

# Christ and the Samaritan Woman

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John 4:3–30, 39–42

*But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst.* John 4:14

As Jesus and His disciples were traveling from Judea to Galilee, they went through Samaria, a place that Jews usually avoided. When they came to Jacob's Well, the disciples went into the nearby city to buy food while Jesus sat down to rest. (See John 4:3–6, 8.)

When a Samaritan woman came to the well to get water, Jesus asked her for a drink (see John 4:7). The woman was surprised, asking, "How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans" (John 4:9).

Jesus answered, "If thou knewest . . . who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water" (John 4:10).

The woman, not understanding what Jesus had said, asked how He could give her living water when He had no bucket to draw water up from the deep well (see John 4:11). She did not know that Jesus was the Savior and could give her the living water of eternal life.

Jesus explained that whoever drank the water from Jacob's Well would get thirsty again. But whoever would drink of the water He gives would receive everlasting life. (See John 4:13–14.)

The Samaritan woman said, "Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not" (John 4:15). Jesus told her to bring

her husband to the well, but the woman said she had no husband (see John 4:16). "Thou hast well said, I have no husband," Jesus answered, "for thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband" (John 4:17–18).

The woman, realizing that Jesus knew her as only God or one of His prophets could, said she knew that He was a prophet. Then Jesus told her that Heavenly Father was seeking good, honest people to worship Him. The woman said she knew that the Messiah was coming and that He would tell them all things. (See John 4:19–25.) Jesus answered, "I that speak unto thee am he" (John 4:26).

Just then the disciples returned, and the woman left her waterpot, hurrying to the city to tell the Samaritans about Jesus. They came to the well to see this man whom the woman had called the Christ. (See John 4:27–30.)

Many of the Samaritans believed in Jesus because of what the woman had told them. They asked Him to stay in their city, so He remained and taught them for two days. (See John 4:39–41.) Those who heard Him and believed said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world" (John 4:42).

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## Summary

Jesus asked a Samaritan woman for a drink from a well. Jesus said that anyone drinking water from the well would get thirsty again but that whoever drinks of the living water He offers would have everlasting life. The woman asked Jesus to give her this water.

As they talked, she realized Jesus was a prophet and told Him she knew that the Messiah, or Christ, would come and tell them all things. Jesus told the woman that He was the Messiah, and she ran to tell others she had met the Christ, the Savior of the world.

THE CHURCH OF  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Artist, Carl Heinrich Bloch

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