



The Law of Christ
J17th in the “Life in his Name” Series
John 7:53-8:11, p. 894
January 20, 2019
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God teaches us the relationship between the law, Jesus, and the Christian.

The Text: John 7:53-8:11

1) This passage helps us understand how we can have great confidence in the text of God’s Word.

Question: How can we have confidence that the Bible we have in front of us is trustworthy?

a) *The Witness of the World (negative)*

b) *The Witness of the Sciences (historical)*

LBC 1.8 The two Testaments “...were immediately inspired by God, and were kept pure through subsequent ages by His singular care and providence....”

c) *The Witness of the Word (theological)*

LBC 1.5 “...our full persuasion and assurance of the infallible truth of Scripture and its divine authority, is from the inward work of the Holy Spirit bearing witness by and with the Word in our hearts.”

2) Jesus explains what “the law” truly is, and how it finds its meaning in him (7:53-8:11).

Matthew 5:17-20: ¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

3) This text explains further what the narrator announced in 1:16-17: “Grace in place of Grace.”

John 1:16-17: ¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Question: How should we think about Jesus and the law?

a) *The law shows our Guilt – It helps us see God’s holiness and our imperfection and sin.*

b) *The law shows God’s Grace – It helps us see our need for God and points us to Jesus Christ.*

c) *The law shows God’s Goodness – It helps us see the good life God designed and directs us to worship and find satisfaction in him.*

Response

This passage invites us to sit under Jesus, the law-fulfilling Judge, and share in the good life he alone provides.

Sunday Text Questions for John 7:53-8:11

January 20, 2019

Pastor Mickey Klink

- 1) Starter Question: What is “the law” in the Bible, and what is its relationship to the Christian?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) How do you respond to the fact that this passage is not found in the earliest manuscripts?
- 4) How can a Christian have confidence that the Bible is reliable and trustworthy?
- 5) How does the narrator’s explanation of the religious leaders’ intentions in v. 6a make sense of the actions of the religious leaders described in vv. 2-5?
- 6) How do vv. 6-8 focus *not* on WHAT he wrote but THAT he wrote, and why are we so tempted to focus on the what?
- 7) Read Exodus 31:18 and Deuteronomy 9:10. Why is it significant that the Ten Commandments (the Law) were written by “the finger of God” and Jesus, according to v. 6, wrote with his “finger?” What does this teach us about the relationship between Jesus and the law?
- 8) How would you explain the significance of what happened in v. 9?
- 9) If Jesus does not condemn the woman in v. 10, then why does he command her to “sin no longer” in v. 11? How might this explain how the law is “fulfilled” in Christ but “not abolished” (see Matthew 5:17-20)?
- 10) What *truths to believe* or *actions to obey* does this passage of Scripture teach us?

Further study this week: Psalm 119 on the trustworthiness of Scripture (Mon); Matthew 5:17-20 on Jesus and the law (Tues); 1 Timothy 1:3-11 on the goodness of the law (Wed); Galatians 6:1-10 on the law of Christ (Thurs); 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 on being under the law of Christ (Fri).