# 20191019 – ONE POWERFUL TESTIMONY

Sunday AM - John 4:28-30

## I. UPON THIS

# A. Remember the scene

- 1. The people of Samaria
  - a. Considered half-breeds by the Jews
  - b. Half Jewish, half Assyrian
  - c. Hated, avoided, ridiculed
- 2. The "good" Samaritan
  - a. Was truly a shocking tale
  - b. Christ talking about neighbors who is my neighbor?
  - c. Remember, the lawyers and the scribes had rules for everything
  - d. A man robbed, his own countrymen ignoring him
  - e. Even a priest crossing to the far side of the road!
  - f. But one man, who happened to be a Samaritan, took pity on him
  - g. Jesus answered the neighbor question!
- 3. Not only a Samaritan
  - a. But also, a woman with the lowest reputation
  - b. Five husbands! Living with a man currently!
  - c. She was AVOIDING the other women by drawing water at noon

# B. Repentance for sin

- 1. Jesus told her of the Water of Life
  - a. She'd never thirst again!
  - b. Sounds pretty good to a social pariah!
  - c. But when she asked for it, Jesus changed the subject (vs. 15 &16)
  - d. Why?
- 2. She had to be confronted with her own sin
  - a. It's not enough to agree that God is right
  - b. We must also KNOW that we are wrong!
  - c. A soul can NEVER truly believe until confession for sin
  - d. Salvation requires repentance
- Consider
  - a. Jonah preaching to Nineveh
  - b. Achan was given all night long to repent
  - c. And this Woman of Samaria
  - d. Our sister in Christ!
- C. Replay the situation
  - 1. Jesus sitting on the well
    - a. Talking to her
    - b. Telling her about the Water of Life
    - c. Calling her unto repentance
    - d. Telling her religion will not Save

- e. Explaining how God is to be Worshipped
- 2. Revealing Himself as Messiah! (vs. 25 26)
- 3. Upon THIS (vs. 27)
  - a. The disciples show up
    - i. Maybe they were hanging back and watching
    - ii. Maybe they didn't know what to do
    - iii. Do we interrupt? We have His meal...
  - b. They marveled
    - i. That word is not used frivolously
    - ii. This really shocked them
    - iii. Today we say we're having a hard time processing...
    - iv. It wasn't surprising, it was completely unexpected
  - c. But no one questioned
    - i. Two questions here
    - ii. Maybe one would have been for her, what seekest thou?
    - iii. Maybe the other for Jesus, why talkest thou with her?
    - iv. We see, perhaps, two attitudes here:
      - Outrage / pique / selfishness / prejudice How dare you! (What seekest thou?)
      - Can I help / Can I learn more / I don't want to miss anything! (Why talkest thou with her?)
    - v. When the unexpected happens
      - It's alright to ask the Lord why seeking to learn
      - You may not get the answer you want, but as long as you're seeking a closer walk with Him, it will exercise your faith
      - It's NEVER alright to accuse the Lord of mistreatment or to demand that He explain Himself.
  - d. They show up and we see that she LEFT, she WENT, and the words she SAITH

#### II. SHE LEFT

- A. Her Waterpot (vs. 28a)
  - 1. Vessels
    - a. These were not small vessels; these were very large (John 2:6)
    - b. Women would carry (still do) these balanced on their heads
    - c. Water enough for the day
    - d. Expensive! But she left it behind!
  - 2. Hebrews 12:1 "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, (2) Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our

- faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."
- 3. Act 3:7 "And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. (8) And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. (9) And all the people saw him walking and praising God:"
- 4. Acts 9 Saul / Paul
  - a. Letter from the High Priest to destroy the Christians at Damascus
  - b. Forgotten!
  - c. Act 9:19 "And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. (20) And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God."
- B. She Left Her Thirst Behind
  - 1. John 4:13 & 14 Never thirst again
  - 2. How do I know she got Saved?
    - a. Don't go looking for the magic prayer or some formulaic method
    - b. I didn't realize my own lack of repentance had held me back
    - c. I didn't even realize I was repenting even while I was doing it!
    - d. People are different and Salvation is not an incantation!
    - e. But all the elements are always there
  - 3. How do I know she got Saved?
    - a. She came to the well thirsty
    - b. And left filled!
    - c. What did she need with that silly water pot any longer?!
- C. She Left Material Things Behind
  - 1. There's nothing wrong with material things
    - a. We need them to live
    - b. And I'm sure she eventually went back to get the water pot
    - c. It was probably in pretty safe hands with Jesus, after all
  - 2. Let the things of earth
    - a. Become strangely dim
    - b. In the light of His glory and grace
  - 3. I've got a mansion! Just over the hilltop!
  - 4. In that bright land where we'll never grow old!
- D. She Left Her Comfort Zone
  - 1. She suddenly had such a burden she could no longer stand still
  - 2. A burden for the lost, you next see her telling other!
  - 3. 2 Corinthians 5:14 "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:"
  - 4. She could do no less

5. She left – let's see where she went...

## III. SHE WENT

- A. Ran back into the city
  - 1. Sychar
  - 2. In other words, she went to her own people
  - 3. She went to her home first!
- B. Spoke to the Men (vs. 28)
  - 1. It could be that she had few friends who were women
  - 2. They may have considered her a homewrecker
  - 3. Or it simply could be that she ran to the city gates
    - a. Where the men did their business
    - b. And simply started shouting the gospel!
- C. She wasn't choosey who she told
  - 1. It was a message for EVERYONE to hear
  - 2. Not just for the rich, not just for the poor
  - 3. She published it to anyone who could hear
  - 4. And guess what she said!

# IV. SHE SAITH

- A. Come see a man, which told me all things that ever I did (vs. 29)
  - 1. This testimony has GREAT wisdom
    - a. She didn't run up and tell them
      - i. Not of a soul reborn
      - ii. Nor of sin reviled
      - ii. She told them instead
      - iv. Of a Savior revealed!
    - b. She didn't try to explain the worship of God
    - c. She didn't tell how Jesus put an end to a religious controversy
  - 2. She simply told them the thing that had happened to her
  - 3. The most personally amazing thing for her
  - 4. He told me all things that ever I did!
- B. She invited them to come SEE Him
  - 1. Not study Him, not talk about Him
  - 2. But come MEET Him! Come TALK to Him
- C. Her guestion demanded a response!
  - 1. Is not this the Christ?
  - 2. That question still demands a response
- D. Her witness was very effective
  - 1. Look at what happened when they heard
  - 2. They went!

# V. THEY WENT

- A. And came unto Him (vs. 30)
- B. You can come unto Him today
- C. He IS the Christ!