



Lesson #13, A Look at Sin Being Confronted

John 4:16

John 4:16-19, Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” The woman answered and said, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You have well said, ‘I have no husband,’ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.”

- **“Go, call your husband, and come here”:**
This was not a strange request in that, in this public conversation with a woman, it would be more culturally appropriate with presence of the husband.
- **“I have no husband...you have had five husbands”:** Jesus knew – supernaturally – that there was much more to this woman’s marriage history.

Note: Christ has different spiritual avenues for entering into the lives of the souls of that era...as well as today.

- ✓ Into some, he enters by **understanding** (putting 2 and 2 together to get the right answer);
- ✓ Into many, by the **affections** (showing compassion);
- ✓ To some, he comes by **the way of fear** (close calls, accidents, family problems);
- ✓ To another, by that of **hope** (showing a viable way out of the struggles and problems we are facing ; and,
- ✓ To this woman he came **by way of her conscience** (probing one’s actions and decisions). (Charles Spurgeon.)

Another note: Today, the Holy Spirit is the one who convicts and convinces us as to why we need Jesus in our lives. It is God reaching out to people...but, not making the choice for us to accept or reject the Holy Spirit’s offer.

- **“And the one whom you now have is not your husband”:**
 - ✓ Jesus brought up this embarrassing issue because her sinful life had to be confronted. She had to decide what she loved more: her sin or the Messiah.
 - ✓ When Jesus revealed and quite emphatically stated that the man she lived with was “**not your (her) husband**,” Jesus was giving a

strong teaching that we teachers and audience/congregation should take heed:

- Living together and marriage are not the same thing, and
- That just because someone calls a relationship marriage, it does not mean that Jesus considers it marriage.

Did Jesus say this to be mean spirited...showing a lack of compassion?

NO. It was to convince the sinner that this was and is a sin...and that "what is done in secret is going to be revealed" (Maybe not in this life, but for sure...in the life to come).

• **"Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet":**

- ✓ The woman understood the reason one to be a prophet. "A prophet is one who God reveals the future, the one who puts his life on the line by authenticating and presenting himself as a representative of God's Word and having some supernatural powers to read minds and call into existence calamities as well as positive actions.
- ✓ It would have been better for her to agree that she was a sinner and repent of her sin, on the spot, real time.

The Samaritan woman and Jesus discuss worship.

John 4:20-26, "Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."

• **"Our fathers worshipped on this mountain":**

- ✓ The woman was trying to change the subject. She wanted to argue in lieu of Jesus continuing to confront her sin.
- ✓ Jesus was more interested in winning a soul than in winning an argument.

I believe this is trying to tell pastors and congregations something!!

• **"You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship":**

- ✓ Jesus was just telling her and us...we should not pick and choose from the Scriptures just to satisfy our way of thinking.
"The Samaritans took as much of scripture as they wished and paid no attention to the rest." (Barclay)

• **"The hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth":**

- ✓ Jesus pointed her to a time when worship would no longer be focused on places...rather one would be ushered in that would be better, greater, and more personal.
- ✓ **The basis for true worship:** Not found in majestic cathedrals, or even at Biblical Holy Places. but **in spirit and in truth.**
- ✓ To worship **in spirit** means you are concerned with spiritual realities, (heart worship in lieu of outward/short-sighted worship).
- ✓ To worship **in truth** means worshipping according to the whole counsel of God's word (coming to God **in truth**, not in a mere display of spirituality).
- **"I who speak to you am He":**
 - ✓ **He**...worthy of His name being capitalized and worthy of captivating your inner being.
 - ✓ **Worthy of honor; Worthy of being crowned King of Kings and Lord of Lords;** Worthy to give our every possession (fiscal and physical, emotions and promotions, successes, and our living a wholesome, humble life to show God is #1). Though this woman was a sinner, Jesus revealed Himself to her. Jesus reveals Himself to sinners.

John 4:27-30, "And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" Then they went out of the city and came to Him."

- **"The disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman":**
Although the disciples did not understand why Jesus was talking with the woman, they probably sensed that it was all right and appropriate...They weren't going to question Jesus any further about it.
- **"The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city":**
I think the woman was so excited about this remarkable event in her life, she forgot to pick up her water jug. John specifically remembered this event and he wanted the world to know how thrilled this woman of the world was as she spoke to the One who knew her past...and revealed to her that He was the Messiah. Wouldn't you have been elated at the fact that this was an encounter with God Himself.
- **Come, see a Man who told me all the things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?** Jesus so impressed this woman that she was compelled to tell those in her city that they should come to the well and meet Jesus. Jesus impressed and attracted her, even though He confronted her with her sin (**Told me all the things that I ever did**).
"The Jews believed that one essential characteristic of the Messiah would be, that he should be able to tell the secrets of all hearts. This they believed was predicted, Isaiah 11:2, 3." It isn't unreasonable to

think that some among the Samaritans believed similar things about the Messiah."

Isaiah 11:2-3, "And on this child from David's line, the Spirit of the Eternal One will alight and rest. By the Spirit of wisdom and discernment

He will shine like the dew. By the Spirit of counsel and strength He will judge fairly and act courageously. By the Spirit of knowledge and reverence of the Eternal One, He will take pleasure in honoring the Eternal. He will determine fairness and equity; He will consider more than what meets the eye, And weigh in more than what he's told."

- **"Then they went out of the city and came to Him":**
 - ✓ The woman's invitation showed excitement, genuine reverence for the One who she thought to be the possible Messiah. Her invitation was *effective*.
 - The people came when she told them who Jesus was and how He had impacted her life with their brief conversation.
 - A changed life would now be more effective than mere words or a "hunch" that the man she spoke to was "the Messiah."

A Note to Remember:

- ✓ ***Conversational evangelism is more effective than a work of miracles.***
- ✓ ***Seeing a miracle does not cause "the lost" to think about life and death.***

A conversation with someone who has a compassionate heart and who desires for others to know "the truth" will always cause a person to think about life, death...and the unknowns concerning "what life is all about. I.E. The beginning and ending of life is a subject all will surrender their thoughts to.

The Word states "the Truth will set us free."

The Holy Spirit works in both the one who witnesses, and the one being witnessed to.

- ✓ ***Conviction comes through the words given to the one who witnesses (using life's lessons and the Word of God)...and***
- ✓ ***The witness who is being wooed by the Holy Spirit's power.***

Don't Resist the Holy Spirit

Daniel S. Warner, pub.1885

1. Don't resist the Holy Spirit,
Sinner, heed His loving voice;
Oh, invite Him to thy bosom,
Peace shall crown that blessed choice.

Refrain:

Come, poor sinner, yield to Jesus,
At His throne of mercy bow;
Oh, the Spirit bids you welcome,
Come, and He will save you now.

2. Don't resist the Holy Spirit,
For He comes to save thy soul;
Taste His love so kindly given,
Humbly yield to His control.
3. Don't resist the Holy Spirit,
Do not grieve the gentle Dove;
He will witness sins forgiven,
And the bliss of perfect love.
4. Don't resist the Holy Spirit,
He has called you oft before;
This may be His final visit,
If you open not the door.