

## WHAT IT TAKES TO COME TO THE LORD JESUS

John 4:1-26

(Not entirely original with me)

**Introduction:** Many have heard the gospel preached for years and have had their names called out in prayer by their parents, friends, pastor, church members, yet remain lost. What will it take to bring such people to the Lord Jesus in faith? An example of such a person is found in the text where Jesus goes out of His way to meet with a woman at a well. Conversion, salvation, being saved is something that only God can do for a person.

### I. ONE CAN NEVER COME TO THE LORD JESUS UNTIL HE COMES TO THAT PERSON (vv1-3)

1. Jesus left Judea where He had been preaching and healing but the religious leaders despised Him, therefore Jesus left them in their darkness, and themselves.
  - If one trifles with the Lord and His Gospel, one is in great danger of judgment from God.
  - If such a one dies, he/she has no one to blame but him/herself.
  - *Proverbs 1:23-31*
2. One's unbelief will not change or affect God's purpose for others. (*Romans 3:3-4*)
  - God's purpose does not depend on any work of people.
  - Although one does not believe in Jesus, others will.
  - At just the right time, Jesus left Judea and went into Samaria. (*vv4-6*)
    - This was not a "chance", accidental meeting of Jesus and the woman at the well.
    - Jesus went there seeking that one person, she did not seek Him, but He sought her.
  - God's workings arranged for that needy sinful woman to meet Jesus at the well.
  - The timing was such that Jesus was alone with the woman needing to be saved. (*vv7-9*)

### II. THE LORD CREATED AN INTEREST IN HER (vv10-14)

1. Jesus asked the woman for a drink of water, starting the conversation.
  - Jesus ignored the woman's insult of His being a Jew.
2. Salvation is the GIFT of God. (*Romans 6:23*)
  - It is not an offer, not an opportunity, but THE GIFT...
  - In one great gift, God gives all and Jesus Christ is the gift of God, salvation, eternal life.
3. One will never be saved, one will never come to the Lord until the gift of God is made known.
  - God is the giver and all a person can do is to receive.
  - The receiver does not know the Lord Jesus, nor his/her need for the gift until Jesus steps in.
4. Salvation is to be had by asking.
  - Salvation is so close. (*Romans 10:8-9*)
    - All one has to do is to ask and he/she shall receive.
    - *John 7:37-38*
    - *Luke 11:9-13*
5. Everyone, by nature, is totally ignorant of spiritual things UNTIL taught of God by the Holy Spirit.
  - *1 Corinthians 2:9-14*
  - The woman showed her ignorance of spiritual things by trying to talk about them and she had no idea whom she was talking to or talking about - she was just talking.
  - *John 4:11-14*
6. The Lord Jesus revealed to the woman the emptiness of all earthly things.
  - *"...Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again..."*
  - The thirst of the soul is too deep to be satisfied by things (waters) of the world.
  - Things, wealth, position, fame, honor, religion, philosophy, lusts, pleasure, etc.

- One will never come to the Lord Jesus until Jesus comes to that person and creates a thirst in that person's soul for something he/she hasn't yet found in the world.

### III. ONE WILL NOT COME TO THE LORD JESUS UNTIL ONE'S SIN HAS BEEN EXPOSED

1. Before one can come to the Lord for mercy, he/she must be made to know and acknowledge his/her sin before God.
  - Jesus helped the woman at the well to know how utterly sinful she was.
    - **John 4:15-18**
  - Jesus revealed what she had kept hidden.
    - This always makes a person uncomfortable for people love darkness more than light.
    - One will not come to the light of God until his/her deeds have been revealed.
      - Once light falls on one's sins, he/she will try to hide them.
        - **vv19-20**
    - The woman began to speak more respectful and indicated she wanted to change the subject.
      - Her conscience was pricked and she wanted to get Jesus to talk about something else.
    - Jesus was more concerned for her soul than in anything else about the woman.

### IV. ONE'S LIE AND FALSENESS MUST BE DESTROYED BEFORE HE/SHE CAN COME TO THE LORD

1. Everyone has secret parts of their lives that nobody else knows about and it is like Adam and Eve hiding in the garden from God.
2. Jesus simply told the woman at the well the truth about herself, thus destroying all her hiding her past and excuses.
  - **John 4:21-24**
  - All true worship is based upon revealed truth. **Philippians 3:1-3**
  - God wants sinners to worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.
    - **Hebrews 4:14-16; 10:16-22**
3. Before one can come to the Lord Jesus, the Lord must first come to that person and create an interest for the things of God.
  - Expose one's sins, destroy one's excuses and hiding of sins.

### CONCLUSION:

1. The Lord Jesus Christ must make Himself known to a person before he/she can receive God's Gift.
2. **John 4:25-26**
  - The Word of God had done its work as the woman was driven from her hiding of sins, excuses into the arms of God.
  - The woman expressed a desire to know the Messiah, the Christ and Jesus told her who HE was.
3. That is salvation! That is what it takes to bring one to the Lord Jesus - Him revealing Himself.
  - Once Jesus Christ is revealed to and in a person, that is enough. Nothing more is needed.
    - **Isaiah 45:20-25; Matthew 11:28-30**