

The following question was sent in response to the “dogma” letter. Below you will find the question and my reply.

*I understand what you're saying, but one thing has always bothered me...*

*If Jesus had to obey the first five books of Scripture, why wasn't the woman caught in the act of adultery put to death?*

The purpose of my letter was to expose “dogma” that has crept into our worldview. The word “dogma” is defined as a religious doctrine that is proclaimed as true without proof. So let me ask you a question. When was the last time you heard a sermon on Leviticus? Have you ever heard such a sermon? If not, then how can you be sure Yeshua didn't obey the instruction (which is what Torah means in Hebrew) given in Leviticus? If by chance you have heard such a sermon, how was Leviticus portrayed? Was it portrayed in a positive or negative way? It has been my experience that the “Old Testament” is viewed as having no value with the exception of the subject of “tithing” and a lot of great promises. The condition for receiving those promises, however, are conveniently omitted or explained away as being nailed to the cross (dogma) (Psalm 119:89-91).

Here is another interesting take on your question. Let's suppose that I am a Hebrew by birth and you are sharing the good news that the Messiah has come. You share with me the many signs and wonders Yeshua performed to validate His claims. You then walk me through various Scriptures regarding the prophecies fulfilled by Yeshua. It intrigues me enough that I start to read the Scriptures for myself and then I come to the passage found in John 8. I ask you the million dollar question. Did Yeshua break the Law? If your answer is, “Yes,” the spotless Lamb isn't spotless anymore and we have no hope of redemption. That, my friend, is one of the reasons why so few Torah observant Hebrews believe in the Messiah. We don't know our Scriptures. That's where I was several years ago, but I and others like me are willing to learn His Word and we have been meeting faithfully every Friday night at 7 PM to honor the One who commanded us to observe His Sabbath (Lev. 19:3).

Now regarding your specific question from John 8, please read Leviticus 20:10. You will see that the Torah required that both the male and female adulterer be put to death. It would be against the Torah to execute only one. Secondly, there has to be two or three witnesses to confirm a matter (Deut. 17: 6-7). No witnesses were presented, only an accusation. Therefore, the Messiah did not condemn her, based on a lack of evidence. Going back to the previous paragraph, you can now declare with confidence that Yeshua obeyed the Torah and He is the Spotless Lamb! Hallelujah!

My prayer for you can be found in Psalm 119:18.