



Lady at the
Well

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Welcome to Jesus Time where we spend time with Jesus in His time & culture.

As we continue along with Jesus as He makes His "Way" (earliest name for Christians) from Judea back into Galilee, Christ our Lord does not detour around this absolutely undesirable area of Samaria. Samaria lies north of Judea in between Jerusalem and Galilee.

So, our Lord traveled by the shorter direct route of about 70 miles which was about two and a half days walk for an able bodied person at that time. Jesus deliberately went through this land of complete derision and not by the common path of the Jews- particularly those affiliated within Judaism, to walk around Samaria by taking the hot desert road from Jerusalem into Jericho and then proceeding all the way around Samaria by going through the Jordanian valley.

As such Christ by His presence alone- along with His Words of Ministry, will demonstrate what was wrong with the prejudices of Jewish traditions of superstition and manmade pious religious tradition. Get that?

Not a single physical miracle will be found other than the total knowledge Jesus had of a specific woman, that He had never met before nor would ever again during His Earthly lifetime whom Christ first encounters in Samaria as these passages unfold, so lets listen now- just how, her story is told.

✝ Now he (Jesus) had to go through Samaria. John 4:4 NIV

First here lets quickly examine Why? Samaria was so hated by the Jews at the time of Christ.

A few of the original source answers for this deep hatred was first that Biblically this land of Samaria did in fact belong to Israel and the Jewish people. Now occupied by undesirables.

While of course the scriptures do expressly forbid intermarriage by the Jewish race with Gentiles. This was because Israel was literally selected, separated, & thusly created as a people to be the worlds clergy.

✝ for you are a people holy to the LORD your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the LORD has chosen you to be his treasured possession.

Deuteronomy 14:2 NIV

✝ Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

Exodus 19:5-6 NIV

We know as too the Jewish race that GOD chose as parents Abraham & Sarah whom begat Isaac. Isaac in time was joined with Rebekah & he in turn begat- as in had Jacob as his son.

GOD then renamed Jacob to Israel (Genesis 35:10) which means "One who contends with GOD."

Jacob in time was joined with sister wives Leah & Rachel whom in jealous competition with each other over Jacobs affection- each sister wife in turn gave to their husband Jacob their maiden servant as wife in order to procreate children under their name. One servant woman from each sister wife, each of whom the sister wives father Laban had given to the sisters as handmaidens.

The sister wives handmaidens were also in fact half sisters to them, as in also daughters of their father Laban. However their mother or mothers were slave women owned by Laban.

Scripture records that their names were Bilhah & Zilpah.

Laban had gifted his daughters in marriage unto Jacob each with a lifelong handmaiden. This also extended a mercy unto his daughters of servitude by placing them for life before a half sister. Laban had also charged to Jacob/Israel at his departure to never have any children lest they be from his daughters alone.

This by tradition means that all of Jacobs wealth and inheritance of property would be for Laban's daughters children, as in an agreement with Jacob for Laban's grandchildren alone.

Jacob was already wealthy at his departure from uncle Laban's home the sister wives family.

So when in jealousy Leah and Rachel each in turn presented Bilhah & Zilpah also as wife unto Jacob, he was not breaking his vow before GOD, that he had made with Laban that all of his children would be by Laban's daughters alone.

Leah & Rachel, Bilhah & Zilpah became the mothers of the 12 sons which became the 12 Tribes of Israel. Because by now in his life Jacob/Israel had learned that GOD takes very seriously the vows and words we commit ourselves to. Especially in Jacobs case when from birth he was taught that his brothers (Esau) birthright was special in the sight of GOD. One that envisioned and prophesized Israel as a land & nation.

A birthright of accountability and responsibility that Jacobs brother disdained and was ever coveted by Jacob. This be until each he and his mother Rebekah had by deceit transferred the birthright onto him.

What many miss here is that the Patriarch AND the Matriarch lines of the 12 tribes that each initiated and were instituted by GOD- the 12 sons of Israel were each from a very distinct family tree.

