

John 8:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.

Analysis

The woman's simple 'No man, Lord' acknowledges both the absence of human accusers and addresses Jesus as 'Lord.' Jesus responds with grace and truth balanced perfectly: 'Neither do I condemn thee' (grace) and 'go, and sin no more' (truth). This is not permissiveness - He acknowledges her sin and calls for repentance - but He offers forgiveness before reformation. Grace enables obedience; it doesn't excuse sin.

Historical Context

Jesus' response demonstrates the gospel pattern: justification precedes sanctification. He forgives first, then calls for changed life. This contradicts both legalism (earn forgiveness through change) and antinomianism (forgiveness makes change unnecessary).

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' response model balancing grace and truth?

2. What is the relationship between receiving forgiveness and turning from sin?
3. How can you extend Christ's balance of grace and truth to others?

Interlinear Text

ἡ δὲ εἶπεν Οὐδεὶς κύριε εἶπεν δὲ αὐτῇ ὁ
G3588 **And** **She said** **No man** **Lord** **She said** **And** **unto her** G3588
G1161 G2036 G3762 G2962 G2036 G1161 G846

Ἰησοῦς Οὐδὲ ἐγὼ σε κατακρίνω· πορεύου καὶ μηκέτι
Jesus **Neither** **I** **thee** **condemn** **go** **and** **no more**
G2424 G3761 G1473 G4571 G2632 G4198 G2532 G3371

ἀμάρτανε
sin
G264

Additional Cross-References

John 3:17 (Parallel theme): For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

John 5:14 (Sin): Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

John 8:15 (Parallel theme): Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man.

Luke 15:7 (Sin): I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

Job 34:31 (Parallel theme): Surely it is meet to be said unto God, I have borne chastisement, I will not offend any more:

Luke 5:32 (Sin): I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Proverbs 28:13 (Sin): He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Romans 2:4 (Parallel theme): Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Luke 15:10 (Sin): Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Luke 13:3 (Parallel theme): I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

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