

John 4:1-26 – Water & Worship

Introduction: God's Progressive Redemptive Work

1. The Samaritan Woman is Empty
2. Divine Providence: Jesus seeks her out
3. Divine Revelation: Jesus is revealed to her (Jewish Man, Greater than Jacob, Prophet, Messiah)
4. Divine Conviction: Jesus surgically exposes her sin to the light
5. Divine Grace: Jesus reveals to her that He is the Messiah

Main Idea: Jesus is the Living Water, the Messiah, who breaks through impenetrable barriers to quench the soul's thirst with eternal life and makes true worship of God possible.

WATER

Jesus is the Living Water (vv 1-15)

1. Jesus leaves Judea – Pharisees knew he was making and baptizing more disciples than John (1-3)
 - a. Why Jesus left is not explained to us – Jesus headed north
 - b. Jesus went straight through Samaria when most would have gone around – Jews and Samaritans did not get along
2. Divine Providence: Jesus HAD to pass through Samaria (4)
3. The Context of the Setting (5-6)
 - a. Samaritans are descendents of the Schechemites
 - b. Rich Redemptive History took place here: Joseph's field, Jacob's well
 - c. The Humanity of Jesus: He was weary and thirsty
4. The Samaritan Woman comes alone at Midday to Draw water
 - a. She is an Outcast, the Prodigal Daughter
 - b. Jesus speaks to her – “give me a drink” (7-8)
5. Jesus challenges Social Barriers: Critic of Human Tradition (9)
 - a. Gender Barrier: Jesus, a man, speaks to a Woman
 - b. Ethnic Barrier: A Jew speaks to a Samaritan
 - c. Historical Barrier: 722 BC Assyrian Empire wiped out the N. Kingdom of Israel and resettled the land w/foreigners
 - i. These foreigners intermarried with the poor Israelites, producing the Samaritans
 - d. Religious Barrier: Samaritans only accepted the first five books of the Bible: The Pentateuch
 - e. Social Barrier: The Jews and Samaritans hated each other
 - f. Samaritans were ceremonially unclean, racially impure, & religiously heretical – And yet Jesus talked to her
6. The Deity of Jesus: The Gift of Eternal Life is offered to her (Living water): Only God can Grant Eternal Life (10)
 - a. Jesus makes the dirty, dangerous – clean

7. Jesus is Greater than the Patriarchs: The woman is confused by Jesus, thinks he is literal rather than figurative (11-12)
8. The Living Water: The soul thirsts, for it is empty; Only God can satisfy the soul with eternal life in Jesus Christ (13-14)
 - a. The soul is idolatrous and replaces God (**Jer 2:12-13**)
 - b. Eternal Life and Joy are found only in God (**Isaiah 12:3**)
9. The woman wants this water to never thirst again (15)

WORSHIP

Jesus is the Prophet (vv 16-20)

1. Jesus is Candid with the Samaritan Woman (16-18)
 - a. Jesus surgically exposes and convicts her with the truth of her sin = what is in her and who she truly is
 - b. Today: Cheap Grace: forgiveness without repentance, compassion w/o integrity, tolerance w/o discipline
 - c. Coming to Jesus means dealing with your sin: exposure to the Light in order to be cleansed; to sanctify
 - d. Jesus disturbs the comfortable before He comforts the disturbed: Jesus goes to the heart of the Samaritan Woman
2. The Samaritan Woman changes the Subject: She does not want her dark heart exposed to the Light (**John 3:20**) (19-20)
 - a. Calls Jesus a prophet and asks a question on worship, Is it in Jerusalem at Mt Zion or in Samaria at Mt Gerizim?
 - b. Samaritans only recognize the *Torah*, ignoring what the rest of Scripture says about Jerusalem (**Deut 11:29, 12:5**)

Jesus is the Savior Making True Worship Possible (vv 21-24)

1. Location doesn't matter anymore, Jesus is the Temple (**Jn 2:19**)
 - a. She focuses on externals, Jesus focuses on the internal
 - b. She focuses on father Jacob, Jesus focuses on THE Father
 - c. She focuses on location of worship, Jesus focuses on Who
2. Jesus tells her that the Jews are Correct (**see Psalm 76:1**)
 - a. Salvation is of the Jews: A Messiah has come to make true worship of God possible by the sinner
 - b. No true religion or worship without Jesus (**John 5:23**)
3. True Worship requires new birth (**Jn 3:6**), embracing Jesus as the sum of all truth, the indwelling Spirit of God
4. The Father SEEKS those who will worship Him (Jesus did this with the Samaritan Woman from the beginning)

Jesus is the Messiah (vv 25-26)

1. The woman suspects Jesus might be the Messiah (25)
2. Jesus responds *Ego eimai* – I am
3. The Divine Work of Grace: Jesus makes the untouchable outcast clean – and she must go and tell it (**John 4:39**)