Remember 2 generations prior Abraham had sent his servant as instructed by an Angel to Abrahams uncles house from his fathers side- by which it was Isaac's first uncle once removed, being the distant uncles Granddaughter Rebekah, who was found to be the only wife of Isaac.

Likewise it was later Rebekah who sent their son Jacob to her brother Laban- in order to hide him from Esau, Isaac & Rebekah's eldest son, by which each brother Jacob and mother Rebekah had betrayed. So, Mom sent Jacob away with the stolen birthright in order to hide him from Esau's great wrath.

A wrath that the Arabs still harbor against Israel to this day. Yes, Esau along with Lot & Ishmael are the founders of the half Jewish Arab peoples- but that is another story for another day.

It was there at his uncle Laban's home, that Jacob found his sister wives Leah & Rachel.

Then just as Jacob & his mother Rebekah had swindled the birthright of the Jewish nation from Esau, the elder brother unto Jacob, as such- GOD seen to it that Jacob was also swindled.

Unbeknownst to Jacob after 7 years of labor he was given Leah as wife in Rachels place.

Jacob had been had- and then he had to work another 7 years for Rachel.

As for Rebekah for her part in swindling Esau, by her actions she never saw her beloved son Jacob again. Remember GOD often repays the good or bad we do and the Lord marks time in 7 year Sabbatical cycles.

So Jacob now had the birthright for becoming the clergy people of GOD, which had previously belonged to his brother in order to fulfill the Lord's promise of Israel. (GOD each punished Jacob & enabled him with wives.)

It was the Lords Will and timing that 7 year cycles must be employed & two of these Sabbatical cycles passed and in each of them the Lord brought one of the sister wives of Laban unto Jacob.

Soon Jacob would be renamed Israel by the Lord which means " One who contends with GOD."

The branches of the Maternal side of Israel's family tree were somewhat varied by location on the tree, and they also were varied by different growing seasons. But of the very same tree, of its roots.

That's a fancy way of saying the female line/side of Israel's conception was unique but varied just enough to prevent complications of heredity. (DNA)

Get that? GOD used one very distinct family tree but from opposite sides of growth with one side male and the other side of the tree being female in order to create for the world its clergy.

As such; by the Will and plan of GOD- the distinct official bloodlines of Israel were now complete. Being the worlds clergy in order to bring unto mankind each; GOD'S Word and His Messiah Savior. The Holy Bible & Jesus our Christ.

This was a very simply summary of Genesis chapters 12-50 in which are the generations of Israel proper. This land of Israel and its people the Jews- were to be unique and belonging forever unto the Lord. So, a Jew is either direct & uncompromised from the line of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob- or they are not. The Samaritan's were half Jewish and as such they were considered to be below the lowest of the low. There are indeed Torah/Bible passages (Ezra 9 & 10 ~ Nehemiah 13 ~ Numbers 25 =) the forbidding of intermarriage of the Jews and other peoples. Jews who married actual proselyte Gentile converts, were accepted only as inferior lesser people within Jewish communities and as such their off-spring were forever separated into lower status endeavors and considered to be profane. (not sacred/chosen as clergy) Meaning they were only permitted to enter into the outer Temple only. (court of Gentiles)

In Samaria's case when the Assyrians conquered Israel- many Assyrians of disreputable character moved there and outright criminals were actually dumped in Samaria from all over the Assyrian Kingdom. So, by the above Biblical narratives; Samaria and its people were defiled and unclean. Forever.

In fact the term " Samaritan " actually took on a new meaning which still exist to this day. To be called a Samaritan could mean your nationality or this term can be a general slander by a proper Jewish person against someone whose ethnicity is half Jewish and half Gentile. As in worst of the worse.

One final short answer; on top of the bloodline split with Israel proper- in the time of the Biblical priest Eli,(1 Samuel 2) there was also a split or shunning of Samaria & its 2 Tribes as a whole from Judaism when it was declared that Samaria had been permanently compromised by the descendants of Mesopotamian Cuthaeans, & finally of course generations later again by the deposit of criminals at Assyrian Conquest.

