

Message 4

The Need of the Immoral – Life’s Satisfying

Scriptural Reading: John 4:1-42

I. The Case of the Samaritan Woman in John 4

- A. Man’s first need is regeneration; God’s economy is that man have His divine life and be one with Him in life and nature for the fulfillment and accomplishment of His eternal purpose – building.
- B. Man’s second need is satisfaction. After regeneration, the divine life is already within all believers and it becomes their content and satisfaction.
- C. Regardless of our success or attainments, there is a continual emptiness within, the sensation of having no satisfaction; this is the reason for man’s thirst.
- D. The case of the Samaritan woman reveals that Christ is the real and unique satisfaction to men. Nothing can satisfy man (quench man’s thirst) except Christ Himself.

II. A Thirsty Savior and a Thirsty Sinner – John 4:1-8

- A. *“And He had to pass through Samaria” – v. 4.*
 - 1. According to history, no Jew would ever pass through Samaria – v.9.
 - a. Samaria was the leading region of the northern kingdom of Israel and was the site of its capital – cf. 1 Kings 16:24, 29.
 - b. The Samaritans became a people of mixed heathen and Jewish blood.
 - 2. According to our experience, no matter we are good or bad, it is always the Lord who seeks us first, for the Savior knows where the sinner is and his true situation.
- B. The Savior came to the sinner’s traditional religious inheritance – Jacob’s well – vv.5-6.
 - 1. Lord Jesus came to Sychar and sat by the well at noon.
 - 2. He came there purposely to do the will of God as she was given to Him by the Father according to His foreknowledge and predestination of her in the past – Rom. 8:29; John 6:39; 4:34.
 - 3. While the Lord Jesus was waiting for the sinner to come, He was thirsty; both the Savior and the sinner were thirsty – v.7b.
- C. The sinner came to her religious inheritance – v.7a.
 - 1. The Samaritan woman came to the well at noon when sun was blazing and when no one else would come out of the house.
 - 2. The sinner came to her religious inheritance to draw water for her satisfaction.

III. The Emptiness of Religion’s Tradition and the Fullness of Life’s Living Water – vv.11-14

- A. The woman considered the religion’s father, Jacob, and the religion’s inheritance, Jacob’s well, as the best and the most prevailing – vv.11-12.
- B. Although religion considers its way to be the most prevailing, yet religion’s “water” never quenches the thirst of religious people – v.13.
 - 1. This water signifies the enjoyment of material things and the amusement obtained from worldly entertainment that cannot quench the thirst deep within man.
 - 2. However much he drinks of this material and worldly “water,” he will thirst again.
- C. Christ is greater than religion’s father and God’s gift, the divine life, is greater than religion’s inheritance – 4:10; Rom. 6:23.

- D. The “water” that the Lord gives is the divine life, the uncreated life of God, which not only is everlasting with respect to time but also is eternal and divine in nature – 3:15; 4:10, 14.

IV. The Way to Take the Living Water – 4:15-26

- A. To “ask” is the direct, practical and prevailing way to get the living water – v.10, 15.
- B. To make confession of sins—“husbands” – vv.15-18.
 - 1. By the Lord’s gracious and wise words the woman’s conscience was touched – v.16.
 - 2. The woman had five husbands, and was trying another, but her changing of husbands fully proved that however much she drank of that “water,” she was still thirsty.
 - 3. The woman, in fact, sought satisfaction not only in physical things, but also in religious things, and traditional things, but was never satisfied.
 - 4. When we depend upon anyone or anything other than Christ, our thirst can never be quenched.
- C. To contact God the Spirit in the human spirit and in truthfulness– vv.19-24
 - 1. When the woman changed the subject from her husband to worship, the Lord Jesus took the opportunity to reveal to her the proper way of receiving the living water.
 - 2. The woman’s problem with the matter of worship, that is a specific location to worship God, was a matter of yes or no, which belongs to the tree of knowledge; but the Lord turns her to the spirit (vv. 21-24), which belongs to the tree of life – cf. Gen. 2:9-17; John 8:3-5; 9:2-3.
 - 3. According to typology, God should be worshipped (1) in the place chosen by God for His habitation, and (2) with the offerings – Deut. 12:5, 11, 13-14, 18; Lev. 1-6.
 - a. The place chosen by God for His habitation typifies the human spirit, where God’s habitation is today – Eph. 2:22.
 - b. The offerings typify Christ; Christ is the fulfilment and reality of all the offerings with which the people worshipped God.
 - 4. The real worship of God is to worship in our spirit (as the proper place of worship) with the experienced Christ (as the unique offering) offered to God for His satisfaction and as food for all the other worshippers.
 - 5. God the Spirit is the living water, and our organ for drinking the living water is our human spirit; whenever we exercise our human spirit to contact God, the living Spirit, we drink of Him as the living water in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- D. To believe that Jesus is the Christ that the sinner may have life eternal – John 4:26, 29; 20:31.

