



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel

John 4:16-19

From Sermon 7.9.23

Read *John 4:16-19*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Returning to John's Gospel, we also return to the account of the woman at the well. Jesus has revealed the offer of life (Living Water) and now confronts the woman's greatest problem: sin. As with all true, authentic conversions, Jesus pierces right to the heart of the matter. In doing so, the encounter leads us to consider the truth about sin—something disappearing in church teaching.

1. Jesus addresses the universal problem: sin. Notice He never uses a generic or vague definition (like so many do today to avoid being offensive). Jesus and the Bible name specific sins. Discuss. See *1 John 2:16* & *1 Corinthians 6:9-10*

1a. What was her sin? Multiple, unbiblical divorces and living with someone (adultery)

1b. How does our culture view both sexual relationships outside of a biblical marriage and divorce? Various answers. No big deal. Common. Necessary.

2. What excuses could she have made for her sin, her condition, and her lot in life? female, wrong heritage, bad geography, uneducated. Not accepted/validated by her community.

2a. What excuses or justifications does our world make for its sins and actions? I was born this way. I'm a victim. Everyone's doing it. It's not a sin—the Bible is outdated/archaic. No one is perfect. Judge not.

3. For genuine conversion to take place, two truths must be found and accepted. What are they?

- A right view of Self—See *Isaiah 6:5* & *Luke 18:13-14*
- A right view of God/Jesus

4. This study was dominated by sets of 2. List and discuss each set.

- Two kinds of Slaves _____ [Note: try using the LSB. Other versions changed the translation]
 - A slave of Sin—See *John 8:34*
 - A slave of Righteousness (Christ)—See *2 Peter 1:1*
- Serving One of Two Masters _____
 - Devil
 - Christ
- The Nature of One of Two Fathers _____ (= affection, copy, please, serve)
 - Satan—See *John 8:44*
 - God of the Bible

5. Even as Redeemed believers, how can we resort back to playing the blame game? Various answers. We blame stress, pressure, or fear. We commit sins knowing we are forgiven = taking advantage of and abusing God's grace. We blame the devil for the sin vs for the temptation.