

(Kalpana, I found that *'Italics'* highlights Scripture references?? Makes them stand out!)

The Great 'I AM'

"I Am the Light of the World"

Albert Fairweather

The Lord Jesus constantly faced opposition from the Jewish religious leaders. He was a threat to their system set up for their personal profit and protected by their interpretation of God's Law.

So they brought to Jesus a woman caught in the act of adultery, saying, "*Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?*" (John 8:5). They were looking for some reason to accuse Him of breaking God's laws.

At first He did not answer them, seeming not to hear, and instead He wrote on the ground with His finger. 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*" (John 8:7). Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

"Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst" (John 8:9).

It is true that the Law was given by Moses, but it only dealt with outward acts like murder, adultery, and stealing. But Jesus went much deeper when He taught that for a man to look at a woman with lust was adultery within the heart!

And the Law was powerless to help overcome sin, but revealed sin as a terrible thing that afflicts all people. It shows that we need God's forgiveness and help to overcome these evil tendencies. It was given to bring us to thrust in Christ for forgiveness and deliverance from sin's power and penalty.

Sadly, those Jews were convicted of their own sinfulness, but failed to follow it up with faith in Christ. So these men departed, leaving Jesus alone with the woman. She would have felt humiliated, condemned and all alone. So we must ask the question, "Where was the man also guilty in this?"

Then Jesus said to her, "*Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?*" She said, "*No one, Lord.*" And Jesus said to her, "*Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more*" (John 8:10-11).

The next thing that Jesus said was really incredible: "*I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life*" (John 8:12). To this poor sinning woman He showed, not the judgement demanded by the Law, but the grace of God to her who called Him 'Lord'.

The Bible says that, "*if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved*" (Romans 10:9). I am sure that this woman went on to prove that the Lord had sent light into her soul where once the darkness of sin had ruled.