

The Gospel of John

A wooden scroll with Hebrew text, partially unrolled, is shown against a dark background. The scroll is made of light-colored wood and has a dark wooden handle. The text on the scroll is written in Hebrew script. Overlaid on the scroll is the title 'The Gospel of John' in large, bold, yellow letters. The scroll is unrolled from the left side, and the text is visible on both the top and bottom surfaces of the unrolled portion. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the wood and the scroll.

Introduction

John's reason for writing:

- ³⁰ And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:*
- ³¹ But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.*

John 20:30-31

Introduction

Key word:

- Believe x 100
 - Believed / Believeth / Believeest / Believing / Commit (to trust)
- Gr. *ΠΙΣΤΕΥΩ* 'pisteuo'
- to have faith (in, upon, or with respect to, a person or thing), by implication, to entrust (especially one's spiritual well-being to Christ)

Introduction

Why entrust our spiritual well-being to Christ?

- Because Christ is God manifest in the flesh
- *'the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us'* v.14

Introduction

Time of Writing:

- c.AD 96-100
- After John had returned from Patmos
- He returned to Ephesus
- Gnostic heresy now creeping in
- Denying that Jesus was God

Henrietta C. Mears

“The theme of John’s gospel is the deity of Jesus Christ. More here than anywhere else His divine Sonship is set forth. In this gospel we are shown the babe of Bethlehem was none other than the “only begotten of the Father.” There are evidences and proofs given without number. Although all things were made by Him, although in him was life, yet He was made flesh, and dwelt among us. No man could see God; therefore, Christ came to declare Him.”

What The Bible Is All About

Introduction

Heptadic Structure

- Seven 'I AM' statements
 - Seven miracles
 - Seven witnesses
 - Seven X 'meta tauta'
 - 'after these things'
- (3:22 / 5:1 / 5:14 / 7:1 / 13:7 / 19:38 / 21:1)

Introduction

The Seven I AM Statements:

- I AM the bread of life – 6:35
- I AM the light of the world – 8:12
- Before Abraham was I AM – 8:58
- I AM the good shepherd – 10:11
- I AM the resurrection & life – 11:25
- I AM the way, truth & life – 14:6
- I AM the true vine – 15:1

Introduction

The Seven Witnesses

- John the Baptist: *"This is the Son of God"* 1:34
- Nathanael: *"Thou art the Son of God"* 1:49
- Peter: *"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God"* 6:69
- Martha: *"Thou art the Christ, the Son of God"* 11:27
- Thomas: *"My Lord and my God"* 20:28
- John: *"Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God"* 20:31
- Christ: *"I am the Son of God"* 4:26 / 10:36

Introduction

The Seven Miracles:

- Water to wine: 2:1-11
- Healing the nobleman's son: 4:46-54
- Healing of the man at Bethesda: 5:1-47
- Feeding the 5000: 6:1-14
- Walking on water: 6:15-21
- Healing the blind man: 9:1-41
- Raising of Lazarus: 11:1-57

Oswald Chambers

“If you want to be of use to God, get rightly related to Jesus Christ and He will make you of use unconsciously every minute you live”

- My Utmost for His Highest



The Gospel of John

Chapter 3

- 1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:
- 2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, **we know** that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

John 3:1-2

- They believe because of the miracles
- They should believe because of God's Word
- John only records 7 of the Sanhedrin
- John will focus on the cause not the effect

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

John 3:3

- ‘Verily, verily, I say unto thee’
- Note the importance of what Jesus says:
- Except.... This is the only way
- No works or effort will avail
- Gr. **anōthen**
- 1) again, 2nd time
- 2) begin radically, new beginning
- 3) from above (a work of God)

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

John 3:4

- How can I go back and start again?

The Natural Man

¹⁴ But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Cor 2:14

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

John 3:5

- ‘Verily, verily, I say unto thee’
- Note again the importance of what Jesus says
- Two birth’s are mentioned

Born of the Spirit

In Adam all die... 1 Cor 15:22

- The punishment for sin was death
(Gen 2:17 / Rom 6:23)
- In the Garden we all died spiritually
- Unless we are 're-born' spiritually, we cannot enter the kingdom of heaven, we will remain spiritually dead

In Christ shall all be made alive... 1 Cor 15:22

- God is the 'Father of Spirits' Heb 12:9
- Whatever is born of God does not sin
(1 John 3:9 / 1 John 5:18)

Our Warfare

¹⁷ For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would

Gal 5:17

“These two forces within us are constantly fighting each other to win control over us, and our wishes are never free from their pressures” Gal 5:17 – The Living Bible

- The real you (Soul) resides in a physical frame, which is itself the battleground

