

The Compassion of Christ A New Years Resolution

Pastor George Stahnke, 01/02/2005

I. Jesus did not come to judge, reject or condemn

John 3:16 - John 3:17 (TMNT) ¹⁶“This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. ¹⁷God didn’t go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again.

John 3:17 (NASB) ¹⁷“For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

John 3:17 (AMP) For God did not send the Son into the world in order to judge (to reject, to condemn, to pass sentence on) the world, but that the world might find salvation {and} be made safe {and} sound through Him.

John 8:2 - John 8:11 (NASB) ²Early 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. ³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center *of the court*, ⁴they said* to Him, “Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act. ⁵“Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?” ⁶They were saying this, testing Him, so that they might have grounds for accusing Him. But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground. ⁷But 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.” ⁸Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹When they heard it, they *began* to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones, and He was left alone, and the woman, where she was, in the center *of the court*. ¹⁰Straightening up, Jesus said to her, “Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?” ¹¹She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more.”

II. Jesus reaches out to the worst of society

- Matthew the tax collector (Matthew 9:9)
- Zaccheus a chief tax (Luke 19:1-9)
- Tax collectors and prostitutes (Matthew 21:32)
- The woman with a sinful reputation

Luke 7:36 - 39 (NASB) ³⁶Now one of the Pharisees was requesting Him to dine with him, and He entered the Pharisee’s house and reclined *at the table*. ³⁷And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner; and when she learned that He was reclining *at the table* in the Pharisee’s house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume, ³⁸and standing behind *Him* at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume. ³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner.”

- The Samaritan woman

John 4:7 - John 4:9 (NASB) ⁷There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.” ⁸For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. ⁹Therefore the Samaritan woman said* to Him, “How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

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John 4:18 (NLT) for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now."

John 4:28 - 29 (NASB) ²⁸So the woman left her waterpot, and went into the city and said* to the men, ²⁹"Come, see a man who told me all the things that I *have* done; this is not the Christ, is it?"

- The criminal on the cross

Luke 23:39 - 43 (NASB) ³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged *there* was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹"And we indeed *are suffering* justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" ⁴³And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise."

- To the sorted sinners of the world

1 Corinthians 6:9 - 11 (NIV) ⁹Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

III. We all stand in deed of His forgiveness

1 John 1:5 - 10 (NASB) ⁵This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with Him and *yet* walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; ⁷but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

Conclusion:

As we move into the new year let us all resolve to . . .

1. Remember what God has done in our lives
2. Be slow to through stones
3. Tell others your story, what Christ has done for you
4. Regularly come before the Lord and seek forgiveness
5. Be a worshiper and cultivate intimacy