I would also like to add a thought here; within the Bible are many historical details of what once was. This does not mean said events or peoples are endorsed as in supported by GOD. It means it just was. As such is the issue of slavery. Case in point were the daughters of Laban. The free sisters and the born slave handmaiden servant half sister wives of Jacob. (born of Laban & woman/en who were bound in servitude)

The Bible in many places condemns slavery- in fact it denounces slavery over 30 times. Slavery along with many other sensitive or outright foul human sin nature issues are condemned. Sometimes the facts within a scripture are just that, the facts of a story. & they are just what they are. Nothing more nothing less.

GOD always gives to us a|| of the Truth- ugly or no, Heaven or Hell below.

So this covers the Jewish people of Israel but what about the actual land of Israel including Samaria? Did you know that the Jewish people as a race are the only people on Earth promised a particular place.

✠ No longer will you be called Abram ; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. ⁶ I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. ⁷ I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. ⁸ The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God."

So, what do you do?

When someone else within your family of relatives denies your very existence by the letter of GOD'S Law- and then takes away your culture and your heritage.

Even though you were conquered, abandoned, and or compromised against your will. So,-

The Samaritans built their own Temple dedicated unto Jehovah, when after an actual Jewish High Priest named "Manasseh"- fell in love & married a Samaritan woman. Of course he fled Israel.

While in office he went into Samaria.(irony is Manasseh was one of the two Samaritan Tribes expelled by Eli.)

Manasseh then served as Samaria's High Priest while observing GOD'S Laws as best as he could.

Thusly all in Israel called this Temple in Shechem Samaria "a city of fools derided by all men."

What further disturbed the religious elite of Israel was; when something is taken away and then with great pain it is rediscovered, it is often cherished more by this person than the one who never suffered its loss in the first place and takes it for granted.

Such was GOD'S Law in Samaria as compared to the actual Jews.

In fact the " Babylonian Talmud" in Jesus Time does record in a lamentation that many Samaritans lived more devoutly and held GOD'S Law within their hearts more dear than the average Jew.

As a result Jerusalem declared it was forbidden for any Jew to say "Amen" at the conclusion of any Samaritan Prayer.

Later after Priest Manasseh had passed, Samaria observed GOD'S Law as best as they remembered it to be. As such pagan traditions were mistakenly added into their customs and practices.

Because the Samaritans had been conquered and compromised & of course they only had the first five books of Moses and nothing else. No Prophets, nor Historical chapters because of "when" the High Priest Eli- Samuel the Prophet, High Priest & Judge's mentor, when Eli had cut them off forever. This was before the other ancient Holy Biblical Books were even given to Israel by GOD.

Of course when the GOD fearing people of Samaria realized this:

In due time- Samaria reached out to Israel explaining we know you reject us, but can you at least help us to relearn GOD'S Word?

No! Was Israel's official answer while adding suffer us no more with any of your heathen requests. So much for the Pharisees as the teachers of GOD'S Law & being the clergy to all of GOD's peoples.

So, you guessed it; just as with the Arabs for reference, the half Jewish Samaritans are now forever locked in a hate fueled family feud with the Jews. (Claudius Emperor after Christ sent legions several times)

Except in Rome's day order was maintained between the Jew, Arab, & Samaritan by the might of Caesars Legions. Because earlier during the time of Antiochus Euphanes the IV, Samaritans would capture Pilgrimage Jews and sell them into the bondage of slavery.(Seleucid Empire outlawed Judaism)

While here in our study of Jesus Time, even under Roman occupation the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem was once again at the height of its power & glory within the 1st century.

& against all of this comes the simple carpenter from Nazareth, born in Bethlehem- into Samaria. The Lord Christ Jesus, King Messiah! GOD Deity Himself contained forever more in human flesh.

Why? As the King & High Priest of Israel- He properly offers the Salvation and redemption of Jehovah GOD Almighty unto ALL peoples. With the Mercy of His Grace by Faith alone.

Back to Jesus traveling to Samaria in order to talk to a particular woman.

