

March 20

Jesus Payment Trumps the Law

The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron...The heart is deceitful above all things...who can know it? I, Yahweh, search the mind...Those who depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken Yahweh – Jeremiah 17:1-13

[John 7:53-8:11, Jerusalem] Everyone went to his own house, but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Now very early in the morning, he came again into the temple, and all the people came to him. He sat down, and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman taken in adultery. Having set her in the midst, they told him, "Teacher, we found this woman in adultery, in the very act. Now in our law, Moses commanded us to stone such. [Leviticus 20:10] What then do you say about her?" They said this testing him, that they might have something to accuse him of.

But Jesus stooped down, and wrote on the ground with his finger. But when they

continued asking him, he looked up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw the first stone at her." Again he stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground.

They, when they heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning from the oldest, even to the last. Jesus was left alone with the woman where she was, in the middle. Jesus, standing up, saw her and said, "Woman, where are your accusers? Did no one condemn you?"

She said, "No one, Lord."

Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way. From now on, sin no more."

1. Early writings skip 8:1-11; why? What was Jesus writing (Jer. 17)? Where's the man?
2. Who have you judged lately? Did you think about your own sins? How can you change?
3. Jesus, I'm as dirty as an adulteress, but you take away my condemnation, please help me...

