

# ANSWER SHEET

## A Study of the Gospel according to John

### Session 15 – Light of the World

#### Read: John 8:1 – 30

In Chapter 8 Christ reveals Himself to be the Light of the World, the One who brings liberty, forgiveness, purpose, meaning, and significance to the life of humankind.

1. Read Leviticus 20:10 and Deuteronomy 22:22. What is the Law of Moses regarding adultery? How did the Pharisees fail to keep their own law?

There was guilt of the woman and some unknown man, supposedly. The law required that both parties to adultery were to be stoned to death. The religionists were using the woman as a trap and left the unknown man out of their judgment.

2. The religionists saw a chance to test Jesus, so they took the woman before Him. How were they hoping to discredit Jesus?

- If Jesus said the woman was not guilty, He would be breaking Jewish law and leaving Himself open to the charge of being too lenient with sin.
- If Jesus said the woman was guilty and should be killed, He would be breaking Roman law which did not consider adultery a sin worthy of death. He would also be criticized as lacking mercy and love, compassion and forgiveness.

3. In the case of the woman caught in adultery, we are not told why Jesus stooped in silence or what He wrote on the ground. What do you believe He was doing and what He wrote?

- To allow Him to think through the situation.
- To force the accusers to repeat the charges (verse 7). By doing so, they and the public would begin to see and sense their own lack of compassion.
- To write Scripture or some of the sins of those standing around, hoping to convict them.

4. Even though Jesus said that stones could be cast at the sinner, what was the limitation He placed on casting stones?

“He that is without sin, let him cast the first stone.”

This means that only Christ can judge, for no person is without sin.

Casting stones is not based on how much scripture a person knows, nor on how great a person's calling and gifts are, nor on the position a person has. It is based on moral goodness and perfection, and no one has achieved that.

5. When it comes to sin and judgment, every person stands alone before Christ. What is Jesus' response to this woman and to us?

- Jesus did not condemn but gave a second chance.
- Jesus wants to forgive and did forgive.
- Jesus challenged, but warned: “Go, and sin no more.” Stop your sinning – make a clean break – do it no more. The warning is clear: repentance is essential for forgiveness.

6. Apparently, Jesus used the word light often. John uses the word about twenty-one times. What is meant by calling Jesus the light?

- Jesus, the Light, is light by nature. Light is what He is within Himself, within His being, His nature, His essence, His character.
- Jesus, the Light, tells us that He is holy, righteous, and pure.
- Jesus, the Light, reveals. His light clearly shows the nature, the meaning, and the destiny of all things.
- Jesus, the Light, guides. His light allows us to walk out of darkness.
- Jesus, the Light, does away with darkness and with chaos.

7. Jesus knew His origin and destiny, where He had come from and where He was going. Why could humankind not tell where Jesus had come from nor where He was going?

For a very simple reason: man cannot penetrate nor see the spiritual world. Physical eyes are blind to the world of the Spirit. If there is to be communication with the spiritual dimension, the spiritual world must come into this world, into the physical dimension. This is exactly what Jesus was saying He did.

8. Read verses 17 – 18 and Deuteronomy 19:15. How did Jesus meet the demands of the law as required by the Pharisees?

Jesus met the demand of the law, for He was one witness, and the “Father that sent” Him was the second witness.

9. The religionists mocked Jesus. They said to Him, “Where is Your Father?” They wanted physical proof. How did Jesus answer this mocking unbelief?

The unbeliever does not know Him. He was the Man standing before them, and they could see and know Him as Man, but He was also the Son of God.

The unbeliever does not know God. “No man has seen God at any time” (John 1:18). The only conceivable way a person can ever know God is for God to reveal Himself. If God does come as Jesus did and a person does not accept and believe Him, then that person will never get to know God.

10. In verse 21 – 22, Jesus announced that He was going away. Then He announced the terrible fate of humankind. What is this tragic fate?

Humanity seeks for a great Deliverer on earth. Looking for a Messiah, for someone who can lead humankind to utopia and light and heaven. And humanity’s search is tragic because the Messiah has already come.

Humankind fails to find the Messiah and dies in its sin.

Humanity’s tragic end is separation from where Christ is.

11. What are some reasons why humankind fails to find the true Messiah and utopia?

Possible answers:

- Humanity fails because we have a different origin and being than Christ.
- Humanity fails because we sin and the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God.
- Humanity fails because we do not believe that Jesus is God, the great “I Am.”

12. What is your concept or vision of Heaven or utopia? (This is purely a subjective question.)

Utopia would be the ideal world, a world of perfection, provision, possessions, comfort, protection, peace, and security. Utopia would be four things: freedom from all negative circumstances, freedom from sin and its bondages, freedom from death, and freedom from hell. United with Christ – forever.