



Worshipping The Father In Spirit And In Truth

“When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John. (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples). He left Judea, and departed again into Galilee. And he must needs go through Samaria” (John 4: 1-4).

It is important to understand the context in which Jesus decided to leave Judea. He left the shores of Judea for Galilee. It was a sudden but necessary decision that Jesus took. The decision to leave was precipitated by actions of the Pharisee who sought to poison the air by creating an atmosphere of strife and division between John the Baptist and our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus realized that the Pharisees were keeping count of the baptisms that he and John had performed, although his disciples, not Jesus, did the actual baptizing. The Pharisees had created the impression that Jesus was ahead of John in the number of people baptized, thereby turning Jesus and John into rivals in the eyes of the people. Jesus immediately realized that this was not a good situation and he took the decision to leave that vicinity with his disciples. The devil wanted to create a situation of rivalry between Jesus and John so that the work of God will be hindered but Jesus quickly took steps to nip that in the bud.

This trip that Jesus embarked upon from Judea to Galilee through Samaria turned out to be one of the most important trips Jesus ever undertook. Jesus made one of the most important declarations in the scripture during his encounter with the woman of Samaria on this trip. It is important to note that this trip was triggered by a seeming attack on Jesus by the enemy. It was the pressure that the devil sought to bring on Jesus that triggered this trip. The devil wanted to use the people around in Judea at that time to create animosity between Jesus and John. This was a non-issue because Jesus did not actually baptize people, it was his

disciples that did, even if he did, it was the same spirit that was working in John the Baptist and Jesus. They were both working for the same kingdom, as John himself had testified that Jesus is the Christ who baptizes with the holy spirit and fire “John answered them saying, I baptized with water: but there standeth one among you, whom ye knew not; he it is, who is coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe’s latchet I am not worthy to unloose (John 1: 26-27).

The Lord Discerned a Spirit of Dissention

There are two things we must learn from our Lord’s experience in this situation. The first was that he discerned very quickly the intent of the Pharisees to create division between him and John in the eyes of the people. He saw an attempt by the Pharisees to sow the seed of bitterness between him and John and immediately he resisted it. The spirit of discernment is very crucial in our walk with the Lord in these last days. As many as are led by the spirit are the sons of the God. We need to be very discerning in our walk with the Lord in these last days. It is important that we walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. We must understand what the will of the Lord is in every circumstance and be wise in our decisions (Ephesians 5: 15-18). The servant of the Lord must not strife. We must not walk in strife and envying. We must walk honestly and not encourage any temptation to walk in strife (Romans 13:13). Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves (Philippians 2:3).

The second lesson for us to learn is the fact that Jesus would rather defer to John by leaving that vicinity with his disciples so as not to allow the enemy to sow any seed of dissent in the heart of the people. This shows the sensitivity of our Lord. Jesus was so sensitive that he decided to leave Judea and headed for Galilee without delay. He did this in order to change the narrative. He took physical steps by changing location in order to diffuse the plan of the enemy. Sometimes we have to take physical steps to break the chain of the enemy’s plot. We have to be willing to let go of our rights sometimes to allow peace to prevail. We have to be willing to defer to one another so that the truth can prevail. We must be willing to reach out to one another in the spirit of forgiveness so that peace can prevail.

Jesus had to Pass through Samaria

Jesus decided to leave Judea and to head for Galilee. In order to arrive at Galilee, he had to pass through Samaria. “He left Judea, and departed again into Galilee. And he must needs go through Samaria. 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” (John 4: 3-5). Going through Samaria was still part of the humbling process. It was one of the difficult things that Jesus had to do. The Jews typically have no dealings with the Samaritans, yet Jesus had to overcome this obstacle, and not behave like a typical Jew. Samaria means mountain, it means a watch mountain that Jesus had to go through in order to fulfill God’s purpose.

For some of us, we too, have to go through our Samaria, where we have to give up our biases and our prejudices to walk in the will of the Lord. Jesus knew that going through Samaria meant breaking a glass ceiling of tradition, he knew it meant trampling on the pride of the Jewish people, and submitting totally and absolutely to will of the father. That was what going through Samaria meant for him. Not only did he come to Samaria he came to a city of Samaria called “Sychar” near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Sychar means **end**. It means an end to an era, an end a particular way of seeing and doing things, an end to an old way of life, an end to a particular kind of ministry. Jesus came to the end of himself, he came to the end of a chapter in his ministry, he came to the end of the road so that a better road can open up. Sychar means end. God is bringing us to the end of our

knowledge and understanding, our ways of doing things. He is bringing us to the end of our ability, so that he can show his strength on our behalf.

Jesus Became Wearied with His Journey

“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” (John 4:6). It was significant that when he got to a city of Samaria called Sychar near the parcel of land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph where Jacob’s well was, **he being wearied with his journey sat on the well**. There are a number of things we must learn from this action of Jesus.

