

A close-up photograph of a hand holding an open book. The book is held vertically, and bright, golden light rays emanate from the pages, creating a dramatic, ethereal effect. The background is dark, making the light from the book stand out. The text 'BOOK of JOHN' is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font. The word 'BOOK' is in a bold, all-caps font, 'of' is in a smaller, elegant script font, and 'JOHN' is in a bold, all-caps font.

BOOK *of* JOHN

A VERY THIRSTY SOUL

JOHN 4:1-30

- How do you respond to the downtrodden, disheveled, despised, disrespected, even the decidedly sinful person?

THE SAMARITAN WOMAN— A VERY THIRSTY SOUL.

- So intense was the Jewish prejudice against the Samaritans that most Pharisees prayed that no Samaritan would be resurrected!

SHE SUFFERED FROM A HISTORY OF HATRED

The Samaritans were part Jew and part Assyrian, which was the result of the rape and murder of the Jews during the Assyrian captivity of the ten northern tribes in 727 B.C.

- They furthermore defiled Shechem, Mt. Gerizim, and Mt. Ebal, the ancestral home of the patriarchs Abraham and Jacob.

Natural Amphitheater at Shechem

Scientists have tested this natural amphitheater many times and it works



Mt. Gerizim
Blessings

Town of Shechem
(Modern Nablus)

1 mile
1.6 km

Mt. Ebal
Curses

Joshua's
Altar 2 km

Ceremony in Shechem

Deuteronomy 11:22-30; 27:1-13; Joshua 8:30-35

FOUR THINGS SHE NEEDED TO HEAR

1. He is “A Jew.” v. 7-10

- Yet, this is really not good if you are Samaritan.
- Why would Jesus, a Jew, want to use her “polluted” vessel to get a drink of water?
- Of course, our Lord’s request was simply a way to open the conversation and share with her the truth about “living water.”

2. He is “*Greater than Jacob.*” v. 11-15

- Jesus was speaking about spiritual water, but she interpreted His words to mean literal water.
- Of course Jesus *is* greater than Jacob and greater than the well itself . . . greater than water itself!

3. He is “*A Prophet.*” v. 16-24

- The best way to prepare the soil of the heart for the seed of the gospel is to plow it up with conviction. Jesus was a true Prophet of God.

4. He is “*The Christ.*” v. 25-30

- In spite of her ignorance, there was one truth this woman did know: The Messiah was coming and would reveal the secrets of hearts.


The Greek words here are very forceful.

- *Ego eimi* literally means ***I AM—AKA Yahweh.***
- He not only claimed to be the Messiah, He also claimed to be all that Isaiah had predicted of the Messiah. **ISA. 9:6**

THE THIRSTY SOUL MET THE WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

The local citizens, very aware of the woman's shortcomings, marveled at her transformation.

- God used her simple testimony and many of the people came out to the well to meet Jesus.
- Gone were the racial barriers, prejudices, sexism, abuse, and battles that had existed before. ***Never again would she thirst!***

A photograph of a desert landscape with a well structure. The well is made of two vertical wooden poles, one of which is wrapped in brown fabric. A basket of sticks is suspended from the top of the poles. The background shows a vast, arid desert with sparse green and brown vegetation under a cloudy sky.

The Woman Well at the