

Pastor Tom has been leading us through Worship in the book of the Revelation of Jesus. Today we're going to take look at worship from a different angle. We're going to do that by looking at the story of a gentile being brought to faith in Jesus.

John 4:1-30

- (1) Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John
- (2) (although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples),
- (3) he left Judea and departed again for Galilee.
- (4) And he had to pass through Samaria.
- (5) So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.
- (6) Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.
- (7) A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
- (8) (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.)
- (9) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)
- (10) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."
- (11) The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"
- (12) Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."
- (13) Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,
- (14) but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
- (15) The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."
- (16) Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here."
- (17) The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';

(18) for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.”

(19) The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet.

(20) Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.”

(21) Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

(22) You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

(23) But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

(24) God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

(25) The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.”

(26) Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

(27) Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?”

(28) So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people,

(29) “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?”

(30) They went out of the town and were coming to him.

I’m pretty sure most of you have read this story before and have a version of it playing in your head. I know when I first heard this story in my childhood there were flannel board figures involved playing out the scene. There is, however, so much more to the story and I would like to take the opportunity to unpack it and then make some applications.

So then, let’s approach this story like any good English student should. Who are the main characters? Jesus and the Samaritan woman. The disciples, John and the pharisees all play minor roles in this story. So, what we have are two ethnic races that meet at the local water cooler. Normally these two groups did not interact. In fact, when you read the scriptures and historical literature they actually despised each other. You can hear it in the woman’s first comment, ‘How is it you, being a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan, for water?’

To get a better understanding of the history behind the Samaritans you have to go all the way back to King Solomon in Old Testament. 1 Kings 11 tells us about the division God created in the unified nation of Israel due to the idolatrous practices of Solomon. The northern ten tribes broke away from Judah and Levi and formed their own nation. Mount Gerazem was set up as the place of worship in Samaria to prevent the common people from being drawn back to Mount Zion. One problem that cropped up was the Torah, the 5 books of Moses. It identified Jerusalem as the place where the Jews were supposed to worship. Another problem was that all the prophets and psalms also list Jerusalem as the place where God dwells. Their

solution was to keep the Torah in the Samaritan Old Testament and remove everything else. But even that was not enough. Those books of Moses need to be edited to replace Jerusalem and the mountain it sits on with Mount Gerazeem. Therefore, when you look at the Samaritan scriptures, Abraham offered up Isaac up to God on Mount Gerazeem. Our scriptures identify this in Gen 22 as happening on Mount Moriah which later became Mount Zion.

After a long succession of sinful kings, God finally judged the ten tribes of Israel by bringing Assyria to conquer the land. Assyria's policy of conquering involved taking the elite, the merchants, the educated of the land and spreading them out in other conquered lands. The poor, sick and decrepit would be left behind. Then people from other conquered nations would be relocated in the emptied land and Assyria made it so that there would not be a unified force left to stir up trouble.

The people that were brought into Israel intermarried with the remaining Jews and added their own practices to the Samaritan religion so that it became an amalgamation. This is the background that this woman has. She believes in an edited version of the Torah and does not have any revelation after the book of Deuteronomy. Her temple is in Samaria and her Holy Mountain is Mount Gerazeem.

Jesus engages this woman by asking for a drink. She asks Him why He is even talking to her since He is a Jew and she has two strikes against her, being a woman and a Samaritan. Jesus then dropped the fully loaded statement for her to think about. If you knew who was talking to you, you would be asking Him for the living water. This water would make it so you would never thirst again.

Let's take a step back here. This woman is all by herself. John identifies the time of this story as the middle of the day. It's hot! Normally women do things like this communally and in the morning or evening. Something is very wrong here. If you tell this story to Middle Eastern communities, they figure it out really fast. We just don't see it as easily. This woman is an outcast. She is ostracized by her community and cannot participate in the regular community life. We find out as much when Jesus asks her to bring her husband out. She has had at least 5 husbands and that may not have even been by her choice. She is downtrodden. She is alone. She is hurting inside. And now this Jew tells her she might be able to get water that never runs out. In this situation that would have perked my interest as well.

Notice the change in pronouns. Instead of calling Jesus, 'a Jew' in a derogatory manner, she now calls Jesus, 'Sir'.

Jesus asks her to bring her husband to him and He corners her with information that no Jew should have been able to know. This starts the seed of an idea in the woman's head. "Sir, I perceive you are a prophet."

Hang on! This is a major admission from this woman!

Recall I mentioned earlier that the Samaritans only had majorly edited versions of the Torah as their religious texts? She did not have any of the other Old Testament prophets so she would not be able to connect the idea of a prophet to them. According to Moses, Deut 18:15, the next prophet they were expecting was going to be the Messiah Himself. This woman stopped just short of admitting Jesus was the Messiah.