The first point is that Jesus was tired and and got wearied with his journey at this point. It is important to note that the scriptures mention that Jesus was wearied with his journey when he got to Sychar. Could it be that Jesus the Son of God can be tired and exhausted? Here we see Jesus who is our great high priest is touched with the feelings of our infirmities; he was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15). This means that Jesus was subjected to everything we are subjected to today as humans. He was tempted in every way we are tempted today. He understood what it means to be tempted. He understood what it meant to be tired and wearied. He understood what we feel when we have our backs to the wall and our setbacks.

Despite the fact that Jesus was the son of God, he got to a point in his life that he got wearied with his journey. As fellow pilgrims, things really get to us on our journey of life as children of God, and we despair of our journey, we get dejected, tired, and exhausted because of many things that we may be experiencing. We must remember that our master was tired and exhausted at some point as well. He understands how we feel because he is touched with the feelings of our infirmities, and in all points he has been tempted just like we all have been tempted. He is in the best position to see us through if we trust him and cast all our cares on him. When Jesus said come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light (Mathew 11:28-30), he knew what he was saying.

Jesus understands what you and I may be going through. He knows exactly where the shoe may be hurting because he has been there before. He is meek and lowly in heart. He knows what it means to be tired and wearied with the journey of life. Sometimes our individual life’s journey can be long and difficult, and we may feel like giving up on the way because of the myriads of difficulties that we encounter on the road. Sometimes no one around us understands what we are going through but Jesus does. He is able to see us through and to give us total victory. I Peter 5:7 says casting all your cares upon him; for he careth for you.

Jesus Sat on the Well at About the Sixth Hour

“.....Jesus sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour” (John 4:6). In order to get some respite from his weariness from the journey Jesus immediately sat on the well. This well was going to be the subject of discussion between Jesus and the woman of Samaria. It is prophetically significant that Jesus sat on the well at the time that he did. He sat on the well at about the sixth hour. He sat on the well as if to say that this is the end of a chapter. The sitting of Jesus on the well is a public announcement of the fact that a chapter is ending here, a dimension of ministry is ending here.

The well represents a source of life, it’s the place where men drank from whenever they became thirsty. The well here represents a source of ministry that the people received and drank from but Jesus seem to be saying that this level of ministry cannot lead us to fullness. We cannot enter into perfection if we remain at this level of ministry. He sat on the well to

signify a closure of that realm of ministry. It was Jacob's well. Jacob himself drank from the well, his children and his cattle all drank from the well but that well is no longer sufficient to quench the thirst of the people Jesus seem to be saying.

The other thing that is very significant is the timing of this declaration made by our Lord Jesus when he sat on the well. The bible says it was about the sixth hour when Jesus sat on that well. This timing is not accidental, it was divine timing. He sat on the well about the sixth hour. Six, as we all know is the number of man. Man was created on the sixth day. God worked for six days, and he created man on the sixth day. God rested on the seventh day. The seventh day is the Sabbath of God, it signifies the rest of God. "For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. And in this place again, if they shall enter into my rest. Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief.....There remaineth therefore a rest for the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief" (**Hebrews 4: 4-6, 9-11**).

Prophetically we are standing today in the sixth hour, in the sixth day. We are standing today in the eve of the seventh day. We are in a transition. There remains, therefore, a rest for the people of God, we must labour to enter into that rest. The Lord is in the process of bringing us into a new level of ministry, he is moving us away from the ministry of Jacob's well where we get thirsty again each time we drink from that well. He is moving us into a level of ministry where we shall not thirst any more, a level of ministry where out of our bellies shall flow springs of living water. God wants to bring us into total rest in ministry where we no longer struggle in ministry. It is no longer going to be by might or by power but it is going to be by his spirit only. The lord alone will work in us to will and to do his good pleasure

The ministrations that came out of Jacob's well for six thousand years had some value (typified by the fact that Jesus sat on the well on the sixth hour). It met the needs of the people up to a point. Jacob himself drank from that well, his entire household and his cattle drank from this same well. It had some value but it was limited. Every time they drank from that well they were revived and felt well, but shortly after, the euphoria disappears and they are back to square one, the thirst returns. Each time the thirst returns they have to go back to the well to drink more water, but Jesus is saying to us a new day is here. Jesus is offering us a new life in him, he is offering us a living water, and whosoever drinks of this water shall never thirst again, but this water shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life (**John 4: 14**). Are we ready to partake of this living water?

Jesus Reached out to the Samaritan Woman

"There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, give me to drink" (**John 4:7**). It is important to know that Jesus reached out to this Samaritan woman first. Jesus requested water from the Samaritan woman. This extraordinary step by Jesus in asking the Samaritan woman for water is better understood when one considers the background that the Jews generally have no transactions or dealings with the Samaritans. It is unthinkable to find a Jew interacting with a Samaritan in the public, not to talk of actually begging for water from a Samaritan woman. But Jesus showed us the way here, he gave us a powerful principle here – we need to build bridges. We need to reach out first and connect with people no matter their background, no matter who they are.

Jesus broke all human barriers in his ministry. Jesus reached out to the sinners out where the sinners were "For John came neither eating and drinking, and they say, He hath a devil.

