

Title: Lift Up Your Eyes *(Do You Want His Christ Blood?)*  
 Text: John 4:27-42 *The Field is Ready*

Will you open your Bibles, please, to John chapter 4. I would like to begin this morning with Vs 27. John chapter 4 beginning with vs 27. There are notes in your bulletin. I <sup>trust</sup> hope you will use them as we study god's Word together.

(READ John 4:27-42)

PRAYER

This is really a fantastic conversation that Jesus is having with this Samaritan woman. Jesus begins to tell her that He is the Messiah. He told her about living water. And she was excited and wanted to have it. Then Jesus reminds her that in order to have living water she had to face her sin. Well, she didn't want to face her sin so she tried to avoid the issue. Like many of us try to do. And she brought up her good works and religion.

You know, we often do this same thing. Have you ever talked to someone about Christ and when the conversation gets a little hot by way of conviction they say, "Well, I have my own church". And so that is what she did in trying to get Jesus off the subject.

But, in his great love and tenderness, Jesus said to her, "Let's talk about that matter of worship that you brought up. He didn't ignore the issue. And he told her that <sup>He</sup> is Spirit and they that worship him must worship Him in Spirit ....that is within your spirit. And you must worship him in truth. Not in type like the O.T. sacrificial system. But in truth. And the truth is Jesus. He has fulfilled all systems of worship. And Jesus our God is to be worshipped. This is a fantastic conversation. And can you imagine the joy that came over this woman when she shared with others that she had met the Messiah. Because she had heard him say to her in Vs 26, "I who speak to you am He." Well, that is where we want to pick up our story.

(6D) Now, beginning with Vs 27, notice the concern of His disciples. His disciples are concerned over two things.

(1E) One..they are concerned over the necessity of talking with this woman. The necessity of this conversation. And two things hit my mind, here, about the necessity of this conversation.

(1E) In Vs 27, we read that no one said to Jesus "Hay, Jesus, why are you talking with this Samaritan woman." This struck a note in my mind. They refused to ask Him.. "Why he was doing this."

(7D) Now, I like this. Jesus, in verses 32-38 uses this opportunity to teach his disciples and us some principles concerning evangelism. These principles are vry important, if we are to reach people and grow this church. *Do You Want The Church To Grow? Here is How You Can do it -*

(1E) First of all, our motivation. Jesus is teaching us what His motivation was and what our motivation should be. And I want you to see two major things about that motivation.

(1F) One, is that the disciples were confused. You know, when you are really motivated and operating according to God's principles in your life, many folks will misunderstand. They will be confused about what is really driving you. What is really motivating you. And so were the disciples.

Jesus said, Vs 32, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."

But, "~~the~~ disciples said one to another, has anyone brought Him anything to eat?"

They missed the point of the whole thing. They did not understand what He was talking about. What His real motivation was. Either in talking with this Samaritan woman ..or.. in his remarks. They were confused. *Don't you miss The power of Jesus*

You see, Jesus is telling them that I have a motivation, here, that is very important for you men to learn. He was teaching them while directing them to His motivation. And this caused some confusion.

(2F) Now, the second thing concerning his motivation relates to the commitment of Jesus. And really how this commitment was controlling His motivation. And ~~the~~ same thing is true about every one of us. You tell me what is your commitment. And I will tell you about your motivation.

Now, Jesus was committed, here, to ~~two~~ <sup>TWO</sup> things which controlled his motivation in life. And if we are committed to these two principles, they will control our motivation as well.

(1G) Number one, Jesus was committed to do the will of God. We read in Vs 34..Jesus says.. "my food is to do the will of Him who sent me."

(2E) Now, secondly, I would like you to look at Vs 35 to 38 as Jesus goes FROM HIS motivation to the task that he has given to every believer.

WHAT TASK DOES EVERY BELIEVER HAVE? <sup>Dear</sup> Friends, it is the same task that Jesus had. Jesus said, "AS MY FATHER HAS SENT ME, SO DO I SEND YOU." It is the same task. There is no difference. Luke 19:10 says, "he came into the world to seek and to save that which was lost." Jesus, when he ascended into heaven said, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." He means that everyone of us should take Him seriously. We <sup>are</sup> ~~need~~ to share the gospel. That is the primary task of the believer. <sup>We are to invite people to come to Christ and His church</sup>

Now, Jesus expresses this task very beautifully as He takes the disciples and draws them into a deep spiritual truth. In Vs 35, Jesus gives them an illustration. He says, "There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest? Behold, I say to you, left up your eyes, and look on the fields, they are white for harvest."

