



come & see

LETTERS IN THE SAND

John 8:1-11

the SCENARIO...
CONDEMNATION and JUDGMENT

"I wonder whether, when these teachers of the law first signed up as young men to devote themselves to a life of service, they had warm hearts for God and others. Weren't they in fact motivated by love? But over time, something happened.

All their learning about Scripture filled them with pride.

All their efforts at obedience filled them with disdain for the
less devout.

All their giftedness filled them with impatience toward those
who were weaker.

All their spiritual power filled them with contempt for the weak.
And they became as enslaved by a cold heart as an addict can
become enslaved by crack cocaine.

What is so insidious about the sins of the spirit is that the carriers don't have a clue. At least with sins of the flesh, you find out you have messed up. With the sins of the spirit, you may not even know. You just walk through life with a stone in your hand:

- judgmental thoughts
- a superior attitude
- impatient words
- bitter resentments
- little room for love

People stand around you - trembling in brokenness, guilt, fear, lostness - but you're so caught up in your own self-righteousness you don't even see them. Or worse yet, you see them and are not moved. You don't even notice. You're not in the life-saving business anymore."

JOHN ORTBERG

"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you,
in order to bring praise to God."

ROMANS 15:7

the SAVIOR...
GRACE and MERCY

"Not just mercy, mind you, but grace.
Grace goes beyond mercy.
Mercy gave Ruth some food.
Grace gave her husband and a home.
Mercy gave the prodigal son a second chance.
Grace threw him a party.

Mercy prompted the Samaritan to bandage the wounds of the victim.
Grace prompted him to leave his credit card as payment for the
victim's care.

Mercy forgave the thief on the cross.
Grace escorted him into paradise.
Mercy pardons us.
Graces woos and weds us."

MAX LUCADO

the SAVIOR...
GRACE and MERCY

The most BARREN HEART can be brought
to LIFE through the GOSPEL!