

The Life of Christ

Jesus at Samaria

John 4:1-3 Jesus separates himself from John

Compare with John 3:30 – why is Jesus leaving the area?

Regarding vs. 2 – What does that say about baptism as a requirement of salvation? – Why isn't Jesus baptizing?

John 4:4-6 See a map, what "Need"? Divine need – salvation of Samaritans

John 4:7-26 The Woman at the Well

Vs. 7-9, 19-20 What's the rub between Jews and Samaritans?

- While the Jews must worship at their temple, the Jews respected only Solomon's temple, rebuilt by Zerubbabel Under the Greeks, but the Samaritans built their own temple at a place where Abraham and Moses had built alters.
 - This meant different worship, under different priest, different high priest, i.e. independent government
- During restoration, they opposed the rebuilding of Jerusalem, under the leadership of Tobiah and Sanballat (Book of Nehemiah)
- They considered themselves righteous descendants of Abraham, but were a racially mixed people. (Book of Ezra)
- Under Greeks, Samaritans allowed their worship to be morphed into the worship of Zeus
- Under the Romans, when Rome displaced the High Priest with an unqualified satrap of Rome's choosing, the Samaritans brought over a qualified high priest into their temple/denomination/government

John 4:7-15 Living water – discuss the metaphor of salvation and Christ living in us, sustaining, refreshing, encouraging us – like a fresh spring of cold water.

John 4:16-18 Does not allow acceptance without repentance – shows her sin so she can be honest with Christ, and accept Him as savior.

John 4:19-24 She is not deflecting – she has just been convicted of her sins and is asking about the validity of her religion; she's ready for salvation and asking questions.

John 4:25-26 We don't get it verbatim, but based on her testimony to her people, this is the point of her saving faith in Jesus Christ.

John 4:(27)28-30 End of the private discussion, clearly she leaves without discussion with the other Jews, but goes straight to her own people to spread the news of the Messiah and his gift of living water.

(Meanwhile...)

John 4:27, 31-34 Compare with His answer to the tempter, "Man cannot live by bread alone" – this is spiritual truth, that we require spiritual fulfillment to live.

John 4:35-38 The harvest is ready now! (even though the Church is not yet established)

John 4:39-42 The conversion of the Samaritans