

EVERYTHING HAS TO BE EXPOSED

John 4:15-18

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: Every one has secrets. Men have secrets, women have secrets, children have secrets, everyone has things that nobody else but "them" know about. However sadly, most of those secret things are sinful things. Becoming right with God requires a person to "come clean," to bring out all those hidden things into the open and admit to them, to confess them before God. One will never be saved until he/she sees WHO God is and who and what he/she really is. Becoming a Christian starts by admitting to the truth of what's on the inside, admitting the truth about one's sinful condition, and one's need of Jesus Christ to help one understand who Jesus really is and what Jesus did for him/her by his death and resurrection. The Samaritan woman at the well is an example of Jesus seeking a "lost" sheep and how He brought that lost sheep to Himself.

I. BEING SAVED IS NOT ALWAYS A VISIBLY DRAMATIC HAPPENING

1. Jesus simply talked to the woman about some unusual water that He had. (*v15*)
 - The woman is drawing water up from the well with a rope and bucket
 - The woman is thinking about water as she knew it and not anything super natural or spiritual.
 - The natural person sees everything in a material, worldly way.
 - Here was Jesus, the Son of God standing right in front of her and she had no clue, she could not see Him being any different from any other man.
 - Jesus was getting her ready to become willing to receive the wonderful "water" He had.
 - Jesus does not deal with everyone the same way.
 - Just because one is not immediately saved, doesn't mean that he/she won't ever be.
 - People will try to make fun, to distract, to change the subject when they are being witnessed to just as the Samaritan woman did.
2. Before conversion (being saved) one must be convicted of his/her sin. (*vv16-17*)
 - Jesus came straight to the point about her sinful life.
 - The woman tried to change the subject (*vv20, 25*)
 - She was caught totally by surprise that Jesus knew all about her.
 - Why did Jesus take her through her sinful life of having so many husbands, etc.?
 - Conversion, being saved, salvation is being delivered from danger and one will never turn to the Lord Jesus until one knows that God knows his/her secrets, and is under the wrath of God.
 - There is no conversion without conviction. There is no pardon of sin without confession of sin and there will be no confession of sin until it is brought out by the power and grace of God through the Holy Spirit.

II. GOD'S WORD DECLARES THAT EVERY PERSON IS A SINNER

1. The total depravity of mankind, the corruption of all hearts is very clear and plain. Sin is what people do.
 - *"..There is no man that doeth good and sinneth not.."*
 - *Genesis 6:5; Psalm 14:1; 143:2; Galatians 3:2; Romans 3:10-23; 1 John 1:8, 10*
2. Every person's conscience tells him/her that he/she is guilty of sin.
 - The Ten Commandments
 - The Sermon on the Mount
 - The Golden Rule
3. No person can convince any other person of his/her sinfulness, total depravity, his/her just condemnation, for ONLY God can do that.

- This is what Jesus was doing with the Samaritan woman at the well.
- He was making her willing to be saved by showing her how lost she was.
- 4. How alarming! Every person is in a sense "naked" before God's all-seeing eye.
 - **Hebrews 4:13**
 - **2 Kings 17:29-33**
 - The woman was a descendant of those who were exiled from their own land, mixed among several other nations with each having their own gods and all brought from Babylon to live there in "Samaria."
 - To become a part of the Lord Jesus Christ, one must be shown that all that the world has to offer (gods and religions) are wicked, abominable and adulterous.
 - This Samaritan woman could not be spiritually joined to the Lord Jesus Christ until she realized and admitted that her "religion" was as adulterous as she had been living with all those different "husbands." A life of physical and spiritual adultery.
 - **Revelation 18:4; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1**

III. WHENEVER GOD EXPOSES ONE'S SINS, IT IS TO BRING THAT PERSON TO HIMSELF

1. God exposes one's sins in order that He may pardon. He strips away that He may lift up. He destroys the hiding of sins in order that that person can flee to Him for pardon and refuge.
2. Jesus told her to go call her husband.
 - These words pierced through all her pretense, lying and sinfulness, and hit her directly in her heart.
3. Jesus told her to go call her husband AND BRING HIM HERE!
 - The woman was to GO and then to COME back with her "husband."
4. **Romans 8:1 - *"..There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.."***
5. How can God have anything to do with anyone so vile and sinful as every human being is?
 - He can't, except through the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - ONLY by the Lord Jesus' blood atonement and imputed righteousness can God embrace such filthiness as every person is. In the Lord Jesus Christ, God can and does.

CONCLUSION:

1. There was only ONE person ever born on this earth who was not filled with sin and worldliness and that is the Lord Jesus Christ - every single human being is contaminated with sin.
2. Every person has secrets that nobody else knows about EXCEPT God.
3. Every person is accountable directly to GOD.
4. Until a person becomes aware that God KNOWS and that Jesus is the only way to get things right with God he/she will remain in a hopeless condition.
5. Once a person becomes aware of his/her sinful life and admits to it and wants to make a change, then and only then can that person find eternal life through the Lord Jesus Christ.