So, if this is the Messiah, she already knows she is in trouble and tries to switch the conversation by going on a rabbit trail. She asks this 'prophet' where the proper place to worship God might be. Jesus gently corrects her theology and also gives her some new information. First, He tells her that God will soon be

worshipped individually outside of a specific location on the earth. That is a major upset for anybody in this time and place. Worshipping God outside of a temple be a huge change for this woman. Next, Jesus identifies Himself as that Messiah she has been waiting for. This is where I would like to camp out for a little while and explore what Jesus said.

I have to admit that I read over those two words, spirit and truth, many times and didn't give them a second thought. But listening to Pastor Tom talking about the worship of God while going through the book of the Revelation, it seems to be worthwhile to dig in to what Jesus meant.

Let's examine the difficult one first. To worship God in spirit means what? Is it standing while the praise band is playing, lifting your hands, eyes closed and swaying from side to side? I don't think that is what Jesus meant. Just to be sure nobody misunderstands, I am not condemning raised hands during the music. I just believe worshipping God is more than a physical posture or emotional state. Music does have the ability to control emotions. What we are not looking for is an emotional high. We are looking for the meaning Jesus (God in the flesh) intended.

I would like to make the case that worshipping God in spirit means that You MUST be a believer, someone who is saved from your sins by the work of Jesus on the cross. So how do I come to that conclusion? Let's go all the way back to Genesis 2 and 3. In Genesis 2, God told Adam and Eve the only rule they had to obey was to not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they did that, they would die! In Genesis 3, the serpent tempted Eve to eat from the tree. Look carefully at the text, Adam was standing right there with her at the time. She ate, gave some of it to Adam and he ate. Then they both dropped dead and that was the end of the story, right? So, was God joking or lying when He said they would die? The story goes on to describe their expulsion from the garden and Adam is listed as living for 830 years. What did God actually mean then by saying they would die?

I believe that what died immediately was their God-given spirit. Their spirit was now dead. It just took awhile for their physical bodies to catch up. This is the heritage Adam and Eve passed on to all their children. This idea is supported in Ephesians 2:1. 'You were dead in your trespasses and sins in which you once walked.' How is it possible to walk when you are dead? We are all born physically alive but spiritually dead. We only have our lifetime in which to realize that we are spiritually dead and do something to rectify that situation. The problem is that spiritually dead men can't do anything for themselves. They are laying on a table at room temperature. The solution has to come from outside of ourselves which the next 9 verses in Ephesians 2 beautifully describe.

So, if you desire to worship God, the first thing that must happen is you must be made spiritually alive. You can't do it and I can't do it for you. It has to be done as an act of a generous and loving God that raises you from spiritual death to spiritual life. Outside of that, there is no way you can worship God. The first thing you have to realize is that you are a sinful person. There is nothing within you that would make God look and say, 'hmm, he might be worth saving.' If there is nothing in you that is worth saving, then God has no other choice but to banish you from His presence forever and according to the scriptures this means an eternity in the Lake of Fire.

But there is a solution. Jesus lived the one perfect spiritually alive life and offered His life as a substitutionary payment for all those sins you committed in order that you could wear His perfection. The requirement, according to 1 Cor 15, is that you have to believe he died for your sins by being crucified, buried and He rose again for your salvation. If you have been believing that you are a Christian because

you had Christian parents, you have remained faithful to your wife, coached the kids in soccer and helped them with their homework, didn't cheat on your taxes or gave money away to charitable causes, Oh, friend, you do not understand what Christianity is. You are believing a works-based faith which the Bible fully condemns. Your works are not going to save you. Please come talk with me after. I need to spend some time going through this with you in better detail. The outcome of this has eternal consequences.

So, we've dealt with worshipping God in spirit. Now what does it mean to worship God in truth? I think this is the easier question to answer. You have to know the truths about God to worship Him correctly. Today's problem is where do you get your truth from? Is truth based on your feelings? Your intuition? Your friend's opinions? The internet? None of these are reliable. The reality is that we live in a humanistic, relativistic world. It will tell you that truth is found inside of you and your truth and beliefs are just as valid as the next person's. I have problems with that. While working in a hospital in the US, I had an opportunity to work in the psychiatric ward. There was a person in that ward whose truth told him he was God. You can only imagine his shock and amazement when another patient was admitted saying the same thing. What I am trying to describe here is that we cannot look inside ourselves for truth. Truth is outside of us and it will be true regardless of any one of us.

