Overflowing with living water 2019-03-31

Questions:

1. Read John 4:7-10. Why would Jesus talk about living water when he was asked matters about water and about barriers between people? How many important messages were conveyed in Jesus’ answer in v10?
2. Read John 4:11-15. Beyond physical thirst, what are the kinds of thirst Jesus was referring to? What kind of “thirst” you may be experiencing in our life at the moment?
3. Read John 4:16-24. What is the relationship between this woman’s idolatry and adultery? Why would worshipping the true God satisfy our “thirst”?
4. Read Rev 22:17. Who is the “bride” and who is she inviting to come? How to take the free gift of the water of life?

=== sermon notes ===

(page 1) Asking the gift of living water

John 4:10 Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

1. Samaria, Samaritan woman background
   1. After the Assyrians captured Samaria [the capital of the Northern kingdom of Israel] in 722–21 BC, they deported all the Israelites of substance and settled the land with foreigners, who intermarried with the surviving Israelites. After the exile [of the Southern kingdom in Babylon], Jews, returning to their homeland, viewed the Samaritans not only as the children of political rebels, but as racial half-breeds whose religion was tainted by various unacceptable elements. About 400 BC the Samarians erected a rival temple on Mount Gerizim.
2. Jesus was on a mission to talk about (new) life not water
3. God’s free gift is for the asking

(page 2) Forever satisfying your thirst

John 4:13 Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

1. Jesus used thirst as a picture of the spiritual need and longing that everyone has- no other creatures have
   1. Just a good life- eat and drink
   2. Longing to belong, connection to people
   3. Love and hope
   4. Purpose, value
      1. Everyday living, work, relationship
      2. Pain and suffering, celebration
   5. Connection to God
2. Thirst quenched and come back
3. A spring- live water
4. Forever

(page 3) The gift is God himself in Christ and Spirit

John 4:17 “I have no husband,” she replied. Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

1. Why asking husband?
2. 2 Kings 17:29 Nevertheless, each national group made its own gods in the several towns where they settled, and set them up in the shrines the people of Samaria had made at the high places. 30 The people from Babylon made Sukkoth Benoth, those from Kuthah made Nergal, and those from Hamath made Ashima; 31 the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burned their children in the fire as sacrifices to Adrammelek and Anammelek, the gods of Sepharvaim. 32 They worshiped the Lord, but they also appointed all sorts of their own people to officiate for them as priests in the shrines at the high places. 33 They worshiped the Lord, but they also served their own gods in accordance with the customs of the nations from which they had been brought.
3. Jesus was not talking about adultery but idolatry
4. Living water is not a thing but a person (3 persons in 1)
5. Who is your husband- you loyal to, you covenant with?

(page 4) Come, ask, receive, pledge

Rev 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let the one who hears say, “Come!” Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.

1. Back to the future call from the bride
2. Free gift for the asking, freely receive
3. Pledge your allegiance to the Lord for the living water to well up to fill your void, your emptiness, till eternity