

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for April 24-25, 2004

"Living Water"

John 4:10-14

This weekend we will be examining the offer that Christ made to this Samaritan woman in John 4:10-14.

The Samaritan woman's question in John 4:9 assumed something that was not true. She assumed that Jewish convictions and biases would have prevented Christ from asking her for a drink.

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Jesus, in responding to the Samaritan woman's question, which was based on false assumption, sought to point her toward the truth.

The word for "gift" (DOREA) denotes "free gift," stressing its gratuitous character.

The free gift that was available through Him, that she could have received if she had simply asked, was "living water."

We should understand Christ's reference to "living water" as a reference to eternal life (John 3:14-15).

Christ referred to the gift as "living water," rather than as "stagnant water," to communicate the positive energy inherent in the gift.

She did not understand the phrase "living water" metaphorically because that phrase, in the time of Christ, was commonly understood to refer to water that was fresh, or in other words moving.

In the area of Sychar, the only living water that the people were aware of was in Jacob's well, which may at that time have been fed by a spring.

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The woman in John 4:12 basically said to Jesus, "If Jacob had to dig a well to obtain living water, why should I believe you can provide living water without the benefit of this well?"

Jesus told the Samaritan woman that the living water that He was prepared to give will forever satisfy the thirst of anyone who would come to Him.

Jesus was not talking about the thirst that characterizes the body of man, but rather the thirst that characterizes the soul of man when he lacks a personal relationship with God.

The living water that Jesus is prepared to give to those who come to Him, is not a stagnant pool, but rather a well of water springing up to provide them with unlimited spiritual blessings.

I step out into a future limited only by what Thou art.