



**Well,Well,Well!**

**John 4:1-30**

*An evangelist was on a bus when he felt that the Lord was asking him to speak to the man on the seat in front of him. "Excuse me," he said, "can I share something about Jesus with you?". "No" was the sharp reply. The evangelist thought for a moment then said, "Why won't you speak to me?" "We have not been introduced," said the man. "I never have anything to do with people I don't know." "Oh" said the evangelist, "what would you do if you had a heart attack and collapse right now? Who would you call on to help you? I'll tell you - it would be me and you wouldn't wait to be introduced!"*

*One day, an Elder of a church was filling up his car at a petrol station in one of the Welsh valleys. As he did so, a group of sheep wandered across the road and on to the forecourt, wandering around as if they were lost. He turned to the man at the pump next to him, seizing the opportunity to witness. "Don't you think we're sometimes just like those lost sheep?" he said. "Speak for yourself" was the curt reply!*

We looked this morning at how we should be witnesses. I am interested in that term – witnesses. We use the term a lot don't we – witnessing. It's enough to drive fear into many Christians. How sad – because it shouldn't.

After all, if you see or experience something amazing, you want to tell everybody, don't you? In fact, both of John's larger works are both witness reports – what he saw, what he heard. This gospel and his letters were written at a time when there was plenty of stuff going around from people who had never seen Jesus and were making up their own nonsense. And John writes words like the ones we read to make it clear that he was a witness 1 John 1:1 *We write to you about the Word of life, which has existed from the very beginning. We have heard it, and we have seen it with our eyes; yes, we have seen it, and our hands have touched it.*

And here we have Jesus talking to this woman – someone of ill repute as we find out. She is coming to the well alone to draw water – often true of people who are ostracised and to her surprise Jesus talks to her.

*Did you know that this woman is possibly the fattest woman in the Bible? After all, she was the woman of Some-Area!*

She had three reasons to be surprised – he was Jewish, He was a man, and she was obviously a dodgy woman. Yet Jesus has this conversation with her. As we come around this table this evening we come, knowing that we have a Saviour who was prepared to come alongside us and did more than just have a chat – but who died for us and is risen and glorified and His Spirit is in us. Look at verse: 21 *Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the time will come when people will not worship the Father either on this mountain or in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans do not really know whom you worship; but we Jews know whom we worship, because it is from the Jews that salvation comes. 23 But the time is coming and is already here, when by the power of God's Spirit people will worship the Father as he really is, offering him the true worship that he wants. 24 God is Spirit, and*

***only by the power of his Spirit can people worship him as he really is."***

The Saviour who came close to us, has placed His Spirit in us so we can come aside and worship this evening. Praise Him!

What else do we find. Jesus already knew all about her even though they had never met. She recognised who she was. What was a Jewish prophet doing talking to her? After all, salvation was of the Jews wasn't it. She was a mixed race, not pure Jewish blood and worshipping in a non-approved place. It was the old Samaritan gripe with the Jews. As we just read, where we worship is no longer the issue because God's temple is effectively each of us. As Paul said, our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. The woman knew that her body wasn't exactly a temple. We might not be as bad as her, but we are also not worthy to be in the Father's presence, yet by the blood of Jesus we are made fit not just for that to be the case, but for our bodies to be His temple. What sort of temple are we? Are we a beautiful structure who people are attracted to – or a heap of junk that appeals to no-one? We are witnesses and the integrity of who we are speaks for us. We are witnesses, whether we want to be or not. We are going to explore this next Sunday, but as we come around the table this evening we should be aware that we are less than what we should be and come in confession to Him.

Finally, she was so amazed, that she had to tell people. ***28 Then the woman left her water jar, went back to the town, and said to the people there, 29 "Come and see the man who told me everything I have ever done. Could he be the Messiah?" 30 So they left the town and went to Jesus.***

How amazed are we by Jesus? How much we speak of Jesus actually says something about how amazing Jesus is. Let's pray as we come around the table this evening that Jesus will show more of Himself to us and that we may be filled afresh with awe at the wonderful Saviour we have – and that our lives and words will bear testimony of it.

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Scripture quotes TEV*