✠ So he (Jesus) came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

Genesis 33:18 records that Jacob came to Shechem the ancient name for this area and purchased this ground. Sychar (aka Askar) was the town within walking distance of Jacobs well much later in Jesus Time. Sychar was just outside of modern day Nablus and the Biblically famous Jacobs Well is still and has been a tourist site going all the way back to 330 AD. As such Jacobs Well is one of the few undisputed Biblical sites. Jacobs well is still producing clear drinkable water and of course is sold to visiting Pilgrims including even a pool that has been trenched out for swimming.

The well itself is a natural cistern with a roofless open Greek Orthodox Church walled in around it. It appears to the naked eye to be about 25' deep, however at its bottom it opens up on one side into a great deep chasm of watery darkness- of which only experienced divers can explore.

Now historically speaking the notorious Herod the Great, the Roman appointed King for life of Israel, was himself an Idumean roughly from the Petra area, but once his people were conquered they relocated into south eastern Israel and this district was renamed Idumea.

Our point here is once Herod failed to convince Israel that he was quote "a true Jew" by blood birth, Herod then went ahead and married for him whom would be his favorite wife Mariamme. She was in fact "Samaritan."

Get that? Thusly further enraging the Pharisaical Temple Priesthood.

King Herod and Queen Mariamme had several sons & daughters and Herod began to find reasons to put them to death in fear of his throne. So, as a result Augustus Caesar asked for two of Herod & Mariamme's sons under the stipulation that He- Caesar, would personally pick King Herod's successor.

To be the future King of Israel with the other non selected son made to be a local governor under the stipulation that if something happened to his brother now King, he would be the official replacement.

For some time, about 2 years, Herod's sons lived and learned in Rome under the instruction of the Roman Senate & by Augustus Caesar himself. Actually living with Caesar.

As Herod aged Caesar sent his sons back to him & said when your time comes I will choose who is King. Herod had a wonderful reception party for his returning sons and after his departure Herod had his beloved sons- those two of Caesar's promise strangled to death.

Because Herod mused it was far too cruel to put anymore of his wonderful children to death by blade.

At this Herod informed Caesar he would live for many more years! Maybe even outlive him though Octavian Augustus be far younger. Caesar responded by publicly telling the whole world it was better to be Herod's pig (jews don't eat swine) than to be his son. Augustus added I will install a Herod by blood line if any actually survive to when the King dies.

The rest of the story is that as Herod grew older and more paranoid, it was Queen Mariamme whom looked more and more to Israel's affairs. Remember she was still a hated "Samaritan" now in authority over Israel. So this was when others- who were prejudiced against the Queen for being Samaritan, they realized that ole paranoid Herod could & should be manipulated.

So they accused Mariamme of having an affair.

Paranoid King Herod had her- his favorite wife, immediately executed without a trial of course.

Then-when, Herod finally began to suspect that he had been had, he had Meriamme's false accusers brutality and long sufferingly put to death.

History records all of this contributed to Herod the Great's continued slip into madness.

His paranoia over the throne of Israel, and his guilt from excessive murder and violence- especially against his very own wives and children.

So this respite was indeed the history of Israel's only Samaritan Queen murdered in the last century BC. Then a few years later Magi from the East informed Herod a baby born in Bethlehem as prophesized by Daniel; will be forever King & Messiah. So now you know the insane Why? of Herod's violence.

Also we should note here that it was only the Samaritan people the half Jews who were considered to be unclean from quote: "the cradle to grave" and not the Land itself. As in they; the Samaritans, just by being born Samaritan were doomed to destruction and eternal disgrace just by birth alone, and not a single one of them could ever do anything to change their fate. As such the Pharisees called the Samaritans a damned perverted race. How's that for blind ignorance with malice & the intolerance of prejudice. All this from the cast of Jewish society whom were tasked with delivering the Will & Words of GOD. Thank GOD, He sent to them His Christ of new life! Amen.

Ok.

Samaritan springs, baths, or even their houses and roads- all made from Samaritan quarried, grown, or mined produce were considered to be clean because this ground was still GOD given unto Israel. Just then as it is today, with other peoples still occupying these areas.

