (Mark 12:37). We are often busy in life and turn the Saviour out of our lives. He is a Perfect man and the Saviour of the world. He is powerful, mighty and able to save. Have you come to Him?

The woman was caught, brought and taught.

#### **Caught:**

The woman had been caught in the very act of adultery. This was an embarrassment for her. Adultery was not a victimless crime. It is a sinful deed. "Thou shalt not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14). These commandments were written by the hands of God on tablets of stone. A husband and a wife have to be together until death or the return of the Lord.

Sin is the breaking of God's Law. The consequences of this particular sin at that time was to be put to death. God's holy demand was unchangeable. It is perfect and the person who breaks that law had to pay the consequences. They brought her to the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ is the only one who can forgive sin. Where is the man at this point. Man's judgment is flawed but God makes no mistakes. He knows every one of our sins.

Sin separates us from God. The Lord Jesus Christ came into this world to seek and to save that which was lost (Luke 19:10)

#### **Brought:**

The people who brought her had broken the law. It is of no use to go to religious people, the only Person Who can forgive is the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **Taught:**

They were being taught by the greatest of all teachers. He only spoke four sentences and the woman was saved. He is Teacher, Master, Lord and Saviour. He is willing to teach this woman.

He witnessed first by His silence then by challenging the people to cast the first stone. Every one of the people starting with the oldest began to leave until only the Lord as left. "He came not into the world to condemn the world but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:17)

The shepherd left his 99 sheep to go and find the one that was lost. He did this because he loved that sheep. The Lord Jesus Christ loves us with an everlasting love.

The Lord Jesus Christ stooped down from heaven. He left it all behind to come to earth. He came because we are all sinners but He would bear our sins Himself (1 Peter 2:24).

The Lord Jesus Christ told the woman to "Go and sin no more". She was forgiven because He said He would no longer condemn her.

The Lord Jesus Christ loves the sinner but hates the sin.

Three Reasons why the Lord Jesus Christ can forgive.

- 1 - All sin is against Him - He is the one you offended
- 2 - He bore away our sins - Sin is transferred to the Lord Jesus Christ the sin bearer
- 3 - He is alive - He rose again and sits on the right hand of God. He lives ever to make intercession

The Lord Jesus Christ forgave her sin and she can get to heaven.

Has there been an experience in your life?

Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour?

Is there any evidence in your life that you belong to Christ?