So where will you go to find out the true way to worship God? We need truth that will stand up to the highest scrutiny and be true in all cases, peoples, places and times. We need eyewitness evidence to point to this truth. The best example I can think of is Jesus Himself. He claimed to be 'The Truth', the Jewish God in human flesh and He even laid out the test that would validate Him as such. It involved Him being crucified and buried and then raising from the dead three days later. According to the eyewitnesses, this is exactly what happened. Jesus then commissioned them to write the rest of the scriptures under the influence of God, the Holy Spirit so that we do have an authentic, infallible and sufficient record of what is true or not true about worshipping God.

Do you believe what the Bible says? I mean, REALLY believe. Is the Bible the pinnacle of truth to you? When someone tells you a belief or teaching about God, do you go back to your Bible to check if what they said was true or not? If you have not figured it out yet I am going to be working my way through some discernment issues. The point is not to go around on a witch-hunt and start naming names right now. That will not help any of you at this point. You need to understand the why first. If you know the 'why' from the scriptures, you will be able to figure out a lot of this by yourself. Believers need to use their brain and the Word. My hope is to get you to develop an automatic reflex of reaching for your Bible when you heard someone proclaim any theological teaching. We need to get into the habit of checking with God's word for anything involving spiritual teaching. I would love to see this church prepared with an army of believers equipped with discernment.

Because I am actually a physical therapist and not a pastor, I am going to use a medical model to make some points from this passage. This woman exhibited at least three different symptoms that plague the church even today. I'm going to start with a diagnosis and then move to an etiology. Etiology is a 5-dollar medical word that describes the cause or manner in which a disease occurs. With those two we can move on to a therapy or cure. Let's begin.

Diagnosis- Heart Failure

This woman thought she was doing okay with God but was not. This is a foundational problem within the church simply because there are people who claim to be Christians and are not. They may or may not

even know it and this person might just be you. These people look like Christians, tell you they're Christians, and go through all the right, outward Christian motions. But they have never truly repented of their sin and placed their faith in Christ for salvation. They are not genuinely regenerated, born again, new creatures in Christ, Christians. And people who are unregenerate exhibit the symptom of being unregenerate: they prefer sin to Christ. When there are unregenerate sinners in your church – and they're in nearly every church – their symptomatology is going to affect the overall health of the Body.

Etiology

The message of the gospel is pretty clear when it is preached from the scriptures. Mankind sinned. Jesus died for your sins. He was buried and rose again on the third day for our justification before God. When the message of you being a sinner is shaved down and softened into 'you just need to try harder' or 'you get a do-over from God' or 'you are just a broken person' is used instead, the harsh reality of personal sin is blunted. If we really don't have as big a sin problem as God describes then it becomes easy to say a mass believer prayer or 'accept Jesus into your life'. I am really getting annoyed with the phrase, "I have accepted Jesus into my life." Let's ask the obvious question here, if I accept Jesus into my life, who is the 'god' then? It certainly isn't the Father in heaven. I do not accept Jesus into my life. What I need to do is plead my inability to solve my sin problem to Jesus and ask Him to accept me! I need His forgiveness, He does not need my acceptance. So, the next time you feel like saying that particular phrase, try using this one instead; 'I have repented and been forgiven of my sin (Luke 24:47) and have been made a part of God's family (Rom 8:15).'

Therapy

Strong Biblical preaching from the whole Word of God. A church and pastor should be regularly going through all the Bible including the hard parts. Mankind's sin should not be softened and the price of that sin needs to be fully described. The payment for our sin was blood. It involved a death. For the believer, that death happened at the cross when our sinless saviour died. For the unbeliever this death will occur twice, once at their own physical death and then at the White Throne Judgement when all unbelievers will be thrown into the Lake of Fire for eternal conscious torment.

When preaching like that happens, there is usually one of two reactions by an unbeliever. They either scoff, deny or equivocate that this isn't really what the Bible means. Their sin is not that bad really and God is supposed to be a God of Love anyway, isn't He? The only thing this points to is the fact that this person has not been brought to their knees in despair before God and thinks they still have a chance to save themselves. This person needs to hear the Law of God in its fullness condemning them.

The other reaction is one of despair and sorrow. This person realizes they have nothing before a Holy God that can save them and they are spiritually bankrupt. This person needs to hear the Gospel in its fullness. Jesus, God the Son, became a human man, lived among men sinlessly and became the one sacrifice for sin that was acceptable. Because of His death, burial and resurrection, we to now can obtain forgiveness before God by believing that His sacrifice was sufficient to remove your sin.

