

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for June 19-20, 2004

"The Soul Food Special"

John 4:35-38

What are four major features of Christ's work outlined for us in John 4:31-42?

The first major feature of Christ's work is the proper motive.

What motivated Christ was doing the will of the Father and accomplishing His work.

Doing the will of His Father and accomplishing His work was Christ's soul food.

The second major feature of Christ's work is the urgency associated with reaping God's harvest (John 4:35-36).

Jesus contrasts what the disciples had been saying about the future grain harvest with the very present and pressing need to harvest souls (John 4:35).

When grain is ready to harvest it is not white, rather it is brown, golden brown or yellow.

The disciples, when they looked out over the fields in response to Christ's request, may not only have seen green stubble, but Samaritans coming toward them dressed in white.

The time to harvest the grain was still four months away, but the time to harvest the souls of these Samaritans who were coming to Jesus and His disciples was now!

The normal procedure was for laborers to be paid at the end of each day. Therefore, when Jesus tells His disciples that wages are already being received, He is telling them time is running out.

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The third major feature of Christ's work is joy (John 4:36).

It is not just the reapers who rejoice at the time of the harvest, but those who sow as well. They share this joy together (John 4:36).

The "others" most likely refers to John the Baptist who had ministered in that area, to Christ, and of course to the Samaritan woman.

One life will soon be past, only what is done for Christ will last.