The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified in her children” (Mathew 11: 18-19). The woman of Samaria was touched by the action of Jesus “Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, how is it that thou, being a Jew, asketh drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? For the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans” (John 4:9). This became the opportunity that Jesus was waiting for to open up a profound discussion with this woman that will eventually transform her life “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 wouldst have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water” (John 4:10).

The woman of Samaria marveled at the response of Jesus Christ. She said to Jesus, thank you sir for your response and for talking to me, but you don’t seem to have anything in your hands to draw water from the well seeing that the well is quite deep, where then do you intend to get the living water from (John 4:11). She went further by asking Jesus are you greater than our father Jacob who also drank from this well, and his children and cattle also drank from the well. “Jesus answered and said unto her, whoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: but whosever 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” (John 4: 13-14).

Go Call Your Husband

“The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw. Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither” (John 4: 15-16). It is very instructive for us to note the way the woman instinctively asked Jesus for this water. She didn’t understand how this will work but she knew she needed something deeper than what she had and what she always knew. The way she opened up and asked the Lord for this water is an indication of the level of need in her life. She knew deep in her heart that she needed help. She has lived a life that is bottled up in problems, and she was yearning for some kind of help. When she saw the ray of light in what Jesus was offering it wasn’t difficult for her to immediately ask Jesus for help.

The situation of this Samaritan woman gives us an indication of the need that many people are carrying in their personal lives. Getting involved in religious activity like this woman did could not help her. Her involvement in religious activities did not change the fact that she had problems in her family life. She needed a personal encounter with the Lord beyond the religious activity of having to drink from the well. Jesus came for the lost sheep of the house of Israel, it is only those who are sick that need the physician. Jesus said come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light (Mathew 11: 28-30).

Jesus went for the gut issue, he asked this woman to go call her husband and to bring him (John 4:16). Jesus put his finger on the problem even though he never met this woman before. She was surprised that Jesus could ask her such a question, she answered by saying to Jesus I have no husband. But Jesus replied her by saying to her, you have had five husbands, and your present husband is not yours. At some points in our lives we all have to face the gut issues in our lives. We need to square up with God, and open up to him so he can help us and give us total victory. He that covers his sins shall not prosper but he that confesses and forsakes them shall find mercy and help (Proverbs 28: 13). The woman was surprised at the response of our Lord Jesus Christ. “The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a Prophet. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain, and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship” (John 4: 19-20). This was the beginning of the transformation that took place in this woman’s life and sparked off the

mighty revival that came to Samaria. She was concerned about religious activities such as where to worship, whether to worship in this mountain or to go to Jerusalem. But these are the things she has been involved in all her life but they didn't make any difference in her life.

True Worshipers Shall Worship The Father In Spirit and In Truth

"Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when true worshippers shall worship the father in spirit and in truth: for the father seeketh such to worship. God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4: 21-24). These words coming from our Lord Jesus are defining words. The hour is coming and now is that hour come when true worshippers will worship the father in spirit and in truth. This takes the worship of the father away from physical and mundane things such as religious rites and activities. The worship of the father will no longer be tied to locations or specific sites for the God that we serve is a spirit, and they that will worship him shall worship him in spirit and in truth.

It's a new day, and there is a call for us to walk in the spirit and not by religious dogmas and traditions. God is seeking for men and women who will truly worship him in spirit and in truth, men who will learn to listen to the spirit and walk in the spirit "There is therefore no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death... that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit" (Romans 8: 1-3,4).

Paul was very clear about this when he said in Philippians Chapter 3 verse 3 "For we are the circumcision, **which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh**". There is no place for the arm of the flesh, and the traditions of men in the worship of God in these end times. Paul listed all his credentials in the flesh but none of them qualified him to worship the Father in the spirit "Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more; circumcised on the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, and Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ" (Romans: 4-7). Paul's desire was for him to be found in Christ not having his own righteousness which is of the law, but that which is through faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.

Come, See A Man, Who Told Me All Things I Ever Did

"The woman saith unto him, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. Jesus saith unto her, **I that I speak unto thee am he**.....The woman left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ? (John 4: 25-26, 28-29).

After an encounter with Jesus the woman left her waterpot behind, she left her pride behind as it were, she threw her tradition behind, and every other thing that could hinder her and embraced the message that Jesus brought to her. She ran into the city to tell everyone that cared to listen to her story of what Jesus did in her life. This was the beginning of a mighty revival in that region. We need to lay aside every encumbrance that may hinder us in our walk with the Lord, and run this race with perseverance, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

One woman who appeared weak and helpless became the tool that God used for this mighty revival. It doesn't matter if we consider ourselves as failures, or as outcasts, as long as we are ready to open up our lives to God, He is able to turn our situation right around. This same woman who was timid, who considered it a shame that she did not have good family life became a fiery evangelist after her encounter with Jesus. The Lord can turn your own situation right around no matter what you may be going through.

We need to come to a point where we can say to Jesus like this Samaritan Woman Sir, give me to drink. We need to come to Jesus sincerely and with an open heart holding nothing back and we shall find help "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the Lord: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the lord; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused to be carried away captive" ([Jeremiah 29:13-14](#)).

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