

John 8:1-8 WRITING IN THE SAND



What is often called one of the biggest mysteries of the Bible is found in John 8. I have never heard any mainline church pastor explain what Yeshua wrote in the sand. *“But Yeshua went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and [began] to teach them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center [of the court], they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act. “Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?”* They were saying this, testing Him, so that they might have grounds for accusing Him. But Yeshua stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground. But when they persisted in

asking Him, He straightened up, and said to them, *“He who is without sin among you, let him [be the] first to throw a stone at her.”* Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. What many don't understand is that Yeshua was teaching to the people in the women's court, outside the Temple's main court. Yeshua was speaking to women and gentiles in the Temple, which was unheard of for a man to do, never-mind a Rabbi.

According to Jewish tradition, if a man and woman were caught in adultery they were both judged together, this was not the case here, as we see no man brought forward. Yeshua knew what they were trying to do and beat them at their own game. The Torah required two eye witnesses to state their proof in order to find some one guilty of such an offence as adultery. It was tradition that in an adultery case, one of the two witnesses had the honor of casting the first stone at those being stoned to death because of such a judgment. The pharisees failed to produce any witnesses, so Yeshua knelt down and began to write the names of the Pharisees who had falsely accused the lady. It was a custom in the synagogues to list the men from oldest to youngest. That is what Yeshua was writing in the sand. Rabbi Yeshua was writing down the names of the Pharisees in the synagogue from oldest to youngest. The Old Testament prophet Jeremiah, spoke of this in **Jer. 17:13** *O Yahveh, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and **they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken Yahveh the fountain of living waters.*** The Pharisees knew exactly what Jeremiah the great Prophet said in the scrolls and were caught with their hands in the cookie jar, you might say. They slowly backed away as they saw Yeshua write their names in the sand.

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