Our Warfare

II Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

1 Peter 2:11

- We are to:
- Mortify the deeds of the flesh **Rom 8:13 / Col 3:5**
- Reckon ourselves as dead **Rom 6:11**
- Crucify the flesh, its passions & desires **Gal 5:24**

The Life of the Spirit

² As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word,
that ye may grow thereby

1 Peter 2:2

- We are to feed our spiritual life by:
- The Word 1 Pet 2:2 / Heb 5:13-14 / Acts 2:42
- Renewing our minds Rom 12:1-2 / Col 3:2 / Phil 4:8
- Fellowship Acts 2:42 / Heb 10:25
- Praying Acts 2:42
- Communion Acts 2:42 / 1 Cor 11:28

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of **water** and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

John 3:5

- Born of water?
- 1) Water of Baptism
- 2) Water of the Word
- 3) Water's of natural birth

Water of Baptism?

John's baptism was the sensation of the nation at this time. Everyone was talking about it. The Pharisees had sent a delegation to John to ask him why he was baptizing. The meaning of John's baptism was the central theological question of the day in which our Lord speaks... What the baptism stands for is what is important... The symbol behind baptism is repentance, an honest admission of need.

Water of Baptism?

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Rom 6:3-4

Water of the Word?

There are those who say the water refers to the Word of God. As Peter in his first epistle, chapter 1, verse 23, said that we've been *"begotten unto this living hope through the Word of truth."* And so, we've been born again through the Word of God. And Jesus said in John 15, *"Now you are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you."* And so it is being born of the Word of God.

Water of the Word?

²³ Being **born again**, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, **by the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever.

1 Peter 1:23

Water of the Word?

²⁶ That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word

Ephesians 5:26

Water of the Word?

3 Now ye are **clean through the word** which I have spoken unto you.

John 15:3

Water of the Word?

³¹ Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

John 8:31

Water of natural birth?

To be born of the water would refer to the natural birth, because in context then, Jesus said, *"That which is born of the flesh is flesh, but that which born of the Spirit is spirit"*. And so, He's talking about the two births: born of the water, and born of the Spirit. And that the born of the Spirit is referring to the new birth, the spiritual birth that we have, where born of the water would refer to the fleshly birth.

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

John 3:5-6

- Jesus says man must be born of 2 things:
- Scripture always interprets scripture
- Jesus Himself lists the 2 births
- One Physical, One Spiritual

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

John 3:7-8

John Wesley was asked:
If born of water referred to something
Why do you so often preach v7?
necessary for salvation, it would be listed here
“Because you *MUST* be born again!”

9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

John 3:9-10

- lit. 'are you the master of Israel'
- Why did Jesus chide Nicodemus for not knowing?
- Because he should have known the scriptures

The Promised New Birth

33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:33

The Promised New Birth

²⁶ A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

²⁷ And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Ezekiel 36:26-27

II Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **We** speak that **we** do know, and testify that **we** have seen; and ye receive not **our** witness.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

John 3:11-12

- Once again Jesus adds emphasis...
- The disciples?
- Hardly! They had not spoken, known or testified of the new birth!
- The new birth is a matter settled in heaven

13 And **no man** hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

John 3:13

- The mystery of the incarnation
- Jesus was no mere man, but God in the flesh

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,
even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

John 3:14-15

- Jesus now speaks of heavenly things
- Numbers 21

The Serpent on the Pole

5 And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

6 And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

Numbers 21:5-9

The Serpent on the Pole

7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

8 And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.

The Serpent on the Pole

9 And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

Numbers 21:5-9

- Brass = Judgment
- Serpent = Sin
- Sin judged & put on a pole
- What was required to be delivered from the bite?
- Faith in the only remedy God prescribed



14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,
even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

John 3:14-15

- We had all been bitten by sin
- We were all as dead
- Only by faith in the one remedy God prescribed can we be saved
- Each person has to look to the cross themselves

I6 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

I7 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

John 3:16-17

The Greatest Miracle

- *For God*
 - *so*
 - *loved*
 - *the world*
 - *that he gave*
 - *his only*
 - *begotten*
 - *Son,*
- the greatest being
 - the greatest degree
 - the greatest affection
 - the greatest object of love
 - the greatest act
 - the greatest treasure
 - the greatest relationship
 - the greatest gift

The Greatest Miracle

- *that whosoever* - the greatest company
- *believeth* - the greatest trust
- *in him* - the greatest object of faith
- *should not*
perish - the greatest deliverance
- *but have* - the greatest assurance
- *everlasting* - the greatest promise
- *life.* - the greatest blessing

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

John 3:17

- 18** He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
- 19** And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

