

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ The Woman at the Well, Part 2

Last time...the Lord's initial part of the conversation with the Samaritan woman at the well
Jesus has reached out to her heart...the words He spoke touched her heart
and all her needs

v13 resonated in the depths of her being...Never thirst again

Beverages the flesh likes that de-hydrate...are counter-productive
~ 85% of USA's \$340B beverage industry in 2014
Only water hydrates and satisfies thirst...water is life
And water satisfies our thirst only temporarily...
We must continually hydrate

Sin, pleasing to the flesh, "de-hydrates"...is counter-productive
Living water "hydrates"...living water is eternal life so we
never thirst again for life

The Samaritan woman responded...by faith
She does not understand yet she seeks...to not be ashamed, to be right with God
She believes Jesus and she believes in Jesus

This time...faith must be tested

v16-18 call thy husband:

The Samaritan woman's faith is tested by Jesus asking her to bring her husband
to the well

She is replies honestly by saying that she does not have a husband...and Jesus

- agrees
- elaborates, fills in the blanks intentionally left by the woman...
telling her what He could not know, unless He somehow knew her
even though she did not know Him...

"You are quite right.
You do not have a husband.
You have had 5 husbands and you are not married to the man with whom you
are currently living."

The woman spoke the truth...a partial truth
Jesus spoke the truth...the complete truth

There is a huge difference between a partial truth and the complete truth
A partial truth conceals some or most of the truth...
usually very important parts of the truth
The complete truth reveals everything

As husbands/wives/parents...do we want a partial truth to our question or
do we want the complete truth?
As husbands/wives/parents/children...do we answer a question with a
partial truth or with the complete truth?

This and many other passages tells us that

- Jesus knows the complete truth about me and you...
that He is the all-knowing God
- there are no partial truths, no secrets from God!

Let's be wise, do the right thing: Come clean...come completely clean –
Jesus Christ already knows!!!

In v15, the woman sought to no longer be ashamed before man and God
The desire of her heart was in this Man and His living water...by faith
That faith must be tested by God's revelation of her sin/shame

Jesus Christ revealed to her that she is living in sin/fornication, and it is implied
that she is a repeat-adulteress

Matt 19:3-9

divorce and re-defining "marriage" is man tearing
apart what God has knit together
many a divorce ends up in...adultery
("Not in love any more")

Mal 2:16

tears apart His order and is painful to His beloved

Jesus praises the woman for her honesty (partial though it was) and tests her heart
with the complete truth about her life

He suddenly and surprisingly lays out the summary of her entire sinful life
He could only have supernaturally known these things
She knows her shame...He sees her shame and reveals it...
without shaming/condemning her

Just as He did with the woman caught in adultery...
Just as He did with sinners then...
Just as He does with sinners now

This woman standing before Jesus has lived and is living for sin and against God.
It matters not what she thinks of her lifestyle;

she undoubtedly has justified her sin in her own mind (as do we all)

It only matter what the Word of God says about her lifestyle...and ours

Jesus is

- speaking respectfully and kindly with her (counter-culture)
- exposing her sin and revealing her heart (only God can, Jer 17:10)
- speaking of salvation from shame and condemnation to her
- not condemning her
- willing to forgive her (her sin is against His Father)

Will she

- repent...live for God and against sin?
- receive His forgiveness...also by faith?
- receive the gift of God, eternal life...on God's terms and not hers?

The entire purpose of this appointment is that she would know Jesus and put her faith in Him alone so that she might be saved and not condemned

- a. Knowing Jesus Christ is a revelation of God
- b. Seeing our sin is a revelation of God

We cannot embrace both God and sin...we must choose

One of the deceptions of the devil being gobbled up in Christianity:

Jesus accepts me just the way I am i.e. sinners need not repent.

False!

Jesus does NOT accept us the way we are...we MUST be changed
if we are to be acceptable in God's sight

Yes, He loves us just the way we are, BUT we must believe in Him
and repent (bring forth fruit of "Under New Management")
to be acceptable in God's sight and kingdom

Jesus reveals our shame/sin, we demonstrate saving faith in Him
by agreeing, repenting, and submitting to His Lordship

Otherwise, why did the Father send His Son to be His
Sin Sacrifice, His Lamb to take away the sin of the world?

