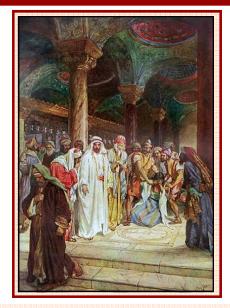
## One by One, they DROPPED their stones

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eople have written many things about the account of the woman taken in adultery, but the purpose of John's gospel (John 8:1-11) is "...that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God" (John 20:31).

"Jesus went unto the mount of Olives. And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them. And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?"

"This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him."

"But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. 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. And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground."

First, this woman was taken in adultery, "IN THE VERY ACT." So, where was the "MAN" that was with her? It was God that commanded in the LAW (not Moses) that "...the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death" (LEVITICUS 20:10).

What Jesus wrote on the ground, we are not told, but whatever he wrote, IT WAS THE WORD OF GOD. And the WORD of God "...is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (HEBREWS 4:12). These men must have seen what Jesus wrote.

"And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more" (JOHN 8:1-11).

Jesus said to his disciple Thomas "...because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed" (JOHN 20:29).

Not one of us is <u>WITHOUT SIN</u>, "for <u>all</u> have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

The Gospel of John is the "believe" book that encourages us to "walk by faith" alone. "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book [THE BOOK OF JOHN]: But these are written, that YE MIGHT BELIEVE that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have LIFE through his name" (JOHN 20:30-31). "...these things I SAY, that ye might be SAVED" (JOHN 5:34).