

I AM

Part Two: *Light of the World*

March 13th, 2022

This spring, we are examining Jesus' seven "I AM" declarations from John's Gospel to get a better understanding of Jesus and how the Great I AM perfectly meets our needs. Last Sunday, we looked at John 6:35 where Jesus claims to be the Bread of Life. Today, we are going to look at John 8:12 where Jesus claims to be the Light of the World.

- **As we enter John chapter eight, Jesus is teaching in the Court of Women again.**

The Court of Women was unique in three ways:

1. Women could worship in this area of the temple.
2. There were 13 trumpet shaped offering boxes located in this area of the temple.
3. Four massive candelabras hung seventy feet high above the court.

During the Feast of Tabernacles, the huge candelabras were lit at night to remind the people of the pillar of fire that had guided Israel in their wilderness journey. The light from these lamps was so bright it could be seen from anywhere in Jerusalem.

- **The scribes and Pharisees brought an adulterous woman to Jesus.** John 8:1-6a

If Jesus objected to stoning the adulterous woman, He would go against Mosaic Law and discredit His claim to be the Messiah. But, if Jesus condoned the woman's execution, His reputation for compassion towards sinners would be destroyed.

- **Jesus did not answer the Scribes and Pharisees, but He bent down and wrote something in the dust. Then, He said, "All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!"** John 8:7

Some people say Jesus was telling the scribes and Pharisees, "You have no right to judge this woman because you are not sinless." But that is not what Jesus said to the scribes and Pharisees. Jesus told the men, "Go ahead and judge this adulterous woman, but make sure you follow the rules."

- **After Jesus answered the scribes and Pharisees, He stooped down and wrote in the dust again. Then, the men began to drop their rocks and leave the temple.** John 8:8-9
- **After the hypocrites left the Court of Women, Jesus asked the prostitute a question, and gave her a command.** John 8:10-11

Jesus asked the woman a legal question then He told the woman "Go, and sin no more." Jesus wanted to do more than rescue the woman from death; He wanted to show her how to have a better life!

- **After rescuing the adulterous woman, Jesus declared, "I AM the Light of the World."** John 8:12

When Jesus declared, "I AM the Light of the World," He was claiming to be God, and He was claiming to be the spiritual light for humanity. *Why did Jesus leave Heaven, cloth himself in humanity, and come to earth?* The Son of God wanted to illuminate our dark world. He wanted to lead sinners to salvation. Christ wanted to show us how to live a better life!