The God of Second Chances

**1. The *trustworthiness* of the NT text**

A. Fears about the NT text are *unwarranted*

God has preserved the NT text because the manuscript variants don’t affect any doctrine.

B. This story was not in John’s *original text*

C. Most recognize this story as *authentic*

**2. The *testing* of Jesus by the Pharisees**

A. The *trap* they laid for Jesus

B. The *guilt* of the trap-setters

C. The *compassion* of Jesus

Compare Luke 7:36-50

**3. The *teaching* of the passage for us**

A. Sinners misunderstand delayed *judgment*

Psalm 50:21; Ecclesiastes 8:11; Matthew 24:48-49

B. God’s patience provides *second chances*

Isaiah 30:18; Romans 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9

C. God’s patience will have *an end*

Nahum 1:2-3

**For Private Meditation or Family Discussion**

1. How did the Lord speak to you through the message? Did He put His finger on any habits or attitudes that you need to change? Did He encourage you regarding some difficulty, move you to undertake some new challenge, or open your heart to some truth you hadn’t seen before?

2. Have you ever had a close call with death or disaster? If so, did that event cause you to consider the Lord’s protection of you? How did you respond to Him?

3. Have you ever (apparently) gotten away with doing something wrong? How did that affect your view of God’s holiness and His hatred of sin?

4. Why does God patiently wait to bring judgment on sinners (Romans 9:22-24)?