I would like you to notice two <sup>principles</sup> things about this task of evangelism that Jesus has given to each and every believer <sup>in this Room.</sup>

(1F) Number one, Jesus gives us the condition of the harvest. Dear friends, what is the condition of the harvest? He says that "it is white." In other words, it is ready to be reaped. It is ready....

(2F) Then, secondly, He tells us to do two things.

(1G) One is to look <sup>Dear Friends</sup> Friends, we must look. Jesus said, "Left up your eyes and look." Many of us do not know what is going on around us. We do not see <sup>people</sup> as a harvest. We do not see what we really need to see. We live in a neighborhood and are not aware of our neighbors. We go to work and we are unaware of those we work with. And we fail to understand that God has placed you where you are for a purpose. And that purpose is to witness to those around you. Lift up your eyes and look upon the harvest field. If you are not looking, you will not see anything. So, start looking.

(2G) Secondly, Jesus emphasizes the importance of what you see. It is important that you look.. True.. But what do you see when you look? A lot of folks say in interpreting this passage that there is a big <sup>field</sup> ~~field~~ <sup>filled</sup> ~~filled~~ by the <sup>world</sup> ~~world~~. And the fields are whitened with gain that is ready to be harvest.

I don't believe that. I don't believe there were fields right there at the well. And I don't believe it was the time of the year for the harvest. I don't think that is what Jesus is saying at all. I don't believe they were looking at grain fields and Jesus was saying, "Well, in four months they will be ready for harvest."....NO. way

We know from mid-east customs of that day that "four months" referred to sowing and reaping. They believed that from seed time to harvest was exactly four ~~now~~ months. And it was a proverb and a saying.

Now, connect that with what <sup>Jesus</sup> he is saying in Verses 36 to 38. There is a principle here about sowing and reaping. That the entire thing from seed time to harvest is all under the control of God. It all involves what God wants you to do. The entire thing. Sowing to reaping. Seed time to harvest.

Now, maybe you still haven't got the point. <sup>So</sup> Why did Jesus say that the fields were white unto harvest, if there were no grain fields? And it wasn't the time of the harvest? What point was Jesus making?

Well, many have suggested before me and many after me that the point here deals with the customs of the land. The Samaritan men had a custom of wearing white terpsuns on their heads. Of course the woman, then, as ~~well~~ well as now, still wear veils over their face. And in Samaria those white terpsuns are very common.

Now, get the picture. Back in Vs 31 it says "in the meanwhile the disciples were requesting Him." In the meanwhile what?...What is <sup>Jesus</sup> he talking about? <sup>He</sup> is talking about from the time the woman <sup>went</sup> to get the men in the city. So, they are not yet here ...

In the meantime we have this little discussion about the harvest. Do you get the picture. They are at the well and here come all these men <sup>with</sup> with that woman leading the way.

And Jesus says, "Listen, you guys, you know that from seed time to harvest is four months...RIGHT?....From sowing to reaping....Four months... Right?.....<sup>But</sup> ~~that~~, look over their ~~re~~...Left up your eyes and look unto the fields. They are white already for harvest." <sup>V</sup>Wether you sow or you reap let's go get them."<sup>This</sup>.....People, he was talking about....

White unto harvest. They couldn't have missed the point. Those men wearing their white terupuns coming from the city to see the Messiah. And Jesus says, "Look unto the fields. They are white unto harvest. All those men coming to us." We don't have to go to them. Terrific outreach program..

*6/14 Paul's mission - 1st*  
 (3) Now, beginning at Vs 36 and going through vs 38 the <sup>main</sup> second thing about his <sup>TASK</sup> mission for every believer, first is the condition of the harvest, but secondly, he makes a connection here between sowing and reaping that many of us never take time to see. And this connection is very important.

Vs 36 Jesus says, "he who reaps is receiving wages, and is gathering fruit for life eternal; that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. "For in this case the saying is true, "one sows, another reaps. I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Now, they are getting ready for a great evangelistic campaign with these Samaritans. And he is saying to them, "Listen, you are not sowing here. You are reaping here."