Thusly Jews drinking from Jacobs Well, or as we shall see when Jesus sends His Disciples into town to purchase supplies was allowed. Not that Jesus would have abstained from Samaritan fare anyway. But the Disciples would have protested as Jewish men for Samaritan wares were forbidden to them.

For Jerusalem in the time of Christ it had been declared Samaritan meat & wine, as in livestock and food grown or fed from Samaritan land was considered to be clean,. But Samaritan bread was unclean and literally called "swine's flesh " because bread was made by Samaritan labor.

However in a rare split with Jerusalem leadership- the Rabbis of Galilee at Jesus Time had also declared all Samaritan food to be clean. This was at least for the Galilean, because they had to travel either through or around Samaria into Jerusalem for the 3 required pilgrimage festivals.

Sadly tis but oft true- that convenience outweighs conviction, then conscience of belief be thwarted. Twas the same in Jesus day and is the same for us today.

As in how quickly we deceive what we believe for the ease of me.

Get that? Even though the Jews were wrong about Samaria it does demonstrates only too well how: We individually and collectively will quickly abandon what we know to be true just to make our own lives confrontationally free or to make our every day existence far easier.

Picking up again when Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at Jacobs Well:

✠ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" ⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

John 4:7-9 NIV

Reminder: previously John 4:4 said that Jesus had to go through Samaria.

As in He needed to go that way and furthermore we read in verse 6 that Jesus was literally exhausted when He arrived at Jacobs Well before noon.

Why? Because this was by appointment Divine.

Jesus had to arrive at this particular well, at this particular time, because this was when- this particular woman came to get her water for the day.

What most of us miss here is that it was high noon as in when the middle eastern heat begins to build, so most women came to Jacobs Well from town early in the morning to fill their containers. But she had arrived at a time by which she could avoid mocking eyes.

Jesus already knows Why? She arrives at this time. But like drawing water from the well- Christ slowly with impressive foreknowledge and direct Words He will draw the answers out of her about her eternal soul and her life's past behaviors. Sound familiar? Christ does this to all of us. Likewise from Jesus's appearance and His manor of dress, He was clearly identified as being Jewish with hardly a glance from the Samaritan woman. Samaritan men wore blue fringes on their outer garments while Jewish men their fringes were always white.

Also Jesus had spoken to her- no doubt He had a distinct Galilean accent.

The Samaritan woman was stunned that a Jew had not only talked to a Samaritan but a woman. Many and most Jewish sages which means wise interpreters of the Law, warned Jewish men especially those considered to be Holy- to each beware and to be aware as in any gossip that could ruin his reputation and any gossip that could be very dangerous for the woman with the strict observance of the Jewish divorce Law. (to even be seen talking with a man a woman could be divorced) So, Jesus was already making known to her- her worth in His sight and He had already dispensed of all prejudice and the foolish notions of Pharisee tradition that hindered real communication. What we now know is that by Jewish custom the water was clean, however her effort to draw the water was not. Jesus astounds the woman by asking to drink from the water that her hand had drawn from Jacobs well.

Typically; if a Samaritan woman such as herself was antagonized by a Jewish man- particularly a Priest, she would in turn spit at him in order to defile him from attending Temple in Jerusalem by which their was little doubt as to the priests reason for cutting through Samaria in the first place. This has been mentioned before but to repeat it here has bearing: a Samaritan mother would also teach her children how to play "Tag." The object of the game for the Samaritan children was when their mother told them if a Jewish man had insulted, annoyed, or evaded her, she would then send her children to taunt and "Tag" them.

As in to literally reach out and touch them- also equally disqualifying them from Temple.

No doubt most Jewish men on festival Pilgrimage, at least those who dared to cut through Samaria were very cautious around Samaritan women and they paid willingly whatever the retail price was for any of their needed supplies that they purchased from them.

Continuing

✚ 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." ¹¹ "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

John 4:10-12 NIV

Notice that her tone has now softened and here the NIV states that she even calls Jesus sir. This is somewhat of a shortcoming because in Greek the word the Samaritan woman used as she addressed Jesus was not sir but "Lord" # 2962.

