



Sunday, March 29, 2009: A New Kind of H2O

Scripture: John 4:1-42

Sermon Notes:

1. The entire life and ministry of Jesus communicates that living water ministered by the Holy Spirit alone can bring satisfaction to human beings.
2. Avoiding association with political “messiahs” of His day, Jesus shunned public attention, and stopped by an obscure Samaritan village.
3. Jesus moves past an apparent prejudice by asking for a drink of water from a *woman* of despised ethnicity.
4. By offering the woman living water, Jesus creates a new desire that only He can fulfill – He reveals a need in the human heart that can be met only in Himself.
5. This spiritual thirst-quenching water is a gift from God, not something we obtain for ourselves by our own effort or piety.
6. The human soul thirsts for God and cannot be otherwise satisfied.
7. Those souls satisfied in Christ “shall never thirst, no, never.”
8. The Samaritan woman's condition was not necessarily immoral; she may have been an improperly divorced and remarried concubine-wife.
9. Jesus doesn't compromise with Samaritan views, but clearly asserts that salvation is of the Jews, and in Himself only.
10. Worshiping in *spirit and truth* doesn't mean Christianity is merely an inward affair, but it highlights what true worship is, contrasting Spirit and flesh, above and below, known and unknown, living water and dead water.
11. Jesus identifies Himself as the “prophet” and the I AM, who brings spiritual life and satisfaction to all His spiritual children.

Application Questions:

1. Why did Jesus choose to reveal His Messiahship to an obscure woman in a non-Jewish town?
2. Do I hold and nurture prejudices against people in my life who desperately need the living water that only Jesus offers?
3. Augustine wrote: *You have made us for Yourself and our hearts are restless until we rest in You.* How have I experienced restlessness when seeking satisfaction in people and things apart from peace with God through new life in Jesus?
4. Do I seek to be made right with God by religious exercises apart from the Holy Spirit's application of Christ's blood and righteousness to my life?
5. When faced with alternative theological views, am I bold like Jesus to declare the truth to those in error, such as the Samaritan woman?
6. When Christ exposes your thirst, your prejudices, your past, your theological errors, will you let Him change you?