*Paul*  
 Whenever Jesus referred to his ministry, he ~~always~~ <sup>did not</sup> referred to it as a sowing ministry. Did you know that? He believed that the prophets had planted the seeds.

Philip who was one of the chosen seven to serve as deacons in Acts 6, Philip lived to become an evangelist. And he went to the city of Samaria, says Acts chapter 8. And a great revival happened there. Many people came to the Lord. It was fantastic. HAY!!! Philip wasn't sowing. He was reaping.. You see, Jesus had already been there. The Disciples had already ministered there. Here in John 4. And the prophets before them had already been there.

Now, what is the point?...Whether you sow or you reap, that is not important. Each of us is evaluated according to the faithfulness to the task that God has given us.

Let me share a few things with you in this regard...

2 Corinthians 9:6 says, "the one who sows, if he sows sparingly, reaps sparingly; but if he sows bountifully, he reaps bountifully." That is a principle of the harvest...

~~7-9~~

Now, if you are going to talk with just a few people about christ, ~~many~~ chances are that few will receive him. That is from your perspective. If you talk with many, chances are that you will see many come to Christ. That is just the principle of the harvest. Because God is in the business of winning people. It is not you. So if you are sowing greatly in the harvest, chances are you will reap greatly.

Here is another text for you. Don't think that you can get away with in this regard, or not do the work. <sup>Paul</sup> God says in Galations chapter 6, that God is not mocked. Be not deceived. Whatever a man sows that will he also reap. Whether in this life or in heaven.

Some one else might reap in this life in terms of results. Now, we are very result orientated. Example: A man comes and says, "I will become a part of the visitation program as long as I can lead one person to Christ."

Now, isn't that a nice little deal?....Do you make deals like that with God?...God if you will only bless me in this area then I promised you, that I will be faithful to you."...DO YOU DO THAT? YOU HAD BETTAER STOP!!! That is not God's way.....

Whether you sow or you reap it is God who gives the increase. And/~~we~~ because we are so prone to results, we believe it is the results that are the test as to whether or not we have been sowing correctly or faithfully. THAT IS RIDICULOUS!!!!!!....

Moses got results when he strick the rock the second time. And god said "speak to it." Water still came. But because of that one act of disobedience he couldn't go into the promise land. God brought the water because he wanted the people to drink. Listen, God <sup>has</sup> ~~sees~~ people inspite of us, not because of us. In I Corintbians 3 <sup>he said</sup> we read "Apollos planted, I ~~watered~~ watered, but God gives the increase?" Neither he who plants or he who waters, it is God who brings the increase. That is what the Bible teaches.

I can train you how to sha re Jesus Christ, but listen, the harvest field is under His control. God is bringing people to himself. We are just trying to put you there when God is working. We are trying to get you to do the task that God wants every believeer to do.....Tp train you how to do it...

That is our responsibility. The matter of reaping is in God's hands. The matter of sowing is in sowing is in God's hands. We are just vessels that God wants to use. Oh, how we need to get straight in our minds the connection between sowing and reaping.

( ) Now, finally, in verses 39 to 42, notice the consequences of this interview.

(1 ) First of all, notice the response of these Samaritans in Vs 39. "Many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, 'He told me all the things that I have done.'"

Don't ever underestimate the power of one person's life. The power of one person's testimony. What an impact this woman had. Isn't that encouragement to you? When you meet people at work or in the super market, or where ever, don't you ever underestimate the power of your life. God can do great things through you.

(2 ) Secondly , I notice the results of further ministry here. Vs 40 says that when the Samaritans ask him to stay longer with them, Jesus stayed two more days.

And Vs. 41 says "many believed because of the word they heard from Jesus.

(3 ) The third thing I notice in Vs. 42 is that they recognized who Jesus is.

The Bible says, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this one is indeed the Savior of the world."

They were convinced because they heard him themselves. Dear friends, faith comes by hearing and hearing by God's Word. Have you believed His Word?

You will know his identity by believing His Word. You can have confidence and assurance of eternal life, of salvation by believing His Word. Believe on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved.

*Let's close in Prayer*