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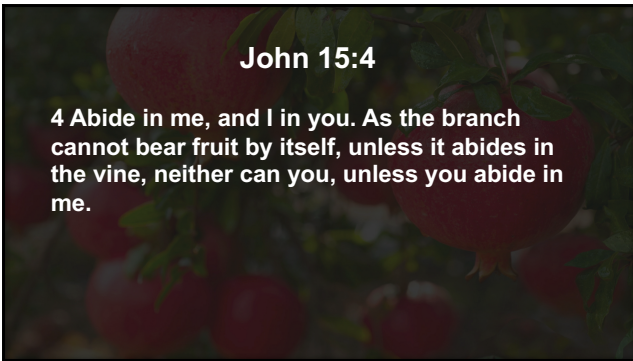
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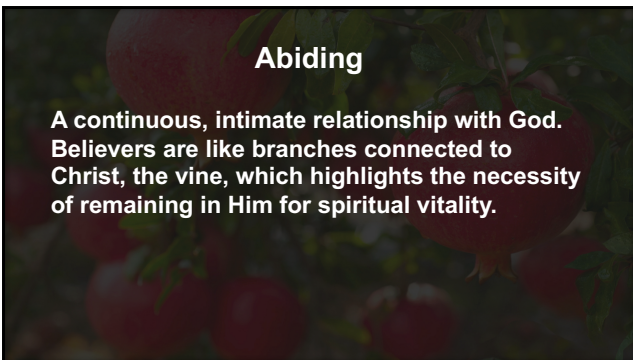
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<b>Kindness (Actions)</b>	The quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. It involves a tender concern for others.
<b>Goodness (Motives)</b>	The quality of being morally good or virtuous. It reflects uprightness and holiness in action.
<b>Gentleness (Manner)</b>	The quality of being mild and tender. It embodies humility and the ability to restrain one's strength

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**Goodness of God**

The goodness of God is that which disposes Him to be kind, cordial, benevolent and full of good will toward man. He is tender-hearted toward mankind, seeking a way to restore broken relationships. He takes great pleasure in the happiness of His people.

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**John 8:1-11**

1 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2 Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. 3 Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst,

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**John 8:1-11**

4 they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?"

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**John 8:1-11**

6 This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.

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**It was the perfect trap**

Say "Stone her," and He loses His reputation for mercy (and violates Roman law).

Say "Don't stone her," and He breaks the Law of Moses.

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**John 8:1-11**

7 So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." 8 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

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What was Jesus writing in the dust on the floor of the Temple?

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**Jesus' Preaching Strategy**

Give the Law to the Proud  
Give mercy to the Broken

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### Legal Steps in Adultery Cases

1. Both the man and the woman would be brought to the judge and accused.
2. Unbiased witnesses were gathered to confirm that adultery had been committed,
3. Verdict by the presiding unbiased Judge

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### Greater Sin of Unjust Judgment

It wasn't that these men had sinned once or twice before, and so had no right to be concerned about the woman's sin. It's that they orchestrated and plotted her sin, her shame, using her as a weapon against Jesus. In this direct incident they had a greater sin and a greater guilt.

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### Jeremiah 17:13

"O LORD, the hope of Israel, all that forsake you shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters."

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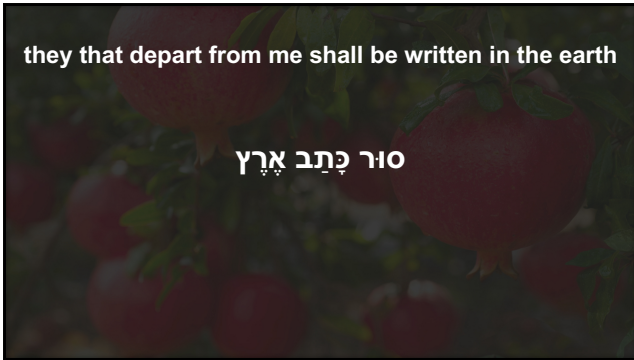
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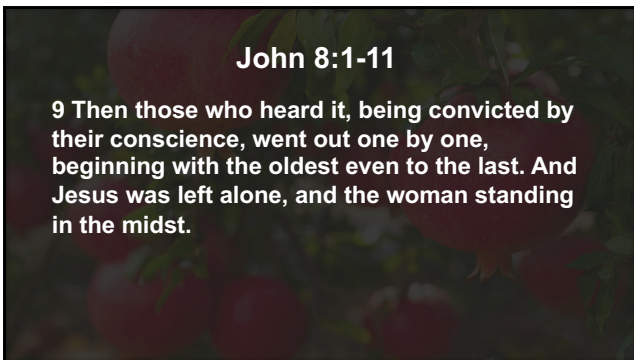
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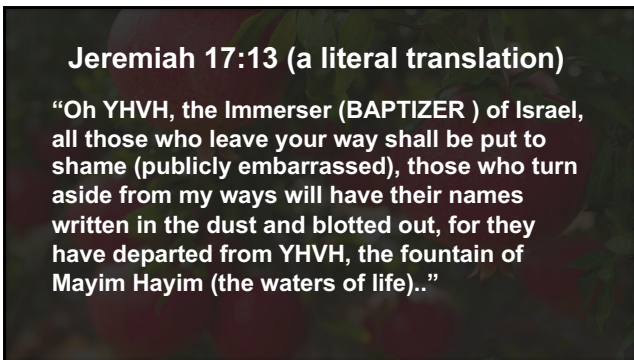
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**Accusers Names Written in the Earth**

Many scholars believe Jesus was writing their names in the dirt from oldest to youngest, fulfilling Jeremiah's prophecy in real-time. He was showing them that they were the ones on trial, not the woman. They had forsaken the "Living Water" standing right in front of them.

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**Passed Sentence on the Accusers**

Instead of passing a sentence upon the woman, Jesus passed a sentence upon His accusers. He didn't say, "Don't execute her." He simply demanded that justice be fairly and righteously applied.

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**The Judges Judged Themselves**

He forced the judges to judge themselves. One by one, starting from the oldest (who had the most sin to hide), they dropped their rocks and walked away.

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**John 8:1-11**

10 When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" 11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

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**John 15:4**

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

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