V. A living testimony with a marvelous harvest – 4:28-42

- A. The sinner believed (v.29), was satisfied, left her preoccupation (v.28), and testified (v.28, 39).
- B. The Savior was satisfied with God’s will in satisfying the sinner – v.32, 34.
- C. A marvelous harvest was reaped – 4:35.
 - 1. Today, people are really thirsty for Christ, so we must bring Christ to them and them to Christ. This is the way to reap the harvest for Christ.
 - 2. We must first receive Christ unto eternal life (v. 14) for ourselves as a fountain of water gushing up unto eternal life; then we must bring others to receive Christ unto eternal life, i.e. gather fruit unto eternal life.

Message Four

Reference Scriptural verses**John 4**

- 1 When therefore the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John
- 2 (Although Jesus Himself did not baptize, but *rather* His disciples),
- 3 He left Judea and went away again into Galilee.
- 4 And He had to pass through Samaria.
- 5 So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the piece of land that Jacob gave to Joseph his son;
- 6 And Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from the journey, sat thus by the well; it was about the sixth hour.
- 7 There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, Give Me *something* to drink.
- 8 For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.
- 9 The Samaritan woman then said to Him, How *is it that* You, being a Jew, ask for a drink from me, who am a Samaritan woman? (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)
- 10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says 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 no bucket, and the well is deep; where then do You get this living water?
- 12 Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank of it himself, as well as his sons and his cattle?
- 13 Jesus answered and said to her, Everyone who drinks of this water shall thirst again,
- 14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.
- 15 The woman said to Him, Sir, give me this water so that I will not thirst nor come here to draw.
- 16 He said to her, Go, call your husband and come here.
- 17 The woman answered and said, I do not have a husband. Jesus said to her, You have well said, I do not have a husband,
- 18 For you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly.
- 19 The woman said to Him, Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.
- 20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain, yet you say that in Jerusalem is the place where *men* must worship.
- 21 Jesus said to her, Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.
- 22 You worship that which you do not know; we worship that which we know, for salvation is of the Jews.
- 23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.
- 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.
- 25 The woman said to Him, I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when He comes, He will declare all things to us.
- 26 Jesus said to her, I, who speak to you, am *He*.
- 27 And at this *point* His disciples came, and they marveled that He was speaking with a woman; yet no one said, What are You seeking? or, Why are You speaking with her?
- 28 Then the woman left her waterpot and went away into the city, and said to the people,
- 29 Come, see a man who told me all that I have done. Is this not the Christ?
- 30 They went out of the city and came to Him.
- 31 In the meantime, the disciples urged Him, saying, Rabbi, eat.
- 32 But He said to them, I have food to eat that you do not know about.
- 33 The disciples therefore said to one another, Has anyone brought Him *anything* to eat?
- 34 Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.
- 35 Do you not say that there are yet four months and then the harvest comes? Behold, I tell you, Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are already white for harvest.
- 36 He who reaps receives wages and gathers fruit unto eternal life, in order that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together.
- 37 For in this the saying is true, One sows and another reaps.

- 38** I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.
- 39** And many of the Samaritans from that city believed into Him because of the word of the woman who testified, He told me all that I have done.
- 40** So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to remain with them, and He remained there two days.
- 41** And many more believed because of His word.
- 42** And they said to the woman, It is no longer because of your speaking *that* we believe, for we ourselves have heard and know that this One is truly the Savior of the world.

