

The Church at the Well!

John 4:7 *There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.*

God, who made the heavens and the earth, asked a woman “Give me to drink!” Can you imagine God who made the earth with over 70% of water asks a Samaritan woman for water from a well? What God is actually asking us is, “is the water you have satisfying your thirst?” By the time the conversation was over, the woman asked Jesus, “Sir, give me this water” (John 4:15). Thank God for thirst! God always finds his church by the water/well because he knows she will be thirsty and must come to the water to survive. May Jesus find his bride by the well – always thirsty! Thirst brought this woman to the well, and the identity of the Lord Jesus Christ was revealed to her. Only thirst will reveal the identity of Jesus to us. The journey to heaven begins with and is sustained by spiritual thirst. Are you still thirsty for Jesus Brothers and Sisters? Remember that we are the salt of the earth, according to Jesus! Salt is supposed to make people thirsty for Jesus; we are not the water, we are the salt.

Matthew 5:13 *Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.*

When Peter preached on the Day of Pentecost, 3000 people became so thirsty for this Jesus that they interrupted his message with, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Water is essential for so many things – cooking, washing, bathing and quenching thirst, among others. If we lose the desire for water, we will die, if we lose our thirst for the spiritual, we will die eternally. May God sustain our spiritual thirst! In the Bible, many women’s lives were changed at a well because these women represent the church of Jesus Christ.

Genesis 24:17 *And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher.*

Notice that Eliezer, Abraham’s servant, also asked Rebekah for water to drink. However, in the same manner that the Lord asked the Samaritan woman for water, this conversation also ended very differently. You see, water is a matter of life and death. This was especially the case in the days of the ancients when they were very dependent on fresh, pure sources of water. When new people come to the church, they can be surprised and offended that God asks for something very precious to them: their old lives on the altar. This is what is meant by “Give me to drink” as Jesus asked the Samaritan woman and Eliezer

asked Rebekah. “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit” (John 12:24). We begin to argue with God, like the Samaritan woman did.

John 4:9 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.*

Thank God for the spirit of Rebekah! When you and I are willing to give that which is precious to Jesus, he will begin the process of salvation and the journey to heaven in our lives. “The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself” (Proverbs 11:25). “And said, Whose daughter art thou? tell me, I pray thee: is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in?” (Genesis 24:23). In the same way, Jesus asked the Samaritan woman, “Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither” (John 4:16). At the well, God will ask us the most personal question, “Who are you?” It is at the well that we realize there is nothing to be proud of who we are: the sister of Laban, a Samaritan woman who is a sinner etc. At the water source, God will show us our worldly identity and will convince us to get rid of it – be baptized in Jesus name (Acts 2:38). Only those whose true earthly identities God exposes can rush to get rid of them. Otherwise, they will hold on to Laban and Samaria- etc.

The encounter at the well changed the destiny of Rebekah. Eliezer represents the Lord Jesus Christ. He told Rebekah about the new life she will have as the daughter of Abraham; the promises of God to Abraham and, that ultimately, she will be part of the coming of God in flesh to the earth. The question is do we want to be the sisters and brothers of Laban or of Abraham. Hallelujah! Will you go with Jesus right now? “And her brother and her mother said, Let the damsel abide with us a few days, at the least ten; after that she shall go” (Genesis 24:55). Rebekah’s brother, Laban, needs no introduction. It was Laban who many years later told the son of Rebekah, Jacob, “abide with me” (Genesis 29:19). We know how this ended: it is easy to check into “Hotel Laban”, but very difficult to check out. In the morning, you will get a wife you did not ask for in “Hotel Laban”. Every month, your paycheck will be changed at Hotel Laban. It took 20 years to check out. This is why Eliezer gave him so much gold etc. because he knew his spirit. Jesus paid the price to the devil and the world for our salvation. His blood is priceless; he paid the highest price for us to leave “Hotel Laban”, if you will.

Will you leave now? The thirst of Laban is for gold and silver, not the Spirit of Jesus. His sister, Rebekah, was so much wiser.

Genesis 24:58 *And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.*

Let us say together, “I must decide now, quickly, at the well when Jesus offers me a new identity”. Do not dilly-dally! Laban is making plans. “For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (2Cortinthians 6:2). In addition to Rebekah, Rachel and the Samaritan woman, Zipporah also encountered a man at a well in Midian which changed her destiny. The man’s name was Moses. Like the Samaritan woman, Zipporah also misidentified this man. She called him an Egyptian.

Exodus 2:19 *And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock.*

Like Zipporah, the Samaritan woman also misidentified the Lord Jesus. However, Jesus is God; he knew that behind her hardness and argumentation, she is spiritually thirsty. The woman was a Samaritan. Peter, James and John wanted to bring down fire upon Samaria to destroy it, but Jesus offered the eternal water of life to the Samaritan woman. She needed God to quench her thirst. Labels we put on people, such as “Samaritan” etc., do not deceive God. Muslim, Somali, ISIS etc. all are thirsty for the living God. We must not be offended at their defensiveness. The woman first was arrogant and quarrelsome, but as Jesus kept talking about water, she began to petition him for this water. One cannot argue about the need for water for spiritual thirst is a universal language that the church understands. God asks at the water, “Who are you?” A process of self-introspection begins at the well, which gradually leads to salvation.

John 7:37 *In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.*

John 7:38 *He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.*

John 7:39 *(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)*

In the end, the woman who argued with Jesus when he asked her for water, said, “Sir,

give me this water”. She became very respectful. She understood that the water Jesus spoke about cannot be purchased – it is priceless. That is why she did not try to offer any money. She did not say, “How much does this money cost?” This water is free – it is the gift of God. If you need the Holy Ghost today, you cannot do anything to deserve it. All you need to do is make a quick decision to give up your old life – say goodbye to Laban, and go with Eliezer, join with Moses and ask Jesus to give you this water. Jesus will fill you with his Holy Spirit. He will quench your spiritual thirst forever!