I AM: The Light of the World

Key Scripture: John 8:1-31

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. 3 The 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. 5 Now in the Law, Moses
commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?” 6 This 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. 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.”]]

12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not
walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” 13 So the Pharisees said to him, “You are
bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true.” 14 Jesus answered, “Even if I do
bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am
going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. 15 You judge according to
the flesh; I judge no one. 16 Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who
judge, but I and the Father who sent me. 17 In your Law it is written that the testimony of two
people is true. 18 I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me
bears witness about me.” 19 They said to him therefore, “Where is your Father?” Jesus
answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father
also.” 20 These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested
him, because his hour had not yet come.

21 So he said to them again, “I am going away, and you will seek me, and you will die in your
sin. Where I am going, you cannot come.” 22 So the Jews said, “Will he kill himself, since he
says, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come’?” 23 He said to them, “You are from below; I am
from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. 24 I told you that you would die in your
sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins.” 25 So they said to him, “Who
are you?” Jesus said to them, “Just what I have been telling you from the beginning. 26 I have
much to say about you and much to judge, but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the
world what I have heard from him.” 27 They did not understand that he had been speaking to
them about the Father. 28 So Jesus said to them, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man,
then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the
Father taught me. 29 And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do
the things that are pleasing to him.” 30 As he was saying these things, many believed in him.
31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my
disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

- Background/ Context
  - Woman Caught in Adultery
    - Exposed
    - Humiliated
    - Condemned
- Jesus Tested
  - It was a trap however He answered!
    - However
  - Jesus created room for reflection.
    - … and He shone His Light upon the accusers.
- Trouble in the Text
  - John 3:16-21
    - "For God so loved the world,that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. [17] For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. [18] Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. [19] And this is the judgment: **the Light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the Light because their works were evil. [20] For everyone who does wicked things hates the Light and does not come to the Light, lest his works should be exposed. [21] But whoever does what is true comes to the Light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.**"
- The people hate the Light (Jesus)
  - Why resist the Light?

        - Exposes your work

- Pharisees Do Not Know God
    - “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” (John 8:19).
- Trouble in the World
    - Knowing the True Lord vs an idol
        - Face to face with the Lord on His Throne of Judgment
            - How will He know you?
- Grace in the Text
    - John 8:30-38
        - “As he was saying these things, many believed in him. 31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, ‘If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’” 33 They answered him, “‘We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

          34 Jesus answered them, “‘Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. 37 I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. 38 I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.’”
- Grace in the World
    - The truth hurts
- John 1:4,5

- ➢ “In Him was Life, and the Life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

❖ Application

- ➢ Psalm 139:23-24
  - ■ “Search me, O God, and know my heart!
    Try me and know my thoughts!
    And see if there be any grievous way in me,
    And lead me in the way everlasting!”