

Living Water

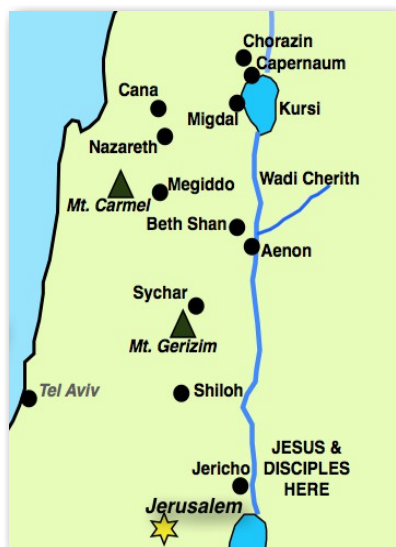
The Direction

“The Pharisees heard that Jesus was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John, ²although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but His disciples. ³When the Lord learned of this, He left Judea and went back once more to Galilee. ⁴Now He had to go through Samaria. ⁵So He came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as He was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour.” - John 4:1-6

The Pharisees were about to cause trouble because of Jesus’ popularity, so He chose to leave the area.

Although there were three routes to choose from, John says that Jesus had to go this way.

At about noon, Jesus was tired and sat down by a famous well.



The Drink

“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.) ⁹The 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.) ¹⁰Jesus 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? ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?” ¹³Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” ¹⁵The 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.”* - John 4:7-15

This woman was the lowest of outcasts. She was a Samaritan, a woman, and a relational disaster.

Jesus shocks her by speaking to her and by asking for a drink.

Jesus doesn’t answer her question, but mentions “living water.”

The woman suggested that Jesus had some serious problems.

A second time Jesus did not answer her question but tells her of a spiritual living water that would quench thirst forever.

As happened often, Jesus was believed, but misunderstood. The woman asked for this living water which is eternally satisfying.

The Discernment

“He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.” ¹⁷“I have no husband,” she replied. Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸The 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.” - John 4:16-18

For a third time Jesus does not respond to her remark, but suggests that she bring her husband to the well.

The woman confesses. Jesus explains her relational history.

The Devotion

“Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹Jesus declared, “Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴God is spirit, and His worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.” - John 4:19-24

The woman admits that Jesus is a prophet - for how else would He know these things? She then changes the subject from her sin to one of theology. *“Where is the right place to worship?”*

Jesus gives three answers to her question:

1. Salvation is from the Jews.
2. The time is come for worship to be within the heart.
3. This worship is what the Heavenly Father wants from you.

The Declaration

“The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When He comes, He will explain everything to us.” ²⁶Then Jesus declared, “I who speak to you am He.” - John 4:25,26

Referring to His statement of salvation, the woman expressed, “I know that the Messiah is coming and will make everything clear!”

Jesus declares Himself the Messiah!

Some Lessons to Consider:

1. Do I sense the importance of God’s appointments?
2. Do I worship within my heart and avoid the traps of worship?
- 3.

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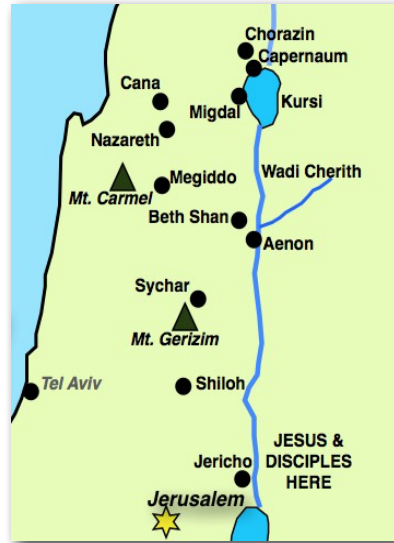
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