IIA

John 4:4 And He had to pass through Samaria.

John 4:9 The Samaritan woman then said to Him, How *is it that* You, being a Jew, ask for a drink from me, who am a Samaritan woman? (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

1 Kings 16:24 And he bought the hill of Samaria from Shemer for two talents of silver; and he built upon the hill and called the name of the city that he built Samaria, after the name of Shemer, the owner of the hill.

1 Kings 16:29 And Ahab the son of Omri began to reign over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of Asa the king of Judah. And Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years.

IIB

John 4:5 So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the piece of land that Jacob gave to Joseph his son;

John 4:6 And Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from the journey, sat thus by the well; it was about the sixth hour.

John 4:7 There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, Give Me *something* to drink.

John 4:8 For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

John 4:34 Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.

John 6:39 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all which He has given Me I should lose nothing but should raise it up in the last day.

Rom. 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;

IIC

John 4:7 There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, Give Me *something* to drink.

IIIA

John 4:11 The woman said to Him, Sir, You have no bucket, and the well is deep; where then do You get this living water?

John 4:12 Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank of it himself, as well as his sons and his cattle?

IIIB

John 4:13 Jesus answered and said to her, Everyone who drinks of this water shall thirst again,

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.

IIIC

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

Rom. 6:23 But now, having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you have your fruit unto

sanctification, and the end, eternal life.

IID

John 3:15 That every one who believes into Him may have eternal life.

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.

IVA

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

John 4:15 The woman said to Him, Sir, give me this water so that I will not thirst nor come here to draw.

IVB

John 4:15 The woman said to Him, Sir, give me this water so that I will not thirst nor come here to draw.

John 4:16 He said to her, Go, call your husband and come here.

John 4:17 The woman answered and said, I do not have a husband. Jesus said to her, You have well said, I do not have a husband,

John 4:18 For you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly.

IVC

John 4:19 The woman said to Him, Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.

John 4:20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain, yet you say that in Jerusalem is the place where *men* must worship.

John 4:21 Jesus said to her, Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

John 4:22 You worship that which you do not know; we worship that which we know, for salvation is of the Jews.

John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

Gen. 2:9 And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Gen. 2:10 And a river went forth from Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided and became four branches.

Gen. 2:11 The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that goes around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.

Gen. 2:12 And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.

Gen. 2:13 And the name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that goes around the whole land of Cush.

Gen. 2:14 And the name of the third river is Hiddekel; it is the one that goes east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

Gen. 2:15 And Jehovah God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and to keep it.

Gen. 2:16 And Jehovah God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden you may eat freely,

Gen. 2:17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, of it you shall not eat; for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.

John 8:3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the midst,

John 8:4 They said to Him, Teacher, this woman has been caught committing adultery, in the very act.

John 8:5 Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. What then do you say?

Deut. 12:5 I was standing between Jehovah and you at that time to declare to you the word of Jehovah, for you were afraid because of the fire and did not go up to the mountain - saying,

Deut. 12:11 You shall not take the name of Jehovah your God in vain, for Jehovah will not hold guiltless him who takes His name in vain.

Deut. 12:13 Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

Deut. 12:14 But the seventh day is a Sabbath to Jehovah your God; you shall not do any work, you nor your son nor your daughter nor your male servant nor your female servant nor your ox nor your donkey nor any of your cattle nor the sojourner with you who is within your gates, so that your male servant and your female servant may rest as you do.

Deut. 12:18 Neither shall you commit adultery;

Eph. 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

John 4:26 Jesus said to her, I, who speak to you, am *He*.

John 4:29 Come, see a man who told me all that I have done. Is this not the Christ?

John 20:31 But these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, you may have life in His name.

VA

John 4:28 Then the woman left her waterpot and went away into the city, and said to the people,

John 4:29 Come, see a man who told me all that I have done. Is this not the Christ?

John 4:39 And many of the Samaritans from that city believed into Him because of the word of the woman who testified, He told me all that I have done.

VB

John 4:32 But He said to them, I have food to eat that you do not know about.

John 4:34 Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.

VC

John 4:35 Do you not say that there are yet four months and then the harvest comes? Behold, I tell you, Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are already white for harvest.

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.