Lost in much of Christianity: Repent! You MUST repent!

One of the sins in the lives of Christians is condemnation...like Job's friends

Condemnation is our own misguided opinion

What does the Word of God say?

Ch 3:17

Rom 8:1

If you are living in sin...

- shacking up, only pretending to be married (mocking God)
- cheating on your spouse (including pornography)
- re-defining "marriage"...homosexual

If you have sin in your life (who doesn't?!)

- condemnation
- façade of partial truth

Jesus is speaking to you/us today as well

He loves you/us

He did not come to condemn you/us

He did not bring you/us here to hear condemnation from anybody

He came to forgive, make new...to take away shame and condemnation

Your lifestyle might feel right in your own mind/opinion...

but in the Light of the Word of God, it most certainly is not

Jesus came to

- reveal Himself to you...personally
- reveal your sin/shame to you (He already knows)
- offer you eternal life, salvation from the wrath of God

Our way, pleasing to the flesh, that which is right in our own eyes.

is counter-productive and self-destructive

His way, pleasing to the Spirit but despised by the flesh,

is productive, life-giving

Repent of your sin...repent of living life our way

- sin highly offends and mocks our Creator/Sustainer
- sin is self-destructive
- sin harms innocent others

Come completely clean with Him and submit to His authority

Do what He tells you to do...live His way

The Lord wants to forgive you/us...He has something much better,

His way is so much better

Back to the Samaritan woman at the well...

Who could have possibly known the unspoken shame of her life?

And what will she do when gently confronted with her ugly lifestyle?

Will she cut and run...or will she draw close?

Will she deny her sin and Jesus...or will she confess both?

Will her heart be convicted...or hardened?

Will this woman repent of her sin/shame?

v19 thou art a prophet:

The woman's answer reveals her heart

- She draws close vs cuts and runs
- She confesses vs denies
- Her heart is convicted vs hardened
- She is ready for God's way instead of her way...repentance

Her answer is very interesting...context is important; remember...

This woman is a Samaritan

The Samaritans accept only

- the Books of Moses as the Word of God
- Moses as a prophet of God

Therefore, the Prophet of whom Moses spoke in Deut 18:18-19 is the Messiah

She is saying either "I perceive you are on par with Moses."
or "I perceive you are the Messiah."

This is an expression of faith...

- in Him
- that the living water, the gift of God, is in Him

This is a remarkable profession of faith...by a Samaritan in a Jew

She has had her "grace moment" that changed everything...when

- God is personally revealed to us
- our sin against God is also revealed to us
- we are undone...broken, crushed
- God's love washes over us, in spite of all we have done against Him
- we know God loves us and forgives us
- we want His love and want Him to "take over"
- He changes everything
 - our heart – who we are
 - our mind – how we think
 - our citizenship

Eternal life comes not by knowing about Jesus Christ, but knowing Him personally, relationally
Eternal life comes not by confessing sin to a man but by confessing sin to the God Man against Whom we sinned
Eternal life comes not just by saying we believe but by having “living proof”
Eternal life comes not by being in church but by being in Jesus Christ
Eternal life comes not by our works but by God’s grace

Have you had a “grace moment”?
Or are you still under condemnation?
Can you give testimony of your “grace moment” before God and man?
If not...are you saved from condemnation or do you only think you are?
What is the Holy Spirit saying to you...right now?

The next thing the Samaritan woman says to Jesus is evidence of

- a change in her thinking
- a desire to know the truth from this Man Who has spoken great truth
 - about eternal life (she did not know)
 - about her life (mere man could not have known)

v20 this mountain...in Jerusalem:

Believing that she is in the presence of a prophet on par with Moses or of the promised Messiah, the woman seeks resolution of a religious controversy

“Are we supposed to worship God

- here on Mount Gerizim as the Samaritans believe
- in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah as the Jews believe?”