As we know the title of Lord for a man at this time was best equal to a respectful title of master or we might today say sir. But in her time the word Lord was more than what sir means for us today. She could have easily just said sir- but rather she said Lord. & of course within Christian tradition the term Lord has now morphed into meaning the authority of righteousness supreme.

Another thing that we miss here that the Samaritan woman had clearly picked up on, is that Jesus had said to her; "If she knew who of GOD was asking her," You see what we do not realize was for Jesus, to even hint that a religious teaching could be hers- to not only a woman, but a Samaritan woman-

As such by Pharisaical custom in Jesus Time women were forbidden the deep teachings of GOD'S Law. Of course they were! False deceiving teachers always deny access to true knowledge, especially to those whom they are suppressing in order to keep themselves in power. Always have always will.

Obviously now the Samaritan woman was intrigued & undoubtably curious if an answer was actually forthcoming as too whom of GOD Jesus really was.

She also answered Jesus with the only answer she could as to Christ's lack of literally not having a bucket. Portable buckets were made of Leather with a long string thusly easy to fold and carry.

All the while she is slowly realizing that perhaps Jesus's physical need of water was not all that He was referencing. Did she yet suspect Christ was hinting at something Spiritual ? Probably.

Because she challenges Jesus are you greater than Jacob/Israel? That is an odd response otherwise. She is prodding Christ, even calling Jesus Lord as too Him perhaps offering her Living Spiritual water.

Get that?

She knew Jesus had a physical human need of water, but Jesus knew she had a Spiritual need of Living water. As in she needs Him- Savior Christ as her Messiah with His redemptive Saving Grace of Faith.

One final thought here; Did you notice that her words to Christ did in fact give her heart & mind away?

She said to Jesus "are you Greater than our Father Jacob?" This was each a challenge and a question.

She believes- she believes that she is a descendant of Jacob/Israel the same as Jesus. (& she was.)

She identifies herself as a descendant of Jacob whom was a sinner and then GOD renamed him Israel.

So, we can conclude; if she ID's herself of Jacob, then she must also believe in Jehovah as her GOD.

Now we are learning Why? With her, Jesus had this appointment Divine.

She believes! & the Lady at Jacobs Well is thirsty to receive her belief in Christ Messiah of GOD.

Continuing

✝ Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but 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."

¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

John 4:13-16 NIV

First our Lord states that eternal life is His to offer as of yet unbeknownst to her as the Christ.

The woman at the well now requests this Living water from this man who really is the Great I AM.

Living water at this time meant pure potable running water whereas a well was usable but contained.

Jesus does perceive that she indeed recognizes her physical need, but it is her Spiritual belief that He seeks.

Also notice here as Jesus speaks of the Spiritual, He now begins to reach her by using her past historical.

Christ begins by telling her to go- get your husband and come back to me.

Later in John's Gospel it is explained what Living water means.

✝ The one who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" ³⁹ But this He said in reference to the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (happens later on the cross & then risen) John 7:38-39 NASB

Continuing

✝ I have no husband,” she replied.

Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

¹⁹ “Sir,” (Lord) the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

John 4:17-20 NIV

Because she knew, that Jesus knew- everything about her life and her shortcomings of Sin. Not by gossip and rumor nor by malicious inuendo but with genuine supernatural insight of recall and she knows that only GOD knows all.

At this Bible students for generations have taken note here that immediately the Samaritan women attempts to change the subject from the examination of her life into trying to appease Jesus by flattering Him with complements and then immediately asking Him a religious question.

To her credit she did not lie, deny, or seek an alibi as too her life before Christ.

However she did try to evade His truth by attempting to distract Him.

Sooner or later in this life or in the next- we will all have to come face to face with GOD.

He will accept no lie, no alibi, no evasion, you either have already been redeemed by Christ & have repented and received His Grace by pardon or not. Jesus is either your judge or your savior.

& He just demonstrated unto the woman at the well- that He knows all.

