

What We Worship

John 4

Tell the story.

Jesus goes out of His way to speak to a woman who was a 5-time divorcée and who is living with a man who she is not married to.

6th hour of the day – (Hottest point of the day to avoid the ridicule of the other women who would go to the well in the morning)

- Disappointments
- Regrets
- Past failures
- Relationship problems
- Why was she divorced 5 times?
- Shame
- Embarrassment

John 4:22 “Ye worship ye know not what: we know **what we worship**: for salvation is of the Jews.”

“You worship you know now what.”

There was evidently some confusion in her life.

- We would look at the situation and say; she doesn’t know what she wants.
- She can’t hold onto a husband.
- She must have this problem or that problem.
- But Jesus looks at this woman and after revealing to her that he knows the failures of her life says...

“You are confused as to what you worship.”

He didn’t blame it on the alcohol

- He didn’t blame it on her parents or how she was raised.
- He didn’t blame it on the addictions.

- He didn't blame it on her looks.
- He didn't blame it on her mental or emotional condition.

He said, "You've been worshiping the wrong thing."

And in that moment she becomes not only a worshipper of Jesus Christ, but also an evangelist to the entire city of Samaria.

- Because of her witness, Samaria was evangelized with the gospel.
- Great healings happened later in Samaria.
- The outpouring of the Holy Ghost happened in Samaria.
- People were healed and demons were cast out of people...
- All because of this woman's change in what she worshipped.

Understand something – everyone worships something.

- Money
- Fame
- Hollywood
- The Sports World.
- Themselves

Jesus was speaking to a woman who had so much going in the wrong direction in her life.

- 5 times she was joined in marriage to someone and 5 times she was divorced.
- Her hope for a good marriage was lost because now she was simply living with a man.

Jesus goes out of His way to meet with her at the well of Samaria.

- Why this woman?
- Why this moment of her life?

Jesus wanted her to understand worship.

"Ye worship ye know not what!"

- You are confused in your worship.

- You are confused as to what you worship.

I would like to suggest that this world that we live in is confused as to the object of their worship.

- Sport stars
- Movie stars
- Hollywood's Heroes – Spiderman, Superman, Aquaman. (Remember Him?) ("If you don't remember Aquaman, you are not in Prime Time.")
- Celebrities of all kinds

It amazes me sometimes what appears to be the object of people's worship.

Sadly, many people know that the object of their worship is not where it is supposed to be, and yet they are somehow unwilling to change the object of their worship.

- They are addicted to drugs.
- Their marriage is falling apart.
- Their kids are bent on self-destruction
- They can't keep a job.
- They can't keep a spouse.
- Their addictions are killing them.
- Their past is haunting them.
- Their situations of their life are destroying them
- They've spent a lifetime worshipping the wrong thing and no one can convince them to give Jesus a try, not even for a moment.

Jesus told this woman, **"23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.**

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

So there is confusion in the world that we live in about what we worship.

- Just as there was confusion in the day that Jesus was speaking to this woman, there is confusion today.
- People scream and shout to the top of their lungs at a ball game
- But when Jesus is in the house, they're timid and ashamed to worship.
- They jump up and down when their favorite team makes a goal, but when the God of wonders shows up, they don't even want to stand to honor Him.

People are confused about what they worship.

- They complain when the service goes too long, but then go home and spend hour after hour watching their favorite programs on TV.

People are confused about what they worship.

- They get upset if you ask them to give in the offering, but then spend every dime they earn on the latest clothes or the newest cars or the most recent gadgets.
- But I'll leave that alone for today...

People are confused about what they worship.

According to some estimates, there are roughly 4,200 religions in the world.