John 3:18-19

- No one has to go to Hell – it's a choice
- Hell was made for the devil & his angels
- Individuals condemn themselves by rejecting Christ in favour of their 'pleasure'

The Choice

¹⁶ Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Romans 6:16

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

John 3:20-21

‘a man is no fool who gives up that which he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot loose’

(Jim Elliot 1927 – 1956)

The Great Exchange

35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Mark 8:35-36

- 22 After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized.*
- 23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.*
- 24 For John was not yet cast into prison.*

John 3:22-24

- Jesus leaves the 'bright lights' & position to go to the lowest place to reach out to an outcast
- John's time was almost up, yet he didn't give up

- 25 Then there arose a question between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purifying.*
- 26 And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him.*

John 3:25-26

- John was baptising for an internal cleansing, not merely an outward washing
- *'Did you know that so and so....'*
- Causing division for their own ends

27 John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.

28 Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him.

29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.

30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

John 3:27-30

‘He Must Increase’

If you become a necessity to a soul, you are out of God's order. As a worker, your great responsibility is to be a friend of the Bridegroom. When once you see a soul in sight of the claims of Jesus Christ, you know that your influence has been in the right direction, and instead of putting out a hand to prevent the throes, pray that they grow ten times stronger until there is no power on earth or in hell that can hold that soul away from Jesus Christ. Over and over again, we become amateur providences; we come in and prevent God, and say—“This and that must not be.” Instead of proving friends of the Bridegroom, we put our sympathy in the way, and the soul will one day say—“That one was a thief, he stole my affections from Jesus, and I lost my vision of Him.”

‘He Must Increase’

Beware of rejoicing with a soul in the wrong thing, but see that you do rejoice in the right thing. “The friend of the Bridegroom . . . rejoiceth greatly because of the Bridegroom’s voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease.” This is spoken with joy and not with sadness—at last they are to see the Bridegroom! And John says this is his joy. It is the absolute effacement of the worker, he is never thought of again.

- Oswald Chambers

'He Must Increase'

- 3 Levels: local / general / personal
- John knew his remit
- All believers must seek to point others to Him
- The issue of the Two Thrones
 - The Throne of David
 - The Throne of your life

31 He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.

32 And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony.

33 He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true.

John 3:31-33

34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

John 3:34-35

5-Fold Declaration

- John gives 5 reasons for Christ's superiority to him:
- 1) Christ had a heavenly origin (v. 31)
- 2) Christ knew what was true by firsthand experience (v. 32)
- 3) Christ's testimony always agreed with God (v. 33)
- 4) Christ experienced the Holy Spirit in an unlimited manner (v. 34)
- 5) Christ was supreme because the Father sovereignly had granted that status to Him (v. 35)

³⁶ He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life:
and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life;
but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 3:36

- The most important issue:
- Accept Christ = everlasting life
- Reject Christ = the wrath of God
- We need more honesty in our 'preaching'
- To many of the perishing are perishing
because they don't know they are perishing!



The Gospel of John

Chapter 4

- 1 When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John,
- 2 (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)
- 3 He left Judaea, and departed again into Galilee.
- 4 And he must needs go through Samaria.
- 5 Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.

John 4:1-5



Must Needs Go...

- Jesus leaves the 'glory' of Jerusalem
- He goes to the despised
- He goes to a woman
- He goes to an outcast...
- And offers living water
- This is you and I
- We were strangers & aliens 'afar off'
- Why were Samaritans so despised by Jews?

The Samaritans

18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only...

23 as he had said by all his servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day.

2 Kings 17:18-33

The Samaritans

²⁴ And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof.

²⁵ And so it was at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they feared not the LORD: therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which slew some of them.

The Samaritans

26 Wherefore they spake to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the land: therefore he hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they slay them, because they know not the manner of the God of the land.

27 Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, Carry thither one of the priests whom ye brought from thence; and let them go and dwell there, and let him teach them the manner of the God of the land.

The Samaritans

28 Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelt in Bethel, and taught them how they should fear the LORD.

29 Howbeit every nation made gods of their own...

33 They feared the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence.

⁶ Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour.

⁷ There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.

⁸ (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)

John 4:6-8

- Jesus asks each of us to do things for Him
- Not because He needs our help!
- But because He wants to bless us in the process

9 Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.

John 4:9

10 Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

John 4:10

- Jesus knows this woman's thirst
- She has sought satisfaction, to no avail
- Jesus offers something unattainable naturally

II The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water?

I2 Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?

John 4:11-12

- Like Nicodemus, she only sees the natural
“Just who does this Jew think he is? Coming here and talking about ‘living water’. I know our tradition and it says nothing of ‘living water’. What can you give me that my tradition can’t?”