2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Diagnosis-Anorexia Scriptura

This woman did not have any knowledge of the true scriptures. She had other stuff, but not what mattered. Similarly, many Christians starve themselves spiritually without even knowing it. They have multiple shelves of “Bible” study books and DVDs, but when you glance over at their Bible, they are having to dust it.

And they’re wondering why they are so hungry.

Etiology-

Christians today don’t know their Bibles. And it’s not because the pure milk and meat of the Word aren’t available for them to consume. It’s that they won’t eat. Sometimes it’s the aforementioned “heart failure” of being unsaved. (It’s only natural that a lost person would have no interest in studying God’s Word.) And sometimes it’s because they’ve spent their formative years under pastors and so-called “Bible” study teachers who starved them by never properly feeding them a well-balanced diet of Scripture. This is spiritual anorexia.

When an anorexic person doesn’t eat, their entire body begins to shut down. Every organ, every body system, is affected. It’s the same way with Christians who starve themselves of God’s Word. There are heart problems: lack of love, trust, and belief in Christ and His Word. The digestive system becomes unable to handle a healthy meal of Scripture. The immune system isn’t strong enough to fight off the pathogens of false teaching. The brain can’t think biblically. Church ministry becomes a battle of a few healthy souls trying to coax the stubborn starving masses. “Just try one bite? Please?” Has anybody here walked down the spice aisle in the local grocery store and seen that bottle of simulated bacon bits? Really, why bother with that? It is the same thing spiritually. Simulated Bible-flavoured fluff is not enough to keep a Christian alive. Constant exposure to poorly trained pastors, false teachers and Christian retailers that are owned by pagans will result in spiritual starvation.

Therapy

Nutritional therapy with copious helpings of Bible are the answer. These Christians may never have even seen what a full plate of healthy spiritual food looks like, so they don’t know that’s what they need – to feast on God’s Word. They need pastors and teachers who will feed them regular, well balanced meals of ‘in context’, rightly handled Scripture and train them to feed themselves at home between therapy sessions.

Deuteronomy 8:3: And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Diagnosis- Led Poisoning

The woman was being told what the proper way was to follow God and not checking to see if it was correct. This pernicious disease develops as Christians ingest, over time, the poison of false doctrine fed to them by the “Christian” leaders they follow. Sometimes led poisoning can be a cause of anorexia scriptura – a person gobbles up the sweet paint chips of unbiblical teaching, thinking they are filling up on Scripture, and is left with no appetite for the real thing. Sometimes led poisoning can be an effect of anorexia scriptura – a Christian is so starved for God’s Word that they will consume anything that tastes good in order to fill the void. And sometimes it’s yet another symptom of heart failure – a lost sinner who

prefers a toxin instead of God's Word. In any case, the result is a sickly patient with multiple systems failure who often infects others by enticing them to follow the leader.

Etiology

Environmentally transmitted. Strikes people with itching ears and flaccid discernment. Highly communicable to those with compromised immune systems due to improper biblical nutrition.

Therapy

Chelation therapy – a process of ridding the body of the toxins by administration of an intravenous anti-toxin. Discerning pastors, teachers and friends must patiently, clearly, and unapologetically expose unbiblical teaching, including warning believers away from false teachers by name. This does not always get received very well. Symptoms of lead poisoning include hearing impairment and learning disabilities, so the diseased patient isn't going to get it if a pastor is hinting around about false teachers without giving specific names. He's got to be loud and clear about exactly who is a false teacher and exactly how their doctrine and practices conflict with Scripture if he wants to cure the patient. Treatment with regular inoculations of sound doctrine are required.

2 Timothy 3:5-7: [People] having the appearance of godliness but denying its power. Avoid such people. For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.

This is not an exhaustive list. If we can deal with the problems I have already listed I think we will be doing well. So now that you know this, what should you and I do? After the 9-11 bombings in New York bus ads started appearing stating, 'If you see something, say something'. This slogan was picked up by the US department of Homeland security as a method of keeping the population on the alert for further violence. This slogan fits nicely in the church as well. None of us, including me, have it all together. We all have our blind spots. This is why we need every member in the church body fed on the Word and participating in ministering to their brothers and sisters in Christ.

