

Beginning of a Great Harvest 2019-03-10

John 4:28-30

So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the town and were coming to him.

Monumental moment in redemptive history....Beginning of Jesus' claiming nations and people groups outside of Israel to Himself.

- Unlikely instrument: woman not interested in spiritual things, messed up religious beliefs, immoral, social outcast.... not potential leader like Nicodemus.
 - Yet God uses this obscure Samaritan woman (not high priest of Judaism) in 1st New Testament account of spiritual awakening/revival. John 4:26, 28-30, 39

Very things she hid from Jesus are what the Lord used to propel her into mission.

- Her deepest pain, regrets, failures, sin are where God's grace, forgiveness and healing were most evident and clear.
 - Not need evangelism courses (useful) to witness - just do what she did...tell others/lost what Jesus has done for you out of full, grateful heart.
 - How Jesus is making you whole....it's a process.

Proof her faith was genuine was her verbal confession.

- Goes back to very people most likely to reject anything she had to say and testifies that Jesus is omniscient and the Messiah.
 - Questions were probably not doubt, but seeking confirmation...piqued their curiosity.
 - Ask questions rather than make pronouncements. Bill Fay

By God's sovereign, seeking grace Samaritan men believed her and sought Jesus.

- This brought Jesus satisfaction and delight (food). John 4:31-38, 19:30
 - "accomplish his work" same root as "It is finished".

God's work is redemption and this is the beginning of Jesus' spiritual harvest among nations and people groups of the world. Amos 9:13

- Harvests there did not look white, but Samaritans often dressed in white.
 - Jesus was prophesying Samaritans going to be saved. John 4:39-42, 1:11-13, Revelation 7:9

After Jesus simply "tented" with Samaritans for 2 days (no recorded miracles/signs) they no longer believed because her testimony but believed based on what Jesus said.

- Jesus opened outcast Samaritans eyes to truth of Himself and purpose of God:
 - Jesus rejected by own people was prophet > Messiah > Savior of world.
 - Salvation from Jews but available to entire world.
- Vs 42 climax of John 4:1-42, beginning of Jesus claiming nations and people groups to Himself that will culminate with eternal multinational worship of Jesus Christ.

All like her in some way: lost need of salvation or saved/sent. John 20:31, Luke 19:10, Acts 1:8

- Lost, looking for satisfaction in world's sources yet always thirsting but Jesus pursuing with love and offers "living water"this recorded so might believe.

- By grace receive gift of “living water” that forever satisfies. Gospel
- If saved then sent/used by Jesus as He claims nations/people groups to Himself.
 - He uses imperfect, forgiven people like Samaritan woman to sow and reap a spiritual harvest.....who sow and reap in your life?
 - Like farmer not take credit for results, yet what do is vital.
- Like in this account, harvest ready where we least expect. Neighbor, friend
 - Must sow if want to reap. Pray for, invite, share Gospel, \$ missions.
 - By sow/reap you’ll experience satisfaction/joy because doing God’s will & joining Him in spiritual harvest of nations.