

A Glimpse Into The Well

"Will You Surrender Your Thirst for His Transformative Will?"

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October 11, 2026

Scripture: John 4:4-15; *King James Version (KJV)*

Background: 2 Kings 17:24-41

Context: John tells us that Jesus "must go" through Samaria on His way to Galilee (v. 4). The arrival of Jacob's well (vv. 5-6) sets the stage for the meeting of Jesus with the woman of Sychar and the developments that ensue from it. The antipathy between Jews and Samaritans as a mixed race, settled in the northern kingdom by the king of Assyria. The Samaritans nevertheless viewed themselves as true Israel, and heirs of the promises of God to Israel, and their version of the Pentateuch as the original one, direct from Moses. Jesus crossed familiar social and religious barriers with grace.¹

Despite generations of hostility between Jews and Samaritans, He rested at Jacob's well and spoke with a Samaritan woman who came to draw water. He saw her, welcomed the conversation, and offered her "living water"—the gracious gift of God that wells up to eternal life.

John 4 is unique in that it depicts the compassion and patience of Jesus dealing with a Samaritan woman, His willingness to minister to a Samaritan community, and the confession arising from their experience.² When Jesus spoke of her past, He did not do so merely to shame her. He showed that He knew her fully and still extended grace. This is the tenderness of our Savior: He brings truth into the light, meets us with mercy, and invites us to receive the lasting life found in Him. **TGBTG!**

Our Mission Statement

To love and serve God through Jesus Christ our Savior by the power of the Holy Spirit. To be committed to reshaping the lives of our families, our church, and our communities through *biblical worship, discipleship, and evangelism*.

Content: John 4:4-15 (KJV)

A Well-Designed Thirst Trap

⁴ And He must needs go through Samaria. ⁵ Then cometh He to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. ⁶ Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with His journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour. ⁷ There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink. ⁸ (For His disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)

A Conversation That Invites Transformation

⁹ Then saith the woman of Samaria unto Him, how is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. ¹⁰ Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water. ¹¹ The woman saith unto Him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water? ¹² Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?

A Divine Satiation Experienced Through Surrender

¹³ Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: ¹⁴ But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. ¹⁵ The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

¹ George R. Beasley-Murray. *Word Biblical Commentary: John*. (TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1999), 59-60.

² *Ibid.*, 66.