

# John 8:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.

## Analysis

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They announce the woman was caught 'in the very act,' emphasizing irrefutable guilt. Yet their concern is not her sin but creating a dilemma for Jesus. If He shows mercy, they'll accuse Him of violating Moses' law; if He condemns her, they'll report Him to Romans who reserved capital punishment authority. This reveals manipulative religion.

## Historical Context

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Under Roman occupation, Jews could not execute capital punishment without Roman approval (John 18:31). The Pharisees hoped to trap Jesus between Jewish law and Roman authority.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How do people today create false dilemmas to trap Christians?
2. What does it mean to defend truth without sacrificing grace?
3. How can you avoid using Scripture manipulatively?

## Interlinear Text

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λέγουσιν	αὐτῷ	Διδάσκαλε	αὕτη	ἡ	γυνή	κατείληφθη
<b>They say</b>	<b>unto him</b>	<b>Master</b>	<b>this</b>	G3588	<b>woman</b>	<b>was taken</b>
G3004	G846	G1320	G3778		G1135	G2638
ἐπαυτοφώρῳ	μοιχευομένη·					
<b>in the very act</b>	<b>in adultery</b>					
G1888	G3431					

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