If you have a suspicion that a teaching being brought forth by a pastor, teacher, a friend, book, DVD, song, etc, does not match up with what the Bible says, please talk to someone in the church. Hopefully you approach the elders or one of the pastors to get some answers. The questions you ask do not have to be confrontational. It can be as simple as 'I'm not sure about this teaching, it doesn't seem to line up with the Bible. What do you think?' Likewise, the person receiving the questions should not be offended when a particular teacher or doctrine they like is being critically examined. Godly criticism is something that should be genuinely cherished among the congregation. I have done it and received it where there was a knee-jerk reaction and I confess I got angry. That was wrong and I needed to ask for forgiveness. In dealing with error, there needs to be a spirit of gentleness with both parties. The world should look at the church in amazement because of how it deals with its own internal problems so differently. If it turns out that you have been believing something false about a primary doctrine about God as a result of a favorite teacher, book or song, you need to repent and put that teaching away. The person who has pointed out the error has done exactly what is described in Jude verse 23. They have snatched you out of the fire. In Acts 17:11 Paul commended the Bereans in searching the scriptures to see if what he was teaching was truthful. Paul did not even permit himself to get a free pass because he was an apostle, neither should any other Biblical teacher and that includes me. If it looks like we may be dealing with a doctrinal error, you and I as the church need to be aware and proactive.

So how can you recognize error when it tries to sneak past you? Here are some simple guidelines that will give you the earliest warnings.

First- You need to understand the scriptures. The three most important rules for understanding the scriptures are context, context and context. Do not just read a verse or a part of a verse. Read large swaths of the Bible at a time. Look a few paragraphs before and after the verses in study to get the big picture of what is being taught. A fantastic example here is Jer 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. This is not a promise for you today. Read the entire chapter, it is a letter from God to the nation of Israel in captivity in Babylon. If you attempt to claim that promise, you are reading somebody else's mail. That promise was never made for you. You would have to be Jewish, living in Babylon and be about 2600 years old to qualify. Anybody? Didn't think so.

Second- Understand the difference between a descriptive and prescriptive text. A descriptive text gives us the historical narrative, the story, without telling us any application for today. An example- Daniel 2, the king's dream about the statue. This is a story about what happened in Jewish history. Nothing in the story can be used by us today as how we are to live our lives. Just because Daniel had dreams in the night does not mean God is going to be giving you dreams in the night as well. There is a prophetic thread which gets echoed in Revelation that gives us hope in Jesus ruling and reigning over the earth, but there is no instruction on how we are to live for today. A prescriptive text would be Eph 5; Husbands love your wife, Wives submit to your own husbands. This kind of passage gives us definite instructions how to live the Christian life. Mixing the two up leaves you with poor theology at best and heresy at the worst.

Third- Know the difference between the Law and the Gospel. In our passage of study today, the Law is found in verse 20. "Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." The Law always involves having to do something in order to please God. Unfortunately, sinners have no ability to do this perfectly. The Gospel is found in verse 23 "But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him". Notice it is the Father that is doing the seeking. That is the comfort of the Gospel. God did the work you and I could not do. He is in the business of saving sinners.

Fourth- Know the difference between truth, assumptions and assertions. An assertion is a statement made that does not have support or reason to back it up. The Nigerian prince who emailed me makes the assertion he is who he says he is and that he has millions of dollars he is wanting to give to me. An assumption is something that is taken for granted usually without proof or evidence. I make an assumption when I respond to his email that I believe him. The same thing happens in Christian circles. Some teacher makes an assertion that is not backed up by Biblical evidence and then you make the assumption he knows what he is talking about and believe him. Again, go back to the scriptures for the truth.

Now I can hear you telling me, this means I have a huge job ahead of me in trying to figure out every little teaching that comes my way. Well, yes and no. Remember this is a congregation of believers and we come together to worship God and listen to the apostle's teaching every week. That will get you started in the right direction. Secondly, not all of us have the gift of discernment but there are those in this congregation that do. Find them, ask them and learn from them.

Finally, the Church fathers left us a treasury of doctrinal guidance in the creeds. These creeds, although not inspired scripture, were taught as concise summaries of correct doctrine. If you listen to a teaching that tells you that there is no trinity, just one God that shows Himself in three different modes, the Athanasian creed refutes that error. Let's recite the Apostle's creed together and keep my teaching in mind when we say it. Everything that I taught today should not be contradicted by what is stated in the creed. Just as a reminder, when we get to the 'holy catholic church' part, the word is spelled with a small 'c'. That means universal, not Roman.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried:

He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven, And sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy catholic Church; The Communion of Saints;

The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting.

Amen.

So, the Samaritan woman met the Messiah. He taught her what worshipping God meant. Is there an area of worshipping God that you need to deal with? Do you need to be forgiven of your sins and ask Jesus to accept you? Do you need to leave man's opinions about God and start diving in deep to what the scriptures actually say? Today is the day to leave sin behind. Today is the day to dedicate the remainder of your life to worshipping God in spirit and in truth. Today is the day to start living like a child of God, one who has been forgiven much and is able to forgive. I will be up at the front if you need to talk.

Let's pray

Benediction

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

(Gal 6:2)