Now at least the Samaritan Lady is seeking deeper Spiritual insight from Jesus by asking Him in other words “ is our worship right?” She is asking of this man whom she perceives to be a genuine Prophet from GOD; “is our (Samaritans) religion right in GOD’S sight?

Actually this is somewhat expected because of the many times she has no doubt heard of all the viral Jewish hatred of Samaria, as in she fears she is automatically condemned by her birth alone.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Brothers and Sisters in Christ; We are ALL indeed automatically condemned by our birth in Sin. We are all lost, doomed, condemned, however you wish to say it-

This be you unless you Pray it, oh to Believe and then Receive Christ Jesus as your Lord & Savior.

Some will say they do not believe in the original Sin, without ever realizing that this thought alone- is a Sin before Almighty GOD and His Living Word Christ Jesus.

✝ For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Romans 3:23 KJV

I once read this analogy: As parents we do not have to teach our children how to be bad.

That comes naturally rather we have to teach them to have empathy for others with morality, compassion, and the responsibility of accountability within this ever challenge to be of adulthood.

So, we are born physically fallen as a race to Sin. This is Why? Jesus was born, crucified, risen, & raptured alive into Heaven as a human being complete with Spiritual Life.

As too her question about Temple Worship Gentiles and Gentile converts even more so were allowed Temple and synagogue worship within their restricted areas however no Samaritan under any circumstance was never allowed to worship at the Temple of Jerusalem.

Finally here did you hear- her disappointment and the bitterness within her quick retort when she answers to Jesus with each pain and shame that she has no husband?

Her statement that she "had no husband" was each a confession of law break & heartache. For it was Jewish custom meaning it was known to her in Jesus day that a woman even if widowed, abused, or abandoned- no matter her life circumstance was to never marry more than thrice.

Continuing

✝ Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet 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. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

²⁵ The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

²⁶ Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

Get that? Jesus's first word to her in His response here was "woman."

We have already learned within our lesson of "The Wedding in Cana" that when a Jewish man referred to a woman- as woman, it was meant with respect. It is comparable today in English to Lady.

In fact this "Lady" embarrassed before the Lord as too Him knowing all of her past transgressions within her personal love life- that Christ had just called her by the same name as in at the same level of respect as too His very own mother found within the Gospel account of the water to wine miracle.

Think about that; when do you think was the last time anyone else had treated her with such respect? & this be from a Holy Prophet in her eyes no less.

I guess I have failed to mention that if Christ knew every detail about this woman, He must also have known her name. Did He use her name? Scripture does not say other than that Jesus called her Lady.

Jesus our living Christ does also here reaffirm that Salvation is of the Jews as in Israel (faithful Jews) were chosen to be the worlds clergy and as such GOD'S Word and His Messiah are of Jewish heredity.

The Lord also informs her that all worship of GOD will be by the Spirit, meaning within the hearts of the true believers anytime, anyplace & not just at a particular location. With worship by those whom have the Holy Spirit (Saved) will be the only acceptable worship before Almighty Jehovah as in from the true " Born Again " believers. (Individually & corporately)

Only through Messiah is a person able to receive in belief the Spiritual life of Christ.

Literally, when we believe we receive the Holy Spirit. (Ghost)

As for the Truth of Worship:

✝ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6 NIV

I Am was GOD'S answer to Moses as to His identity when Jacob/Israel was not yet Spiritually mature enough to receive the Word of GOD. Yet He cared for, provided for, and protected the Jewish people.

Also here Jesus says it plain He is the only way to GOD. (The only Way unto Spiritual Life)

No manmade religion of superstition, no claim by toil or pain, no wealth of giving will ever save you.

Christ is the Truth of GOD, Holy and pure- and Spiritual life is only of and by His Christ.

Jesus has now also drawn out of her her expectations of the Messiah= the coming Christ. By the signs of her times she was expecting the arrival of the Savior. Just as we expect His return. Of course the Lord knew this was in her heart and the thirsting for GOD was within her soul.

