

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW; YOUR KINGDOM COME...ON EARTH

Week 7 – JROC – Galilee – Samaria – The Woman at the Well – The Harvest

February 27, 2022

John 3:22 - *After these things (after Jesus' time with Nicodemus) Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea (into the rural area of Judea near the Jordan), and there He remained with them (His disciples) and baptized. Jesus' disciples baptized; Jesus did not (John 4:2).*

John 3:25-26 – John continued to baptize. However, a bit of a rift began to develop. *Then there arose a dispute between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purification. ²⁶ And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He (Jesus) who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified—behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him (to Jesus)!"* Jesus attracted a following!

John 3:27-30 - Regarding Jesus, John told his own disciples, *A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. ²⁸ You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.'* ²⁹ *He who has the bride (those who are redeemed [Jer. 16; Jer. 33]) is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom (John), who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. ³⁰ He must increase, but I must decrease.*

John 4:1-2 – *Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John ² (though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples).*

This was not yet the time for Jesus to come head-to-head with the religious leadership in Jerusalem. WHY? It wasn't yet time for Him to go to the cross!!

John 4:3 - *He left Judea and departed again to Galilee.*

Was Jesus going into hiding? NO! And, Jesus was not going to remain incognito in Galilee. The question we need to ask is, "WHY did Jesus go to Galilee?"

John 4:4 - *But He needed to go through Samaria. WHY? The Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans. WHY?*

The Samaritans were half-Jew/half-Gentile and were despised by the Jews. The Samaritan race came about when the ten tribes were carried away into captivity to Assyria. The King of Assyria sent his own people to inhabit Samaria (2 Kings 17:24; Ezra 4:2-11). These foreigners intermarried with the Israelite population that was still in

and around Samaria. The Samaritans embraced a religion that was a mixture of Judaism and idolatry (II Kings 17:26-28).

Why did Jesus need to go through Samaria NOW? A divine appointment. With a Samaritan?

During Jesus' divine appointment with the Samaritan woman at the well, the woman was amazed that Jesus would have any interaction with her.

John 4:9-10 - *How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman? For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.* ¹⁰ *Jesus answered and said to*

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her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water. (John 4:9-10).

The woman told Jesus, *I know that Messiah is coming (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things."*

²⁶ *Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."* Jesus PROCLAIMED Himself as the Messiah in John 4:26!

Jesus broke down the barriers between the Jews and the Samaritans, preaching the gospel of peace to the Samaritans (John 4:6-26), and the apostles later followed His example (Acts 8:4-8; 8:25)!