

DRAMATICALLY ACCEPTED AT SAMARIA

Quote:

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

John 4:23-24

Historical Background of Shechem All Points to Christ:

Mark above or below John 4

- The place God first promised the land to Abram's seed (**Gen 12:7; Gal 3:16**).
- Jacob bought a field and dug a well and built an altar here (**Gen 33:18-20**). He called the altar "The Strength of the Mighty Ones of Israel". Christ is that Strength.
- Later Jacob bequeathed it to Joseph (**Gen. 48:22**). He has never yet received it, except as a burial ground (**Josh. 24:32**). Joseph is a type of Christ.
- Here the blessings (on Mt Gerazim) and cursings (on Mt Ebal) of the Law were recited (**Deut 27:4-13; Josh 8:33-34**). Christ will administer both blessings and cursings in the day of judgment.
- The nearby town of Shechem (which means 'burden bearer') sheltering between the two mounts, was once a city of refuge (**Josh 21:21**). Christ is our City of Refuge (**Heb 6:17-18**).
- Here Israel gathered and were reminded by Joshua to serve Yahweh in sincerity and truth (**Josh 24**). Jesus would do the same in **John 4**.
- The nation was divided here in the days of Rehoboam (**2 Chron 10:1,16-17**). Christ will unite them (**Ezek 37:21-22**).
- The Samaritans had built a Temple in Mt Gerazim in the time of Nehemiah. A Temple should direct people to Christ. He is the living Temple (**John 2:19**).

The Gospel Preached to Samaria - John 4:1-42

Vv1-3 - *Opposition of the Pharisees Drives the Lord from Judea*

Vv5-6 - *They arrive at Sychar*

John 4:5 - "**Sychar**" - (Modern name = Askar) a small town less than 1 km from Jacob's well. 'Sychar' is from either the Hebrew "sheker" (means "Falsehood"), or "shikkor" (means "Drunkard") - ie. how the Jews saw the Samaritans.

John 4:6 - Neither Jesus nor the woman obtained water in this incident, but but what they did get thoroughly revived them both.

"**well**" - Gk "pege" - (used 3x - (**v6(2x), 14**) - Colour **dark blue**) Means a "fountain" or "spring" - ie a well fed by a spring. Cp - the woman's description - **v11**. Jesus saw it as typical of the power of the Word of God - a spring of the water of life.

John 4:9 - Doubtless she thought Jesus only spoke to her because he needed water.

Vv7-26 - *Teaching the Woman of Samaria*

John 4:10 - Wells are often called “gifts of God” and “living water” was the usual description for the bubbling water of a spring. But Christ means something much deeper.

“Gift of God” - Jesus was referring to the power of the word to change a person's life, and provide them with forgiveness of sins unto eternal life. See **Rom 5:15-6:8; 6:23; 2 Cor 9:15; Eph 3:7**. Available through the ‘living water’ of the principles of Christ. The woman and the Samaritans who she represented desperately needed this (as do all).

“Living water” - Yahweh is the fountain of living water (**Jer 2:13**). It becomes so when it is understood (**Prov 16:22**). See its cleansing power in type: **Lev 14:5; 15:13; Num 19:17**. Also: **Zech 13:1**.

John 4:11 - **“well”** - Gk ‘phrear’ - a pit or a cistern. (Used **v11, 12** - Colour **brown**). Contrasts with **v6,14**. She so far had failed to see the spiritual significance of Christ.

John 4:14 - **“never thirst”** - Lit “not not thirst” - double negative for emphasis. The things of the truth cannot be taken away (**Lk 10:42**).

“springing” - to spring up, gush, leap - Only other uses: **Acts 3:8; 14:10**. Shows the vigour and joy the truth can create as it leads to life (see this in **John 4:28-30**).

John 4:16 - Jesus first brings her to acknowledge her sins.

John 4:18 - Shows the woman as typical of the Samaritan nation. They worshipped the gods of 5 nations and also tried to worship Yahweh - see **2 Kg 17:27-41**.

John 4:21 - In AD70 both would be destroyed. Neither would be able to worship in either mountain.

John 4:22 - **“ye worship ye know not what”** - Note **v21** where she doesn't say what they worshipped. The Lord now emphasises that we are to worship “the Father”. See **v21,23,24**. Circle the key words in **Dark Blue**: **v21** - “worship the Father”; **v23** - “worship the Father”, “worship him”; **v24** - “worship him”.

“Salvation is of the Jews” - lit “out of the Jews” - ie through Christ (“a Jew” - **v9**). All who obtain salvation will be adopted into the Israel of God (**Eph 2:12-13**). The altar nearby was called “The Strength of the Mighty Ones of Israel” (**Gen 33:20**).

John 4:23 - **“true worshippers”** - cp **v22** - The Samaritans were not.

“in spirit and in truth” - Quoted from **Josh 24:14** “in sincerity (which means “without blemish”, or “perfect” - ie complete) and truth”. Highlighting the failing of the Samaritans - see **Josh 24:19-23** - The Samaritans had the same problem as Israel in the time of Joshua - mixed worship of other gods with worship of Yahweh)

John 4:24 - **“God is a Spirit”** - Should read “God is Spirit”. He is everywhere present by His Spirit Power (**Psa 139:7-12; Jer 23:24**). Therefore worship of the Father is not limited by location. **“must”** - Means - “it is necessary”, “it is right and proper”.

John 4:26 - **“I that speak unto thee am he”** - In the Greek - 5 words. This is the 7th time Christ spoke - Christ is the means of fulfilling the covenant by grace.

Vv27-42 - *Jesus teaches the people of Samaria*

Colour Code the Discussion

Colour the Words of Jesus (Blue) and the words of the Woman of Samaria (Green) (At the same time highlight her changing description of Jesus: v9 - “Jew”; v11,15,19 - “Sir” - Gk ‘Kurios’ - Master or Lord; v19 - “prophet”; v29 - “Christ”).

Reference	Words to Colour
John 4:7	“Give me to drink”
John 4:9	“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 4:10	“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 4:11-12	“Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water? Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?”
John 4:13-14	“Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: 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 4:15	“The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.”
John 4:16	“Go, call thy husband, and come hither.”
John 4:17	“I have no husband.”
John 4:17b-18	“Thou hast well said, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.”
John 4:19-20	“Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.”
John 4:21-24	“Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. 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. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”
John 4:25	“I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.”
John 4:26	“I that speak unto thee am he.”
John 4:29	“Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?”