HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN…

John 8:1-11

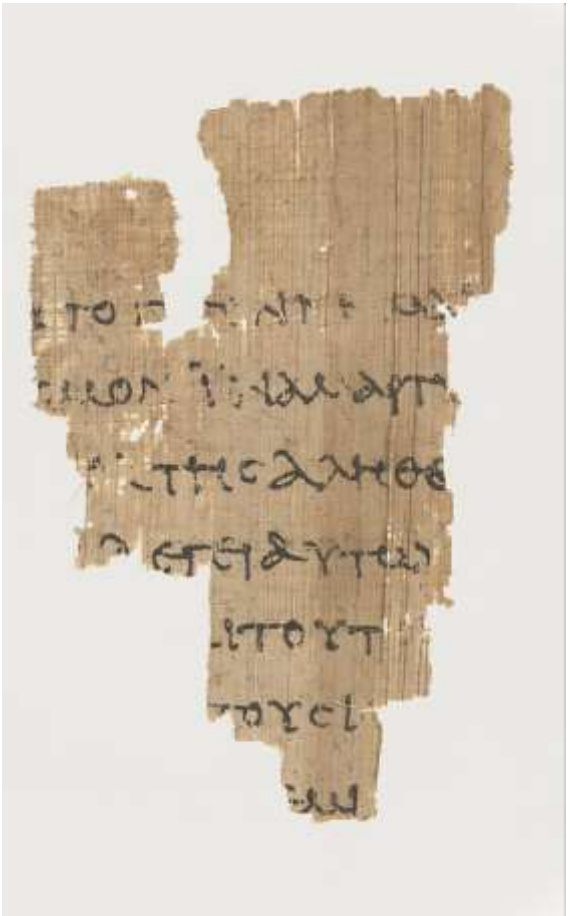
THE TEXT

- Does it belong in the Gospel of John?
- Oldest and most reliable manuscripts lack this section
- First appearance – around 5th century AD
- Interrupts the flow of thought from 7:52-8:12

Papyrus 66, AD 200

CONFIDENCE IN THE SCRIPTURES?

- Approx. 5800 Greek manuscripts
- 200k-400k differences (mostly minor)
- Ability to cross-examine the "witnesses"
- No bearing on foundational doctrine!



Papyrus 52, AD 100-175

PARALLELS TO JOHN 8:1-11

- Jesus teaches in the temple (Luke 19:47)
- Scribes and Pharisees attempt to trap Jesus (Matt. 19:3)
- Jesus answers wisely (Matt. 22:18)
- Jesus shows mercy to sinners (Luke 7:36-50)
- Jesus warns against future sin (John 5:14)

HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN…

- = "only those who are faultless have the right to pass judgment upon others (implying that no one is faultless and that, therefore, no one has such a right to pass judgment" (Wiktionary)

- Not Jesus' point –
  - Matthew 18:15
  - Jesus criticizes the Pharisees
  - Judging others for judging others?

HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN…

- Jesus exposes their hypocrisy
- What the Law said
  - Execution for adultery – Deut. 22:22, Lev. 20:10
  - Honest and pure justice – Deut. 17:7, Ex. 23:1
- Jesus calls out their cruelty, double standard, and malicious motives

AND TO THE WOMAN?

- Grace – "I don't condemn you"
- Warning – "Go and sin no more"
- God's grace convicts us of our sin and challenges us to live righteously (Titus 2:11-12)