This woman wants to worship God the right way and in the right place

The Word of God teaches that worship is to the right God in the right way
Worship of the wrong god is false worship
Worship of the right God the wrong way is false worship

Note:

- Mount Moriah is the place God chose
- Mount Gerizim is the place the idolatrous rebels against God’s authority chose

So what do you expect Jesus to say?

v21-22 believe me...salvation is of the Jews:

This is most likely NOT what we would expect Jesus to say!

Jesus settles the religious controversy for this simple, humble believer

- Wrong worship is a work of man
 - religion
 - deceived, misguided Samaritan religion
 - deceived, self-righteous Jewish religion
 - on Mount Gerizim or on Mount Moriah
 - the idolatrous temple in Samaria is in ruins
 - Herod's corrupted temple in Jerusalem is going to be destroyed in about 40 years
- Right worship is of the Father
 - right worship is that of...a child
 - right worship is relational
 - right worship of the Father is not a matter of locale but a matter of the heart...a new heart
- Salvation is of the Jews
 - The Messiah Who saves is Jewish
 - promised to AI&J, J&D (even in the Books of Moses, Gen 49)
- Ignorance is no excuse

Jesus resolves the religious controversy by bringing the conversation back where it belongs...to Him

In Jesus Christ, all ignorant religious controversies are dispelled and all religious distress/condemnation/fear is relieved

Muslims bow down...not in worship but in fear of Allah (not right god)
Islam is a religion of fear and death...who is the god of Islam?

Only Jesus Christ can relieve the fear and the ignorance in the heart of a Muslim...and every other sinner

The Muslim, the homosexual, the fornicator, etc etc etc need

- God's complete truth
- the revelation of God – His Person and their sin
- a grace moment with the Savior

Jesus continues, teaching what right worship is

v23-24 now is...true worshippers:

Jesus Christ has told the Samaritan woman that right worship is of the Father

- relational
- a matter of a new heart, not of locale

Now He tells her that right worship...

worship by true worshippers vs pretenders...

is in Spirit and in truth

God is a Spirit

- not restricted by a material body
- not confined to a specific place (mountain/temple)

Worship God in Spirit

- Spirit-filled
- Spirit-led
- from within...[Eph 1:13-14](#)
- Not restricted to a material/physical place
- Always and wherever you are

Worship God in truth

- Not with formal, legalistic, lifeless liturgies of man and religions of man ([Mark 7:6-9, 13](#); Matt 7:21-23)
- According to Truth, the Word of God (John 17:17)
 - nothing hidden or withheld...complete vs partial
 - sincere vs pretend
 - how we live vs what we say (2 Tim 3:1-7)
 - with perfect knowledge and righteousness
- by Jesus Christ (John 14:6, 1 Cor 1:30)

The Father seeks those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth

The Father seeks those who will worship Him by His Son

True worshippers MUST worship Him in spirit and in truth...

no options

no other worship is acceptable

This is all new to the Samaritan woman

No man has ever spoken like this Man

How will she respond?

v25-26 Messiah cometh...tell us all things...I..am:

The Samaritan woman acknowledges/confesses her need for God's Savior
And Jesus, as clearly as the woman confesses, professes that He is
God's Messiah

What Jesus said is

- direct
- simple
- unmistakable, cannot be twisted
- a revelation of God to man

Jesus reveals to this simple, unlearned Samaritan/Gentile woman eternal truths He
has yet to reveal to His disciples or to the Jewish people...
who in their spiritual pride and carnality would have misunderstood,
misinterpreted, or misapplied these truths

Jesus Christ was very clear about...did not struggle with...
His Identity and Mission
Neither should we

Jesus Christ, in Whom there is no condemnation, is

- God become man
- The Word of God that became flesh
- Messiah
- Savior
- Lord
- the key to right worship of the right God the right way
 - "Believe Me"...the work of salvation
 - Right relationship is only thru Him, the Jewish Messiah
("Jesus" = Jehovah is Salvation)

Now is the time to

- Believe in Jesus Christ, to know Him...not merely know about Jesus Christ
- Be a true believer...
 - worship the Father as a child (relational vs location-al)
 - worship in spirit and in truth
 - receive by faith God's grace that takes away shame and condemnation

Be as simple and humble and genuine as this Samaritan woman
Believe Jesus Christ's simple, direct words like this Samaritan woman did