

THE WELL 1: A LOVE THAT REACHES

John 4:1-15

January 8, 2022

JESUS REACHES THROUGH CIRCUMSTANCE TO PROVIDE PRESENCE

John 4:1-7 - ¹Now 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), ³he left Judea and departed again for Galilee. ⁴And he had to pass through Samaria. ⁵So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. ⁷A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."

DIVINITY + HUMANITY ORCHESTRATES MOMENT

v.1-2 - ADD PERSONATION

v.4 - GEOGRAPHY / GOD'S WILL

v.5-6A - HISTORY

- Genesis 48:21-22 - Then Israel said to Joseph, "Behold, I am about to die, but God will be with you and will bring you again to the land of your fathers. Moreover, I have given to you rather than to your brothers one mountain slope that I took from the hand of the Amorites with my sword and with my bow."
- Joshua 24:32 - As for the bones of Joseph, which the people of Israel brought up from Egypt, they buried them at Shechem, in the piece of land that Jacob bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for a hundred pieces of money. It became an inheritance of the descendants of Joseph.

v.6-7 - HUMANITY (STILL THIRSTY)

I USED TO
ROLL MY EYES...
NOW I LOOK
FOR PROVISION.

- WATCHFUL OVER BAD, BUT ALSO FOR GOOD.
- THE LOVE + PRESENCE OF GOD REACHES THRU CIRCUMSTANCES... ARE YOU ALREADY?

JESUS REACHES THROUGH STEREOTYPES TO PROVIDE TRUTH

John 4:7-10 - ⁷A 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.) ⁹The 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.) ¹⁰Jesus 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."

v.9 - SHE COULD TELL

- King Omri named the new capital of the northern kingdom 'Samaria' (1 Kings 16:24), which name was then transferred to the district and sometimes to the entire northern kingdom.
- After the Assyrians captured Samaria in 722-721BC, they deported all the Israelites of substance and settled the land with foreigners, who intermarried with the surviving Israelites and adhered to some form of their ancient religion (2 Ki. 17-18).
- After the exile, Jews returning to their homeland, the remains of the southern kingdom, viewed the Samaritans not only as the children of political rebels but as racial half-breeds whose religion was tainted by various unacceptable elements.
- About 400 BC the Samaritans erected a rival temple on Mount Gerizim, toward the end of the second century BC this was destroyed by John Hyrcanus, the Hasmonean ruler in Judea.
- This combination of events fueled religious and theological animosities. Certainly by the first century the Samaritans had developed their own religious heritage based on the Pentateuch (they did not accept the other books of the Hebrew Bible as canonical), continuing to focus their worship not on Jerusalem and its temple but on Mount Gerizim. A small number of Samaritans survives to this day.

WE DON'T DOB = PRACTICAL

HISTORICAL/THEOLOGICAL

RACE: no dealings = don't touch utensils

GENDER: "perpetual menstruation" always ceremonially unclean

CHARISM BREAKS THRU STEREOTYPES TO OFFER TRUTH

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

Ec. 1:17, Ezek. 47:9 - L.W. Jan Jonsson

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause. Isaiah 1:16-17 **CLEANSE**

- INVITATION TO GOD'S RESTORATION/GUO, NO MATTER BACKGROUND
- TRANSCENDS CULTURAL BARRIERS, NOT TO MENT RESERVES OF WATER, BUT OFFER TRUTH.

JESUS REACHES THROUGH OBJECTIONS TO PROVIDE LIFE

John 4:11-15 - ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but 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." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

OBJECTIIONS

If there is "living water", you don't appear able to provide

- You have no tools (means to offer relief)
- The well is deep (ability to offer relief)
- Not Jacob, who are you? (influence to offer relief)

Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." Jeremiah 31:31-34

Law

Refine

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. Ezekiel 36:25-28

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips, when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me. Psalm 63:1-8

GIVE + TAKE