



Jesus is the greatest leader in world history. No human being has had more followers than Jesus. No one has had a greater influence on the world for good than Jesus. No one has been honored more than Jesus.

We are all leaders. If you want to become a successful leader, you need to learn from the greatest leader in world history.

What was it about Jesus that made Him the greatest leader of all time?

Jesus was a servant leader.

Jesus was God. He had unlimited power. He had unlimited resources. He had unlimited knowledge.

Instead of using His power, resources, and knowledge to serve Himself, He used these things to serve others.

He emptied Himself to make others successful. He sacrificed Himself to serve the needs of others.



What else made Jesus the greatest leader in world history?



John 8:1-12

1 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

2 Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them.

3 Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst,
4 they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.
5 Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?"
6 This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.
7 So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first."
8 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.
9 Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.
10 When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?"
11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."
12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."
NKJV

Lessons from this story

1. **God is Holy, we are not!**

There is no one like God. God is a Spirit. He is eternal. He is omniscient. He is omnipresent. He is omnipotent. He is immutable. He is perfect in character. He is just. He is judge.

He will judge the dead according to our deeds. All the dead including you and me will stand before God and be judged according to our deeds. The prophets of the Jews called this day, the day of the Lord.

[Isaiah 13:6-11](#)

6 Wail, for the day of the Lord is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty.
7 Therefore all hands will be limp, Every man's heart will melt,
8 And they will be afraid. Pangs and sorrows will take hold of them; They will be in pain as a woman in childbirth; They will be amazed at one another; Their faces will be like flames.
9 Behold, the day of the Lord comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it.
10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not give their light; The sun will be darkened in its going forth, And the moon will not cause its light to shine.
11 "I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, And will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible."
NKJV

Where is this truth in this story? The pharisees believed these truths about God. Because of their prophets they expected a messiah born of the Jews to be the son of man who would

be the last voice of God before the day of the Lord. They expected the messiah to reward them because of their deeds and condemn all sinners to an everlasting punishment. They saw their job was to keep the law of Moses and to condemn those who did not. They thought they were the good guys.

Jesus showed them they were not the good guys. In fact, Jesus made it crystal clear that no one was worthy to judge this woman because all men are sinners.

Jesus said to a very proud rich religious young man there is only one that is good and that is God. (Luke 18:19)

Jesus said what the prophets said about people.

- David said there is none righteous, no not one. (Psalms 14:1-3)
- Isaiah said our version of righteousness is like filthy rags in God's sight. (Isaiah 64:6)
- Jeremiah said our heart is deceitfully wicked. (Jeremiah 17:9)

These words are true about the best person you know.

God did not have these men say this because we are not capable of doing good. Being a sinner does not mean we are not capable of doing good things. There are a lot of good sinners. Being a sinner means more than just sinning. Being a sinner means that by nature we are all born rebels against God. We are all insurrectionists against our creator.

Isaiah 53:6

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

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You can be a wonderful person who has done wonderful things, but if you would allow me to ask you a few questions, you would see that you have rebelled against God over and over to satisfy your own selfish desires.

What should happen to rebels?

If you worked for a successful business and you were a good employee with one exception. You decided that the rule about showing up on time did not apply to you. When it came to that rule, you decided you would show up when you want to. What do you deserve?

If you were good soldier with only one exception, you decided that you would obey your commanding officer about everything else but this, you are not going to stand the way he or she wants you to in formation. What do you deserve?

If you were good basketball player and you were a good team player with only one exception, you decided you are going to run the wind sprints that the coach wants the whole team to run at the end of every practice. What do you deserve?

Why would you have a different standard for the justice of almighty God who is Holy. Why would you think for one moment that it is not just for God to remove from His team everyone of us because we have rebelled against Him? How many times have you rebelled against God? No matter how good you think you are, you are a rebel against God. You have chosen to be your own boss repeatedly to satisfy your own selfish desires even though He created you and gave you life.

If you believe that there is only one eternal righteous God who created everything that exists, how can you deny that you have been a rebel? You must be blinded by pride and deceived by the devil.

Because God created you in His image, you know in your heart what I am saying is true. You know by the order in creation that there is an intelligent God that created all things. You know by your conscience that there is a moral order. But instead of being a humble servant to God, you have rebelled against Him over and over. How is that working out for you?

