

John 8:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

Analysis

When they persist, Jesus stands and delivers His famous response: 'He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone.' This brilliant answer upholds law's standard while exposing human inability to execute perfect justice. It shifts focus from the woman's sin to her accusers' sins, demonstrating that all fall short of God's glory.

Historical Context

Jewish law required witnesses to cast the first stones (Deut 17:7). Jesus doesn't deny her guilt or dismiss the law, but requires sinless judges - an impossible standard revealing universal human sinfulness.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does recognition of your own sin affect how you view others' sins?
2. What is the difference between judging sin and being judgmental?

3. When are you tempted to hold others to standards you yourself fail to meet?

Interlinear Text

ὥς	δὲ	ἐπέμενον	ἐρωτῶντες	αὕτη	ἀνάκυψας	εἶπεν
when	So	they continued	asking	her	he lifted up himself	and said
G5613	G1161	G1961	G2065	G846	G352	G2036
πρὸς	αὕτη	Ὁ	ἀναμάρτητος	ὑμῶν	πρῶτος	τὸν
unto	her	G3588	He that is without sin	among you	first	G3588
G4314	G846		G361	G5216	G4413	
λίθον	ἐπ'	αὕτη	βαλέτω			
a stone	at	her	cast			
G3037	G1909	G846	G906			

Additional Cross-References

Colossians 4:6 (Parallel theme): Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Revelation 2:16 (Parallel theme): Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.