I3 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:

I4 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

John 4:13-14

- That which is natural can never quench our thirst
- We are spiritual beings temporarily residing in a physical frame

Spiritual Thirst

“Why do I introduce water into this discussion? I do so because water is so often used by Christ to illustrate the spiritual truths we are considering. Thirst is an important ingredient of hell. Is it a physical thirst for physical water, or something even more painful and specifically related to the spiritual thirst to which Christ so often referred and which He claimed to quench for those who would believe on Him?

Spiritual Thirst

The rich man in hell was "tormented in this flame." He begged Abraham to send Lazarus to "dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue..." Luke 16:23-25.

Were the flames in hell and the thirst that tormented the rich man real? Certainly. Were they physical? How could that be the case? Only the rich man's soul was in hell; his dead body was in the grave. He had no tongue in hell. Could physical flames affect soul and spirit, and could soul and spirit have physical thirst?

Spiritual Thirst

Did the rich man in hell need physical water? It would not have done his soul any good. The unbearable thirst that tormented him was because at the heart of all of his sin was his rejection of the water of life that Christ offered. He would suffer eternally from the painful guilt of that rejection and the weight of his sins”

Dave Hunt

- 15** The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, **neither come hither to draw.**
- 16** Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither.
- 17** The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband:
- 18** For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.

John 4:15-18

19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceiue that thou art a prophet.

20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.

21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for saluation is of the Jews.

John 4:19-22

Salvation is of the Jews

- We have a Jewish Bible
- A Jewish Messiah
- Jewish Apostles
- A Millennial reign from Jerusalem
- A Jewish King

*“What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: **chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God**” (Rom 3:1-2)*

23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

John 4:23-24

- Only those who have been spiritually born again can worship God who is a Spirit

²⁵ The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

²⁶ Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am [he].

John 4:25-26

- 'The Messiah will settle the disputes'
- Lit: **I** that speak unto thee **AM**

²⁷ And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her?

²⁸ The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men,

²⁹ Come, see a man, **which** told me all things that ever I **did:** is not this the Christ?

John 4:27-29

Tragedies to Triumphs

At the beginning of their meeting, this woman would have been horrified that someone should expose her past life, but Jesus did not condemn her, He simply allowed her to see her own emptiness and longing to be satisfied. He exposed her thirst for natural things which was an attempt to deal with her greater need – her spiritual thirst. He then revealed Himself as the Messiah, the only one who could satisfy that thirst.

- Christ will turn our tragedies into His triumphs!

The Way Of The Master

The precedent in Scripture is given in John 4 for personal witness. You can see Jesus' example with the woman at the well. He started in the natural realm, swung to the spiritual, brought conviction using the seventh commandment, and then revealed Himself as the Messiah. So, when I meet someone, I'll talk about the weather, I'll talk about sport: let them feel a little bit of sanity. Get to know them; maybe joke here and there and then deliberately swing from the natural to the spiritual.

Ray Comfort

- 30 Then they went out of the city, and came unto him.
- 31 In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat.
- 32 But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of.
- 33 Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him ought to eat?
- 34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

John 4:30-34

Our Necessary Food

4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Matt 4:4

- We so often focus on the physical at the expense of the spiritual

35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.

37 And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth.

John 4:35-37

³⁸ I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.

John 4:38

39 And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.

40 So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days.

John 4:39-40

- The power of personal testimony
- This one woman accomplished more in one afternoon than all the disciples combined!
- Do we seek to spend time with Jesus?

What Really Matters?

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matt 6:31-33

- 41 And many more believed because of his own word;
- 42 And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

John 4:41-42

43 Now after two days he departed thence, and went into Galilee.

44 For Jesus himself testified, that a prophet hath no honour in his own country.

45 Then when he was come into Galilee, the Galilaeans receivd him, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast: for they also went unto the feast.

John 4:43-45

- 'Jesus knew what was in man' – John 2:25
- People will always receive 'entertainment'

⁴⁶ So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.

John 4:46

Capernaum

Cana

Sychar

Aenon?

Jerusalem



47 When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death.

48 Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.

John 4:47-48

- God will sometimes allow something dear to us to die, that we might seek Him – in Cana
- Signs & Wonders – no change in 2000yrs!

49 The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.

50 Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth.
And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.

51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth.

John 4:49-51

- 52 Then inquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.
- 53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house.
- 54 This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.

John 4:52-54

Miracle no. #2

Healing of the nobleman's son

- Jesus is sought at the place the empty stone waterpots were filled with new wine
- The plea is to save a life that's dying
- The cure is to simply trust Jesus' Word
- No gimmicks, just the Word
- The life of faith is evidence of belief
- The simplicity will probably offend the thrill seekers



Next Session

The Gospel of John

Chapter 5-6