It is probably working out for you the same way it was working out for the self-righteous men and the prostitute in this story.

As a result of being born sinners and rebels against God, we are all perpetrators of injustice and victims of injustice!

We suffer from our rebellion against God. And when we attempt to judge others justly, we are not wise.

There are injustices that are more painful than others to its victims.

- I cannot imagine what it is like to suffer from the hands of a pedophile.
- I cannot imagine what it is like to suffer from rape.
- I cannot imagine what it is like to suffer from the murder of a loved one.
- I cannot imagine what it is like to suffer from racism.
- I cannot imagine what it is like to suffer from marital infidelity.

Whenever an injustice occurs it is natural for us to cry out for justice. There is nothing wrong with us to crying out for justice if we do it in a just way. In some situations, it would be wrong for us not to cry out for justice.

The problem is with our version of justice is that each one of us has within us an imperfect justice meter. That meter is not the same for every person; that justice meter is not the same for every family; that justice meter is not the same for every society; that justice meter is not the same for every government.

Because our justice meter is not perfect, we can be very unwise in the way we judge injustices and do a lot of damage to people. Once again, we are all fallen, selfish, and

emotional creatures, and as a result, left to our own judgment, we can demand more or less than what is just.

There is only one person that is perfectly just, and that one person is God. He is holy and we are not.

2. God is forgiving, and we are not!

Jesus is God. He did not condemn this woman. He sought to restore her. He said go and sin no more. That is restoration. Stop what you have been doing wrong and to the right thing moving forward.

How could Jesus be God and not condemn this woman?

How was this just? Consider what this woman had done with other men. Consider how she had been complicit in their sin. Consider how she had influenced others with her lifestyle. Consider how she had contributed to the immorality in her society. Consider how she had damaged the reputation of the Jews in the eyes of the Romans. Consider the shame and pain she had brought to her family. Consider what this woman had done to her own soul and her body that belonged to the God that created her.

How could Jesus be God and not condemn this woman?

If God is just, how was this just?



It was just that Jesus did not condemn this woman because He knew He was going to pay for her sins and the sins of the whole world.

Isaiah 53:1-6

The Sin-Bearing Messiah 53 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

2 For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.

3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.

5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

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There was not any injustice He could not forgive because He knew He was going to satisfy what is just for all sinners.

As a result,

- Jesus forgave those who betrayed Him. (The Jews, his family, and his disciples)
- Jesus forgave those who rejected Him. (The Jews and his family)
- Jesus forgave those who falsely accused Him. (The Jews, the Romans, and the apostle Paul)
- Jesus forgave those who physically assaulted Him. (The Jews and the Romans)
- Jesus forgave those who crucified Him. (The Jews and the Romans)

Jesus was a forgiving leader and sought to restore this woman because He knew He was going to pay for her sins. Justice would be served through Him.

God is forgiving, and we are not!

What happened to this woman?

We do not know for sure.

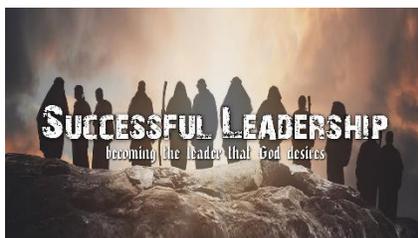
Here is what we can know for sure.

If she eventually understood what Jesus did for her and believed on Jesus for forgiveness of sins, she will be saved from judgment on the day of the Lord.

If she did not believe on Jesus for forgiveness of sins, she will be condemned on the day of the Lord.

If she eventually understood what Jesus did for her and believed on Jesus for forgiveness of sin, Jesus would change her.

- She would become a new creation in Christ.
- She would not want to continue in her sin.
- She would become a forgiving leader like Jesus.



Jesus was the greatest leader in world history.

Are you a forgiving leader like Jesus that is always seeking to restore people?

Or are you more like the Pharisees who thought they were the good guys and harshly judged others?

How do you become a forgiving leader like Jesus?

- **Salvation**
Experience the resurrection power of Jesus Christ
- **Surrender**
Surrender your purpose in life for His purpose for your life
- **Surround**
Surround yourself with people whose purpose is to follow Jesus

Spiritual growth is a process. If you are saved, if you surrender your life to God's purpose, and if surround yourself with people that are following Jesus, you will become a leader that forgives and restores like Jesus.

You will grow up into the mature man that God wants you to be.