

JEW, PROPHET, CHRIST

JOHN 4:4-29

John 4:4 And he must needs go through Samaria. 5 Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. 6 Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour.

7 There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink. 8 (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.) 9 Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. 10 Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water. 11 The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water? 12 Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle? 13 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: 14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. 15 The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

16 Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither. 17 The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: 18 For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly. 19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. 21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. 25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. 26 Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

27 And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her? 28 The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, 29 Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

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Introduction

Once again we are looking at what should be a familiar passage. This is the story of an accidental encounter between Jesus Christ and a woman at a well.

For the woman, this was a chance meeting. But what she didn't know was that she was on Jesus' agenda for that day; "...he must needs go through Samaria." She was on Jesus heart and mind as they entered Sychar. Sychar is approximately 30 miles north of Jerusalem, right in the middle of Samaria.

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Samaria was anathema to the Jew. The Samaritans combined Judaism and historical paganism and therefore despised by the Jews. But, this was more than just lip service. If a Jew was traveling north out of Jerusalem, they would go east, cross over the Jordan river to avoid getting even dust of Samaria on their clothing. The Samaritan's only accepted the Law of Moses and rejected the remainder of the Old Testament.

Jesus and His followers are deep into Samaria at the sixth hour (noon). This is the heat of the day when most people were inside their homes.

You are a Jew

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Jesus found an opportunity to present the Gospel through something as simple as a daily task; drinking water.

Give me this Water

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She was simply living her life, day by day. She didn't even know she needed a Savior. But Jesus did.

John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Thou art a Prophet

16 Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither. 17 The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: 18 For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly. 19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.

Knowing, understanding and confessing her sin was the first step towards salvation.

Getting the Doctrine Right

20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.

She changes the subject when confronted with her sin.

21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

The Gospel presented to a religious person.

He is the Christ

25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. 26 Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

27 And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her? 28 The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, 29 Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

Here is the problem in a nutshell today. She knew about the Messiah, but she did not know him.

There are more bibles sold every year than any other book. There are thousands of books written about Jesus as the Messiah. We see a ramping up today of more movies concerning the Christ and yet, the world is ignorant of the Savior.

Conclusion

For the woman, this was a chance meeting. But what she didn't know was that she was on Jesus' agenda for that day; "...he must needs go through Samaria." She was on Jesus heart and mind as they entered Sychar.

The process of a lost man becoming a follower of Jesus Christ through salvation is neatly described by the Apostle John:

You have a need and may not yet know it.

There is a great reward for accepting Jesus Christ; salvation and the Holy Spirit

You must confess your sin and have faith, believing that Jesus is the Messiah

Salvation will come

The natural reaction is to tell somebody.

For the Christian today – use every available opportunity to tell somebody about Jesus Christ, where you work, shop, eat, play and visit. There are always opportunities to "Tell Somebody."