1.Christianity: 2.1 billion

2.Islam: 1.5 billion

3.Secular/Nonreligious/Agnostic/Atheist: 1.1 billion

4.Hinduism: 900 million

5.Chinese traditional religion: 394 million

6.Buddhism: 376 million

7.Primal-indigenous: 300 million

8.African Traditional & Diasporic: 100 million

9.Sikhism: 23 million

10. Juche: 19 million
 11. Spiritism: 15 million
 12. Judaism: 14 million
 13. Baha'i: 7 million
 14. Jainism: 4.2 million
 15. Shinto: 4 million
 16. Cao Dai: 4 million
 17. Zoroastrianism: 2.6 million
 18. Tenrikyo: 2 million
 19. Neo-Paganism: 1 million
 20. Unitarian-Universalism: 800 thousand
 21. Rastafarianism: 600 thousand
- Scientology: 500 thousand

- This world is confused about what it worships.

Jesus told the woman at the well,

23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

- I believe what He was telling here was, “You don’t have to be confused about what you worship any longer!”

25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

26 Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

- Why did Jesus go out of His way to find this particular Samaritan woman?
- Why did he reach out to this person who had so much confusion in her life?

Can you imagine how confusing her home was?

- I wonder if she had kids with all 5 of her husbands?

I believe Jesus reached out to the most confused person He could find in Samaria for a reason!

- Because I believe Jesus likes bringing clarity to confusion.
- If He could bring clarity and healing to her life, what more could he do in the rest of Samaria?

Listen to His words,

“26 ...I that speak unto thee am He.”

Jesus wanted her to know that if she was looking for someone to worship.

- If she was need a celebrity.
- If she was in need of a hero.
- If her life was craving something to hang on to...
- He was all she needed.

Standing right there in front of her was the

- King of Kings.
- He was the Lord of Lords.
- Alpha Omega
- The Creator of the Universe
- The One and Only One who would die for her sins.
- Her redeemer
- Her savior
- The One who would love her when no one would love her
- The One who would love her in spite of her mistakes and failures!
- Her God!

I don't know what you have need of today, but the One who holds the Universe together is wanting to help you bring some order to the confusion in your life.

- And it all starts with your worship.

- It all starts with getting this one priority in its right perspective.

What are you worshipping today?

- Listen to the woman...

25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

She had the right idea...

- She was pointing in the right direction...
- She was waiting on the right thing...
 - But she was missing the moment of Worship!
 - She was missing her “When” that I talked about last week.
 - She failed to recognize God when He showed up!

So many people talk about God, but very few of them really worship Him.

- They talk religion
- They act religious
- They put on a good game...

“We know that Christ will come and tell us all things...”

It’s always some futuristic thing for some people.

- Some day Christ will come.
- Some day, I will go to church.
- Some day, I’ll give up the junk in my life and start living for Jesus.
- Someday... Yada Yada Yada, blah blah blah blah blah...

And Jesus told the woman, “HEY, I’M RIGHT HERE!”

- The one that you have been seeking is right here in front of you.
- The one that you have been waiting for to bring some direction and order and stability into your life went out of His way today meet with you in this place.

I don't know if you've noticed it or not, but there is a presence of God in this place today.

- His anointing is in the house.
- There is a sweet touch on this service.

What have you been worshipping?

- How come there is such chaos?
- Why is it that relationship after relationship fails as miserably as the one before it?
- Some people can't even speak to their neighbors or their co-workers.

You may not believe this, but it matters what you are worshipping!

- It matters whose praises you are singing.
- It matters whom you clap your hands to.
- It matters whom you raise your hands in surrender to.
- It matters who the object of your affection is.
- It matters what or who you worship!!!

Are you worshipping the creation?

- Or are you worshipping the Creator today.

Are you worshipping the thing that is trying to destroy your life?

- Or are you worshipping the One who gave you your life?

- Where does all your time go?
- Where does all your attention go?
- Where does all your money go?
- What are you watching?
- What are you listening to?
- What gets you pumped?
- What gets you excited?
- Whose praises are you singing?
- What or who are you worshipping?

Understand something,

- There's a God who loves you this morning.
- There's a savior who suffered and died so you could have salvation today.
- There's someone named Jesus who cares about you and yearns to be the object of your affection here today.

He is here to bring order to the confusion in your life.

- He is here to set you free from the things that have you bound today.
- He wants to heal you.
- He wants to bless your life.
- He's waiting on you to worship Him.
- He's waiting on you to yield yourself to no one else but Him.

I wonder if you would....