

SPIRIT AND TRUTH

“DRAW NEAR” SERIES || PART 2 OF 7

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JOHN 4:3-42 (EXCERPTS)

...he had to go through Samaria...

The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?”...

Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water...**whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life...**Go, call your husband and come back.”

“I have no husband,” she replied.

Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband...a time is coming and has now come when the **true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.**”

...Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony... And because of his words many more became believers...

IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH?

IN SPIRIT

JOHN 3:2-7 NLT

...Humans can reproduce only human life...**the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life...**

JOHN 1:12-13 NLT

...to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God...

JOHN 6:63-65 NLT

“The Spirit alone gives eternal life... the very words I have spoken to you **are spirit and life...**”

JOHN 20:21-22 NLT

“...he breathed on them and said, **“Receive the Holy Spirit.”**

JOHN 16:13-14 NLT

“...the Spirit of truth...will guide you into all truth...**He will bring me glory** by telling you whatever he receives from me.”

IN TRUTH

JOHN 14:6 NLT

SEE ALSO: JOHN 5:23, JOHN 5:42-43, JOHN 8:19, JOHN 8:42

...**“I am the way, the truth, and the life.** No one can come to the Father except through me.”

JOHN 8:31-32 NLT

“if you remain faithful to **my teachings**...you will know the truth, and **the truth will set you free.**”

**IN SPIRIT: THE SPIRIT LIVES IN ME BY FAITH IN JESUS & AWAKENS ME
TO WORSHIP GOD – SPIRITUALLY ALIVE!**

**IN TRUTH: JESUS IS TRUTH! AS I GROW IN VULNERABILITY & UNDERSTANDING
I WORSHIP WITH TRUE FREEDOM!**

5 QUICK QUESTIONS:

1. He’s _____ for us! **Are we looking for Him?** **SEE JEREMIAH 29:13**
2. He’s not worried about your _____ as much as your posture! **So how’s your posture?**
3. The Spirit produces life! **Is there _____ in my worship?**
4. The Truth produces freedom! **Is there _____ in my praise?**
5. **Do you worship like you’ve found the One Source of living water?**

ON YOUR OWN:

WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT THE SAMARITANS?

2 KINGS 17:6-7, 24, 33 NIV

(In 722BC)...**the king of Assyria captured Samaria** and deported the Israelites to Assyria...⁷ All this took place **because the Israelites had sinned against the LORD** their God...²⁴ **The king of Assyria brought people from Babylon, Kuthah, Avva, Hamath and Sepharvaim and settled them in the towns of Samaria to replace the Israelites.** They took over Samaria and lived in its towns...³³ They worshiped the LORD, but **they also served their own gods** in accordance with the customs of the nations from which they had been brought...

After King David, who had killed Goliath and later succeeded King Saul, his son Solomon reigned on the throne of Israel. Though Solomon began his reign with devotion, his heart turned away in his later years. He took many wives from neighboring lands and allowed them to continue serving their demonic gods. **As a result of his divided heart, God divided Solomon's kingdom but waited to do so after his son, Rehoboam took the throne.**

The split to the south was led by Rehoboam and called Judah (named after David's tribe and including his family). **Included in this Southern Kingdom were the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, with some Levites** also aligning with Judah.

The split to the north was led by Jeroboam, a man appointed by God through the prophet Ahijah to lead the northern tribes. However, Jeroboam quickly led Israel into idolatry by establishing false worship centers in Bethel and Dan. **This Northern Kingdom was called 'Israel' and included the 10 other tribes of the nation.** Both the Southern and Northern Kingdoms were idolatrous and fell into the hands of their enemies, Judah later than Israel.

When the Northern Kingdom, Israel, repeatedly ignored the ways and warnings of God for generations, they were given over to their enemies. **The Assyrians conquered the 10 tribes of the Northern Kingdom of Israel.** Though some individuals may have resettled or preserved their identity, most were scattered and permanently assimilated into their new homelands. **They have been largely lost to history, though the Bible speaks of their return or identification,** maybe symbolically, **at the end of time** in the book of Revelation.

THE ROOTS OF THE SAMARITANS: The handful of Israelites that remained in the land intermarried with the pagan nations that moved in and replaced them. They practiced a mixture of religions that ignored the purity and holiness of God. They built unauthorized places of worship and developed new systems and rituals that blended true worship with false worship.

This was offensive to the Jews (the Southern Kingdom of Judah) that eventually resettled next door after their own exile. They had been overtaken by the Babylonians (597/586BC) but were later restored to their homeland (539BC) and, **in many ways, attempted to embrace reforms that would honor God as they rebuilt Jerusalem, their Temple, and the system of worship prescribed by God.**

You can read God's repeated warnings to both Israel and Judah in the Old Testament prophetic books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Micah, and Ezekiel.

You can read God's repeated warnings to Judah in the Old Testament prophetic books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Joel, Ezekiel, and Micah.

You can read God's repeated warnings to Israel in the Old Testament prophetic books of Hosea, Amos, the early chapters of Micah, and portions of Isaiah.

You can read about the conquering of these two kingdoms in the books of 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles, where the fall of Israel to Assyria and Judah to Babylon is recorded.

You can read about the Kingdom of Judah in exile in the books of Daniel and Esther, as well as portions of Jeremiah and Ezekiel, which contain messages written during the exile.

You can read about Judah being restored in the books of Ezra and Nehemiah, which describe the return from exile, the rebuilding of the temple, and the restoration of Jerusalem's walls and worship practices.