

## **John 4b**

27 Surprised because of verse 9. See Luke 7:39 – The disciples may have seen more than the fact that she was a Samaritan. But why do you think they didn't ask what was going on? (2:23)

28-30 She forgot why she came. In spite of her life, she was intensely excited about finding the Messiah. Her testimony isn't a long one, but it is powerful, and it is all about what Jesus can do, not what she was. Isn't this similar to 1Corinthians 14:24-25? I hope Jesus finally got that drink, but would the disciples drink from a Samaritan dish? She shares the testimony of her encounter and challenges them to come and decide for themselves. Revelation 22:17 the bride says, "Come". Come and see! That is all we can witness. People must see for themselves.

31-34 The disciples are concerned about Jesus physical need, but Jesus is intently focused on what God is doing in Samaria. Job 23:12 He has found a lost sheep and is about to find a whole flock. Luke 15:4-6 What is the work the Father gave the Son to do? See Luke 19:10; John 17:4 The work is bringing glory to the Father by bringing in the lost. That includes the cross.

35 Four months is about the time from planting to harvest. Don't say we've just planted. It is time to reap. Matthew 9:37-38 Jesus saw the town folk headed His way with eyes of faith. He saw them coming to find salvation, to be harvested for the Kingdom of God.

36 - 38 Instant harvest! It doesn't have to take four months. Each person has his part and all are rewarded with the harvest. 1 Corinthians 3:5-9; 1Thessalonians 2:19 Paul says his joy, hope and crown when Jesus comes are those he has ministered to.

39 Your testimony is a powerful witnessing tool. What would you say about Jesus in your life? Come see a man who shares my deepest pain and brings my greatest joys. Come see a man who is always eager to meet with me and hear my heart. Come see a man who always has wisdom to share with me. What would you say? Work it into your testimony when you are sharing Christ.

40 –42 It took more time for others. Jesus planted seed there that would be harvested in Acts 8. Most of us come to belief through hearing Jesus' words in our own heart. We have to hear Him ourselves, so He comes to this shunned place, the place of a heart of stone, and speaks to us the words of life. Notice that they realize He is the Savior of the world before His own disciples do. Isaiah 45:22; Romans 10:11-13

43 –44 John leaves out Luke 4:16-30. That Nazareth visit caused Jesus to move to Capernaum that became His new base.

45 Unlike Nazareth, Capernaum received Jesus with open arms at first. The zealot influence was strong on these northern shores. Some of their acceptance was probably tinged with the zealot hope. At least one of Jesus' disciples was a zealot. Matthew 4:23-24 He healed all that were brought to him.

46 –48 This official is asking even though he does not believe. Perhaps he came with the thought on his heart that if his son was healed, he would then believe. That doesn't always work. John 12:37 The Jews have a history of not believing in spite of miraculous signs. Numbers 14:11

49-50 The bottom line is that this official wanted to see his son live and knew his only hope was Jesus. Jesus honored that faith. The official chose to believe the word of the Messiah. He returned with confident faith.

51 – 54 Why did he ask about the time? It was probably because he still had some doubts, but when it was verified he believed, and his whole house with him. Jesus had done other miracles. Is John saying that this is the second miracle in Cana or does he have a set of signs in mind? Water to wine would be his word over the condition of matter. This healing would be his power over disease even when the person is not present.

If it is a series of seven signs representing Jesus Lordship over all, I would suggest these seven may have been on John's mind:

1. Water to wine (mastery over matter)
2. Official's son healed (mastery over disease/omnipresence)
3. Paralysis in John 5 (mastery over our inability)
4. Walking on water (creation obeys him)
5. Healing the man born blind (mastery over our birth condition)
6. Raising Lazarus (mastery over our death/life giving power)
7. His resurrection (mastery over Satan and Hell)