Scribbling on the Ground

I. Jesus is <u>Meek</u> with People (7:53-8:2) Where He <u>Stayed</u> Jesus did not have a home to go to

Humility

Left heaven to come to earth – Philippians 2:6-7 No place to lay His head – Matthew 8:20 No family burial plot

How He Taught

No fanfare

Took His place among men; sat on ground; let people come around Him Served, taught, and ministered to them

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Gave Himself a ransom for many – Matthew 20:28 Came not to be served, but to serve – Matthew 20:28

He was in the treasury; the court of the women

II. Jesus is Masterful with Hypocrites (vv.3-9)

Their False Motives

Scribes

Copied the law on scrolls Lawyers

Argued the meaning of the text

II. Jesus is Masterful with Hypocrites (vv.3-9)

Pharisees

Dominant religious influence 6000 at the time of Jesus Controlled the religious atmosphere II. Jesus is Masterful with Hypocrites (vv.3-9)

They are trying to trap him, ask the impossible and unanswerable Customary to "ask the rabbi" Seventh commandment – Exodus 20:14 One of three "biggies" (idolatry, murder, adultery)

Capital Punishment

Leviticus 20; Deuteronomy 22 Mishna describes stoning by strangulation Wrote on the ground – Jeremiah 17:13

Kategraphen - to write a record or an accusation Kata - to make accusation Grapho - to write Wrote on the ground – Jeremiah 17:13

Only Jesus has qualification to "throw a stone" They reacted with deep conviction (the older had more to remember)

III. Jesus is Merciful with Sinners (vv. 10-11)

He deals with her one on one (personal relationship) Addresses her as woman (restoring dignity)

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His Command Not easy on sin (sin no more) Called it sin, an offense against God A true believer wouldn't presume on the grace of God – Romans 6:1-2

Applying today's Messag

Notice how sinners treat sinners: <u>brutally</u>. Notice how the Law treats sinners: sets the <u>standard</u>, but can't <u>cleanse</u> the soul. –

Notice how Jesus treats sinners: Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more

Romans 8:1

righteousness and mercy meet in Christ. He is the substitutionary atonement for sin. – 2 Corinthians 5:21