

*When grace stoops for you, you have rest from fighting. You relax while you see victories being delivered to you without raising a sword or any weapons of warfare. God has the power to open prison doors.*

## **When Grace Stoops!**

By John Spencer, Jr.

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# WHEN GRACE STOOPS!

*God Advocates, Erases Judgment  
and Delivers Victory*

DR. BUKOLA OLUWADE

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## WHEN GRACE STOOPS

*But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning He came back into the temple [court], and all the people were coming to Him. He sat down and began teaching them. Now the scribes and Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery. They made her stand in the center of the court, and they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman has been caught in the very act of adultery. Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women [to death]. So what do you say [to do with her—what is your sentence]? ”<sup>6</sup> They said this to test Him, hoping that they would have grounds for accusing Him. But Jesus stooped down and began writing on the ground with His finger.<sup>7</sup> However, when they persisted in questioning Him, He straightened up and said, “He who is without [any] sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.”<sup>8</sup> Then He stooped down again and started writing on the ground (John 8:3-8).*

The story above has been much discussed among Bible scholars and ministers of the gospel. Jesus was teaching in the temple, having spent the previous night at the Mount of Olives. A group of scribes and Pharisees come to Jesus, interrupting his teaching session. They bring in a woman, accusing her of committing adultery, claiming she was caught in the very act.

They ask Jesus whether the punishment for someone like her should be stoning, as prescribed by the Mosaic Law. Here, the Pharisees are trying to trap Jesus. They present him with this woman, knowing that there is a penalty in place for those who commit adultery. The Law says she must be stoned, so Jesus has two options in response. He can agree with the Law, in which case he becomes a partner in her judgment and responsible for her death. On the other hand, he can disagree with the Law, telling them to let her go free, which would partially agree with his teachings but would lose the respect of the people and possibly lead to his crucifixion sooner.

At first, Jesus ignores the interruption and writes on the ground as though he does not hear them. But when the woman's accusers will not stop, he says that anyone without sin should be the first to cast a stone. The accusers leave one after the other, finally leaving Jesus alone with the woman. Jesus asks the woman if anyone among them has condemned her, and the woman replies that there was no condemnation from any of them. Jesus then tells her, "I do not condemn you either, go and sin no more."

It is indisputable that it takes two to commit a sin of adultery. Where was the man? Why was his name never mentioned? Why was he not apprehended and embarrassed like this woman? Why was she alone brought to Jesus for condemnation? One answer is that people will always have an opinion about you and do

everything to make others believe it. People will talk. They always have and always will. No matter what you do or say, how you behave, the way you walk or dress, how you act, or the decisions you make, you will always be scrutinized and judged by others. It's human nature. Like a pride of lions swooping in for the kill, they prey on the weak, looking for those they can taunt and torment. And it gets to us. We allow other people's opinions to not only hurt us, but to define us.

Look again at this passage. The woman's accusers said that she was caught in the act, meaning she was probably naked with the unknown man. Perhaps one of those who caught them said, "Give her something to cover her nakedness and let us drag her to Jesus for her final condemnation." She was probably so ashamed of herself, she could not look up, tears rolling down her cheeks like an uncontrolled water tap. They did not give her a chance to defend herself or spill a word in defense. Not a chance! Not a chance! In minutes she was standing before Jesus for her final judgment. Her palms was sweating with goose pimples all over her body, she stood before Jesus and the Pharisees; thinking it was going to be her last day. But she forgot the work of *grace*.

Grace was present at the place where she was caught, walked with her all the way into the Temple courts where Jesus was sitting, but did not stand by her side. Instead, grace was down with the Master as he drew! As the woman stood before Jesus, grace stoops and interceded. In response, Jesus wrote on the

sand, the case, the law and divine verdict. As Jesus was writing, grace was doing the work of *elimination by guilt*. While the accusers were asking Jesus all the questions, grace was the one answering them until Jesus said, “Okay People! I heard you, Let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone.”

Grace laughed! “I am winning.” Grace stooped and wrote “I am setting her free. I did not condemn her like you all did. She is mine, and no one has a voice on this matter because I am sufficient.”

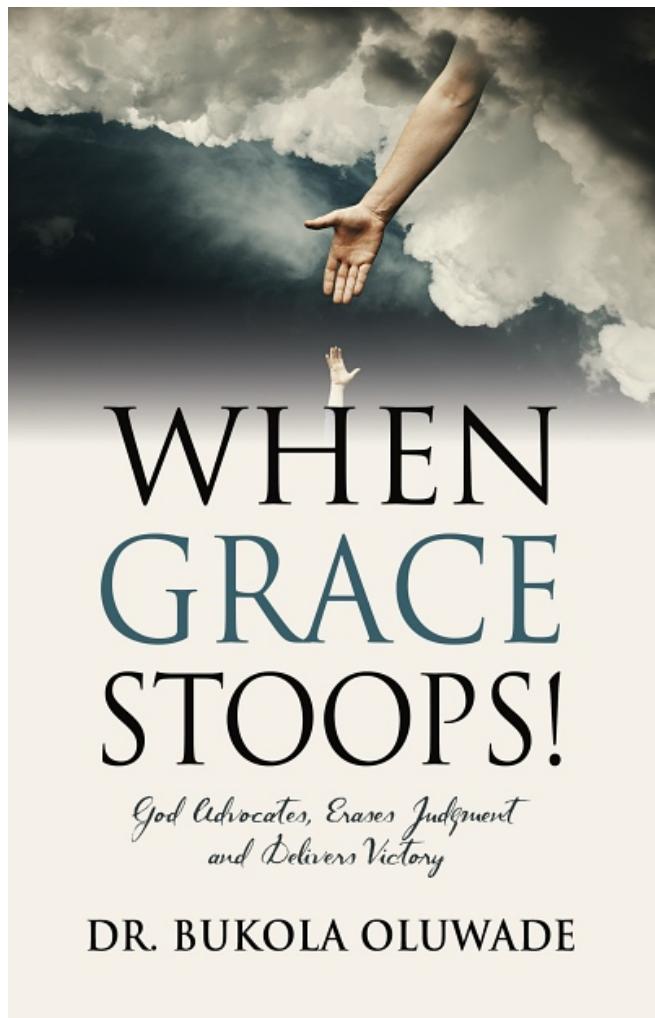
The moment the accusers saw the writing on the ground, they turned back one after another and left without saying a word.

### **GRACE STOOPS! GRACE WON!**

The woman was acquitted on all counts and discharged.

**PRAY WITH ME:**

1. Father, let your grace be sufficient for me in all areas of life.
2. Let all evil chapters the enemies have opened for my sake catch fire and be completely destroyed.
3. O Lord be my voice where I am not allowed to defend myself.
4. I receive grace for liberty, in Jesus' name.
5. I declare that all shame and reproach my accusers have planned for me will backfire and not stand.
6. Father, please stop all evil voices that has risen against me in condemnation and let them be permanently silenced, in Jesus name.
7. Lord, pull me out of the gathering of oppressors and put me in the midst of my destiny helpers, in Jesus name.  
Amen



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