

Caught, but rescued by Grace

John 7:53-8:11

Introduction to Textual Criticism:

First, the Old Testament came to us by the Jews. It is the Bible that Jesus used and that Paul preached.

Second, the New Testament came to us by the early Church and was copied by anybody and everybody. It was handwritten by interested parties who wanted the Word of God until the printing press was invented in 1516 AD.

Third, we have no originals of the New Testament; yet we have more than 5,500 copies of the Greek New Testament.

Conclusion: This story took place, it is very unlikely that John recorded it and placed it here in his gospel, which is why it is sectioned off in our Bibles.

The Setting - 7:53-8:2

The Accusation - 8:3-6 - The curious thing about this accusation is that no one commits adultery by themselves—it takes two.

The Challenge - 8:7-9 - Jesus is taking the burden and condemnation of Old Testament law and turning all of us to New Testament GRACE.

God's redeeming grace is what stands at the center of this story.

The Resolution - 8:10-11

Without God's grace it is not possible to face and overcome sin and temptation in our lives. When we know God's grace we will go forth in the deepest gratitude.

Conclusion: Two important New Testament truths.

First, Jesus is greater than Old Testament law.

Second, because Jesus is greater than the law he can transform its application and bring about true righteousness by redeeming grace.

If I want to know grace, come to Jesus.

If we want to be gracious, know the grace of Jesus for salvation.