



STANDING IN THE GAP
JOHN 7:53-8:11-12

Continue to Stand Up – Follow the Example of Jesus

- **John 7:53-8:2** - ⁵³ They went each to his own house, ¹ but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ² Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them.

Why Do You Seek to Kill Me?

- **John 7:14-19** - ¹⁴ About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. ¹⁵ The Jews therefore marveled, saying, “How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?” ¹⁶ So Jesus answered them, “My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me. ¹⁷ If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority. ¹⁸ The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood. ¹⁹ Has not Moses given you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law. Why do you seek to kill me?”

Nicodemus

- **John 7:50-52** - ⁵⁰ Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, ⁵¹ “Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?” ⁵² They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee.”

An Open and Shut Case?

- **John 8:3-4** - ³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst ⁴ they said to him, “Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery.

Where are the Witnesses?

- **Deuteronomy 19:15** - “A single witness shall not suffice against a person for any crime or for any wrong in connection with any offense that he has committed. Only on the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses shall a charge be established.

Whose Justice?

- **John 8:5** - ⁵ Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?”

God's Law

- **Deuteronomy 22:22** - ²² “If a man is found lying with the wife of another man, both of them shall die, the man who lay with the woman, and the woman. So you shall purge the evil from Israel.

No Partiality

- **Leviticus 19:15** - ¹⁵ “You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor.
- **1 Timothy 5:21** - ²¹ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality.
- **James 1:20** - ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

A Christian's Response – Follow the Example of Jesus

- **John 8:6-8** - ⁶This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷ And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.” ⁸ And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground.

Where is the Witness to Cast the First Stone?

- **Deuteronomy 17:7** - ⁷The hand of the witnesses shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

Stand Up With the Word of God

- **Hebrews 4:12** - ¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- **1 Peter 3:15-16** - ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.
- **We are to confront injustice, corruption and sin with the Word of God presented in a loving way to bring about repentance and salvation.**

Mercy Triumphs Over Judgement

- **John 8:9-11** - ⁹ But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰ Jesus stood up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” ¹¹ She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.”

Mercy Triumphs Over Judgment

- **James 2:13** - ¹³ For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.



**You can change the world by
doing what Jesus did...**

Love the Unloveable

Forgive the Unworthy

Speak Truth

Serve Those Who Can't Repay

