

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, sans-serif font, 'of' is in a smaller, elegant script font, and 'JOHN' is in a bold, sans-serif font.

# BOOK *of* JOHN

# A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST

## JOHN 4:31-54

In these verses we have three stories of what the testimony of the changed life of the woman at the well did in Sychar, Samaria.

### 1. THE DISCIPLES' REACTION. JOHN 4:31-38

- First, when the disciples returned from obtaining food, they were shocked that Jesus was conversing with a woman, and especially a Samaritan; but they did not interrupt.
- They were learning about doing God's will.

# ***DOING GOD'S WILL IN GOD'S TIME***

The will of God ought to be a source of strength and satisfaction to the child of God; sowing Gospel seed is God's will for all of us.

- The Samaritan woman was now doing the Father's will and finding excitement and enrichment in it.
- Doing God's will requires patience. In God's time, the seed will bear fruit to the glory of God.

# ***WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER***

It takes faith to sow the seed, and we must do it even when the circumstances look discouraging.

- Each of us has an assigned task and we are all a part of each other's labors. **1 COR. 3:6-9**
- It takes faith to plow the soil, plant the seed, and water the garden of God, but God has promised a harvest. **GAL. 6:9**
- The work of the Gospel is hard at times!

## **2. THE SAMARITANS REPENT v. 39-42**

Many of the Samaritans believed because of the testimony of the woman, and then many more believed when they heard Jesus personally.

- Just be faithful to say what the Lord has done in your life; use your testimony to reach others.
- This unnamed Samaritan woman was a fruitful believer exactly as Jesus desires for all of us.

**JOHN 15:1-5**

# ***THE NOBLEMAN GETS A MIRACLE v. 43-54***

Why did Jesus return to Cana?

- It is good to go out to your garden and check to see if anything has come up; and to pull weeds, water, and add fertilizer if necessary.
- There was a divine appointment waiting. Both the Samaritan woman and this anonymous nobleman must have thrilled the heart of Jesus as they believed the Word and acted on it.

# ***THE JOURNEY OF FAITH***

- 1.** These stories began with a ***CRISIS*** of faith.
- 2.** The faith crisis became ***CONFIDENCE*** in faith.
- 3.** That confident faith became ***CONFIRMED*** faith.
- 4.** Then they were blessed with a ***CONTAGIOUS*** faith.

The Lord works in the world through many different ways to proclaim the Gospel and then He reaps the Harvest of Souls . . . all in His time!