In just a few sentences Jesus had overcome all of this woman's bitterness and her disappointments of life. She (& us) now have the opportunity & Blessing of getting to know personally Jesus as our Christ. For the first time in many years, no doubt drenched by her countless tears, now much to her surprise- she does realize, that she suddenly has the joy of hope. Found in and by GOD. As in Salvation.

Christ- has overcome her apathy, the abuse she faced of indifference, & her ignorance of scripture, her selfishness of survival, & materialism with immoral conduct. All by Divine appointment and with GODLY foreknowledge. Now you see Why? Jesus come to her, she- an outcast amongst the outcasts.

Because she had a deep longing need for the Lord.

As such; Jesus Himself has just confessed unto her that He is indeed the Living Christ!

The Savior of all- this be to those whom He will redeem (purchase & reckon) from mankind.

Jesus revealed Himself first unto her because He already knows that wherever she goes- His words will ever be on her heart, and His praise from her lips will never fail to depart.

Also Jesus knew that no Jew- would not & could not give His Grace of Faith unto Samaria as a race.

This too we know that by the prophecy of Daniel chapter 9; it will be over three years yet hence, before Jesus finally enters into Jerusalem in Triumph as THE King & Savior on a very specific day.

Because Israel was given a very specific date by which theirs and our Saving Messiah would arrive.

So only outside of Israel- could Jesus divulge His true identity as Deity within humanity at this time.

✝ Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" ²⁸ Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" ³⁰ They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

John 4:27-30 NIV

We have already made clear the disparity between the Jew & Samaritan, as in the disdain of disposition of Israel unto Samaria in addition to the Pharisaic rules of conduct and conversation between men and women within the first century AD/CE. So we will not repeat the cause for alarm of Jesus's Disciples when they returned unto Jacobs Well and found Jesus talking with the Samaritan lady.

This was Why? Jesus sent them away with their prejudices, because their presence would have driven her away. However what is easy to overlook here is: John the Apostles Revelation of when he says none of them (meaning Disciples) dared to question Jesus as too His discourse with the woman at the well:

Get that? As in Jesus was most noble and trustworthy of character & as such He would never divulge the gritty details of His parley with the Samaritan woman betraying her trust unto bigoted Jewish men.

This means it was most likely she who told he- (John) the details of her encounter with Christ our Lord. Think about it; because no one else was there.

Of course this readily makes her, the Samaritan woman possibly the very first person in Christian history to share their personal testimony of how Jesus convinced and comforted her within her Sin.

The Samaritan lady at Jacobs well now rushes back into town to boldly inform and to gather as many people as she could to come & see Jesus for themselves. It is hard to perceive and believe but tis true- this be the very same woman who comes to the well at high noon to avoid contact with anyone.

Within Matthew Henry's ever popular Biblical commentary he summarizes why the Lady at the well believed in Jesus:

First Jesus He did not demean nor deride her for her nationality, position, or self, and then the Lord convinced her of his Deity with his foreknowledge of her entire life.

Jesus exposed her quote: Her ignorance and sinfulness (against GOD'S Law) and her need of a Savior.

Continuing

✠ Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about."³³ Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" ³⁴ "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. ³⁵ Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. ³⁶ Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. ³⁷ Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. ³⁸ I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor."

John 4:31-37 NIV

The Disciples were a practical people and those just like them can miss Spiritual work beyond their obvious current physical task. The work of the Holy Spirit always takes priority over and above all other routine function no matter the need of necessity.

Of course the Disciples had missed the Spiritual connotation of Jesus reference that indeed Samaria within all of its abuse and neglect was ready for a Spiritual harvest reaping of repentant souls.

The Lord was telling His Disciples that they had not planted the seeds of revival in Samaria, but by time and circumstance and with Samaria's devout Faith this place was ready for GOD'S Grace.

We may sow but only time makes the seed grow.

Often watered by showers of shame & pain.

Suffering with such is our Spirits gain.

Till only our faith that remains.

Conclusion

✠ Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. ⁴¹ And because of his words many more became believers. ⁴² They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

John 4:39-42 NIV

May Christ our Lord, the Savior of the world- ever more fill the thirsting of thy Soul. Amen.