



John 4 (continued)

John 4:7-9, "A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans."

1. A woman of Samaria came to draw water:

- This was an unusual hour to be drawing water.
- She came alone. (Typically, women came for water earlier in the day and they came in groups).
- Scenarios: Perhaps there was a sudden need; perhaps she was a social outcast, shunned by other women in the community.

Note: This woman's character is quite unusual. "She is of mature age and evidently has a dark and devious past. She is frivolous, ready to talk with strangers, with a tongue quick to turn grave things into jests; and yet she possesses, hidden beneath masses of unclean vanities, a conscience and a yearning for something better." (Maclaren)

2. The disciples had gone away into the city = Perhaps passing her on their way into town.

3. Jesus said to her = By tradition, a rabbi would not speak with a woman in public, not even with his own wife. It was also *very* unusual for a Jewish person of that time to ask a favor or accept a drink from a Samaritan's cup. Jesus' request genuinely surprised the woman. The disciples were also surprised that Jesus spoke to her (John 4:27).

NOTE: "STRICT Rabbis forbade a Rabbi to greet a woman in public. A Rabbi might not even speak to his own wife or daughter or sister in public. There were even Pharisees who were called 'the bruised and bleeding Pharisees' because they shut their eyes when they saw a woman on the street and so walked into walls and houses!" (Barclay)

4. Give Me a drink =

- A.** Jesus did not diminish His glory one bit by asking the help and cooperation of the Samaritan woman.

- B.** It worked toward the accomplishment of the divine purpose, the Father and the Son were *most* glorified in this display of love and goodness to the woman.
- C.** He who has living water asks for a drink from a well. There is every reason to believe that she gave Jesus what He asked for. As Jesus drank the water, or after Jesus drank the water from the well...she asked the question:

5. How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?

- A.** The woman was impressed by the friendliness of Jesus.
- B.** It was unusual for her to hear a kind greeting from a Jewish man.

6. Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

- A. The deadly hatred that subsisted between these two nations is known to all. The Jews cursed them and believed them to be accursed.
- B. Their most merciful wish to the Samaritans was, that they might have no part in the resurrection; or, in other words, that they might be *annihilated.*" (Clarke)
- C. This woman would have been despised by most of the religious leaders in the days of Jesus. She was a woman, a Samaritan, and a woman of questionable reputation.

Jesus looks at the heart of the individual. There are no outcasts in this world...who have no hope of heaven.

2 Peter 3:9, "He (GOD) is not willing that any should perish, but that all might come to repentance."

God is definitely pro-life, yet----"God is pro-choice (not defined as we do today) = the individual chooses to accept Jesus as the Savior, the Messiah, the Only Way to the Father."

Jesus interests the woman in living water.

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."

The two (2) important principles and the main emphasis here are:

1. **The Gift of God...If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, "Give Me a drink":**
 - ✓ Jesus drew the woman into conversation, making her curious about several things.
 - a. He made her curious about the things of God (**If you knew the gift of God**).
 - b. He made her curious about who Jesus is (**who it is who says to you**).

- c. He made her curious about what He could give her (**He would have given you living water**).
- ✓ Paul, the Apostle, centers in on what the GIFT OF GOD IS... Romans 6:23, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

2. **Living water:** Jesus meant the spiritual water that quenches spiritual thirst and gives life.

Spiritual thirst is a profound longing or desire for something greater than oneself. It is often associated with a search for meaning, purpose, and connection. Jesus gives life and gives it abundantly!

John 4:11-12, “The woman said to Him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?”

1. You have nothing to draw with:

Going into town, the disciples probably took with them the leather pouch used as a bucket to draw water.

2. Are you greater than our father Jacob: It is hard to tell if the woman asked a sincere question, or if she was a cynical critic. All depended on the tone of her voice.

John 4:13-15, “Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.”

1. Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again: Jesus was addressing the question of the woman and making the point in which she could understand...the water from this well will quench only the natural thirst.

2. Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst:

Jesus was offering an amazing gift...more than pure water (H₂O). He was giving Lasting Satisfaction (a spiritual miracle).

NOTE: People try to satisfy their God-created inner thirst with all kinds of things...except for what Jesus gives.

People want; People long; People search; People reach; but only what Jesus gives satisfies to the deepest levels of man's soul and spirit.

Many people who drink of the LIVING WATER feel thirsty and empty again. It takes another sip of Jesus' gift to connect to Him again and again. Drink today...Drink tomorrow. He will fill your cup for continual connection with Him.

The Holy Spirit draws the water (convicts) and Jesus gives the water of life (eternal life)!

3. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life:

The effect of this water = does much more than simply satisfy the thirst of the one who drinks it.

It creates something good, something life-giving in the heart of the one who drinks it. He or she becomes a **fountain of water springing up into everlasting life**.

4. "Sir, give me this water":

- *The response of the Samaritan woman was logical, yet not spiritual.*
- *It was as if she responded, "Jesus, if you want to make my life easier and more convenient, then I'm all for it. Give it to me!"*

Did you ever say to yourself, "Jesus, I need you to help me in my situation. I want you to help me:

- *Win this ball game?*
- *Win the lottery?*
- *Win this girl whom I have had my eyes on all evening?*
- *Get that good-looking guy to ask me for a date?*
- *Make a good impression on my boss?"*

We fail to say, "Not my will, but thine be done."

Jesus was willing to provide this sinful woman with a life changing, life altering, lasting living that will not be just for her next step in life...but for eternity!

Are we ready for Jesus to step into our lives and provide fresh water that will make a difference in how we live...each and every day?

