

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN: JOHN 4:1-15

1 Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John 2 (although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples), 3 he left Judea and departed again for Galilee. 4 And he had to pass through Samaria. 5 So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. 7 A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." 8 (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." 11 The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." 13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." 15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."
John 4:1-15 ESV

4 OBSERVATIONS ABOUT JOHN 4

1. Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well takes up 42 verses compared to Nicodemus's encounter which takes up only 21 verses.
2. The woman at the well was not a Jew. - "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believes in him will not perish but have everlasting life." John is strictly alluding to the reality that the reason that Jesus came into this creation was to bear the sins of the WORLD, to take away the sins of the WORLD, as an offer of salvation to the WORLD... not ALL men without EXCEPTION but ALL men without DISTINCTION.
3. The encounter with the woman at the well is a part of a series of stories that goes all the way back to John Chapter 2 showing that, "Jesus knew what was in man."
4. These two encounters back to back are the perfect case study of two people who could not be more opposite of each other.

36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

John 3:36 ESV

HISTORY/CONTEXT

He [Jesus] left Judea and departed again for Galilee [at the northern end]. And he had to pass through Samaria. [right in the middle] So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there;

In Chapter 4:34, Jesus says, "My food... is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work." I believe that the text infers that: Jesus had an appointment at a well, with a woman at 6th hour (at noon) on a God ordained day. That appointment was from eternity past for the salvation of this woman's soul.

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM

Q. 27. Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist?

A. Christ's humiliation consisted in his being born, and that in a low condition (Luke 2:7; 2 Cor 8:9†; Gal 4:4†), made under the law (Gal 4:4), undergoing the miseries of this life (Isa 53:2-3; Luke 9:58†; John 4:6†; 11:35†; Heb 2:18†; 12:2-3), the wrath of God (Luke 22:44; Ps 22:1†; Matt 27:46; Isa 53:10†; 1 John 2:2†), and the cursed death of the cross (Gal 3:13†; Phil 2:8); in being buried (1 Cor 15:3-4), and continuing under the power of death for a time (Matt 12:40†; Acts 2:24-27, 31).

There were three reasons, why Jesus should never have said a word to this individual.

Number one, **he was a Jew** and she was a Samaritan. ("Jews had no dealings [usings] with Samaritans.")

— **There is massive racial tension here.**

Number two, **Jesus was a man** and she was a woman

— **There is massive cultural tension here.**

Finally, **she was an immoral woman** and Jesus was a Jewish Rabbi.

— **There is massive religious tension here.**

This woman was ignorant of two things: 1) Her need for salvation & 2) Who it is she was speaking too.

PHYSICAL THIRST

There is a physical thirst and the water that quenches it. There will always be a constant cycle of thirst, quench, thirst, quench. We thirst and temporarily quench it and are forced to return to the source of refreshment again. That is exactly why the woman came to this well in the first place. For her, she understood that physical water quenches physical thirst but NOT fully, NOT finally and NOT forever.

SPIRITUAL THIRST We are spiritually DEAD creatures, created to LIVE forever. This tension creates in us a deep thirst. The issue for humanity is that we are often unable to tell the difference between our spiritual thirst and physical thirst and in reality are blind to the fact that a spiritual thirst even exists. **This “living water” that Jesus offers quenches our spiritual thirst FULLY, FINALLY & FOREVER.**

“Our spirit craves for something more than time nor sense can yield it. Nothing which comes of earth, even if it should yield a transient satisfaction, can long maintain its excellence.”

- Charles Spurgeon

We always revert to telling ourselves that there must be something more. Man is an insatiable creature. Why? Because we were created for eternity! We were not created for this ephemeral reality called earth. Everything around us is decaying. It's obedient to the natural laws of this world. **They were not meant to satisfy a creature that will far outlive it.** All of us will! Everyone will live forever, either in heaven or in hell, because all of mankind is an eternal being.

And here is what happens: man walks around and is constantly looking for something to satisfy in any way possible; whether it be fame, or riches, or fleshly pleasure or anything else under the sun. See, too often though, **we try to satisfy a spiritual thirst with a carnal appetite.**

“No man is so poor, so low, so narrow in capacity, so limited in heart and head, but he needs a whole God to make him restful. Nothing else will. To seek for satisfaction elsewhere is like sailors who in their desperation, when the water-tanks are empty, slake their thirst with the treacherous blue that washes cruelly along the battered sides of their ship. A moment's alleviation is followed by the recurrence, in tenfold intensity, of the pangs of thirst, and by madness, and death. Do not drink the salt water that flashes and rolls by your side when you can have recourse to the fountain of life that is with God.”

- Charles Spurgeon

“For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.”

Jeremiah 2:13 ESV

“There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repents.”

Luke 15:10 ESV

FIRST RESPONSE - COFFEE WITH THE PASTORS

DAY/TIME	LEADERS	LOCATION	CONTACT INFO
The First Sunday of Every Month at 7PM	Joel Webbon Rony Renfrow Stacy Craft	3240 Lowell St San Diego, CA 92106	469-487-6298 joel@theresponsechurch.com

MISSIONAL COMMUNITIES

DAY/TIME	LEADERS	LOCATION	CONTACT INFO
Tuesday at 7PM	Joel & Megan Webbon	3240 Lowell St San Diego, CA 92106	469-487-6298 joel@theresponsechurch.com
Wednesday at 7PM	Jacob & Ally Merkey	3062 Malaga St. San Diego, CA 92110	713-385-6940 jacob@theresponsechurch.com
Thursday at 7PM	Rony & Danielle Renfrow	1676 Chatsworth Blvd San Diego, CA 92107	925-348-0128 rony@theresponsechurch.com
Thursday at 7PM	Stacy Craft	3328 Stern St. San Diego, CA 92106	704-778-2609 stacy@theresponsechurch.com