

## The Scandal of Mercy 1 John 8:1-11

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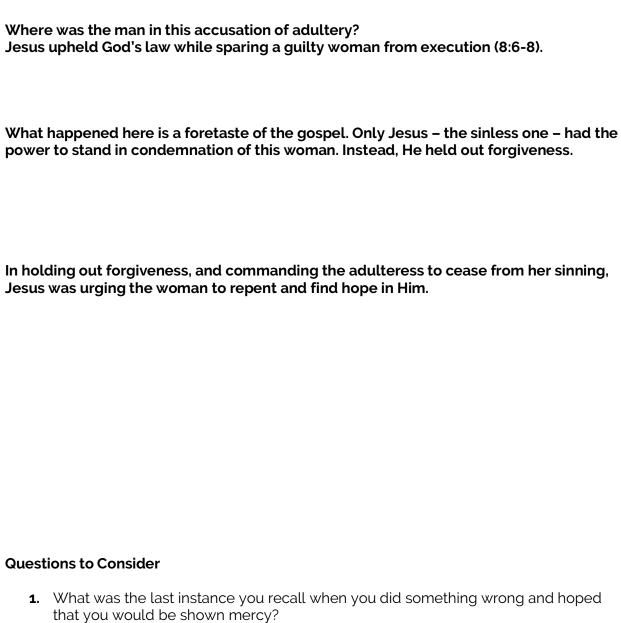
By showing compassion to a guilty sinner, Jesus Christ offered a foretaste of the gospel, and reminded us of the greatness of His mercy and the hope He gives to believers to walk in newness of life.

God is just and holy. He promised judgment for sinners. And yet, He described Himself as "...merciful, gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness..." (Exodus 34:6-7).

How is it possible for those who defiantly break God's law to find mercy and be loved by a holy Creator?

[[Addressing the Textual Challenge of John 7:53 – 8:11: How do we respond to brackets and footnotes?]]

The Background of Roman Law and Jewish Rules Behind John 8:3-5



- 2. What are some Bible verses that clearly describe God's hatred of sin and promise to judge those who break His law? What are some verses that hold out hope for lawbreakers?
- 3. Describe some of the historical and archaeological evidence that serves to give us confidence in the preservation and reliability of the Word of God.
- **4.** What was the trap that the religious leaders were setting for Jesus? Is there any significance to the absence of a man accused in this adultery?
- **5.** How does this passage offer a foretaste of the gospel?
- 6. Read Romans 6:1-2. How should forgiveness through the gospel transform our approach to sin?