

Exposé 247

Bucket Ministry Series 31

Title: The Common Ground

This is another edition of Exposé 247, the Bucket Ministry Series. As we know that the book of psalms says we should make a joyful noise unto the Lord and serve the Lord with gladness.

So it is very easy for us to do these things because we know talking about the riches of his grace, the fullness of his spirit. It is not burdensome. It is not grievous. His commandments are not grievous. So it is so easy to talk about. Who wouldn't like to talk about this?

If we have eternity, we will talk about this and this and this again. We cannot exhaust this. The inestimable riches of Christ, the depth of God, the wisdom and the riches of Christ. His way are past finding out, how unsearchable are his judgment. You keep searching and searching, you cannot get to the end of it because they are new every morning. That is it.

They are new every morning. So if you have a few yesterday, you are in for another..

His mercies are always new. New mercies you see every day.

So we are talking about the bottomless pit of supply, that is what he said on that great day of the feast. He cried out that is anyone thirsty? Let him come and drink.

And so again, he was talking to people that are running, those that if you listen to our last transmission, **“the ultimate search,”** those who are in relentless pursuit and going from one pillar to post and say finding meaning, looking for relevance.

The Lord is calling out to say I have something to offer you, it is a bottomless pit of well which springs to eternal life.

Now, to those who are tired of even searching, they don't have the strength any more, maybe they've done it and they are so tired, there is a word for you too.

Jesus said come unto me all ye that labour... that is you have gone to the first husbands, to the second, to the third and fourth and fifth, and you have no strength to pursue anything. No other interest. You have exhausted all your options, you have explore it and there is no further help for you, the scriptures say come unto me I have an offering for you. I have something for you. What I have for you cover all.

And so in that same spirit, we welcome you again to another exposition as we go further in this John Chapter four. You know if you remember we stopped at verse 18. And so today we want to kick off from verse 19.

Yeah, viewers all over the world, welcome again to this Bucket Ministry Series.

Don't forget the goal, the vision, the mandate is to draw out the implication of the gospel that we have received. If you have received the good news, if you've believed the good news of the dead, the burial and resurrection of Christ. What is the implication for you? Understand that which you have received? That is what we are here to do on this Bucket Ministry Series.

So join us as we go and we delve into the Word of life.

Now, we've been on the fourth Chapter of the book of John for quite some time now. And the last verse that we read like she said was the 18th verse, where it said **for you have had five husbands and the one you have now is not your husbands. And he said you have actually spoken correctly.**

If you were in the last transmission, there was one thing that we came to a conclusion about, about life itself. And don't forget, the summary that we came to in our last transmission is this, if we want to put that in a nutshell, **is to simply say justification and righteousness for you as a believer is from a person but justification or right standing or righteousness for unbelievers is from pursuit.** Can you see?

And that is the dividing line that Matthew 6:33 tells us.

So your righteousness is from a person. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteous not its...

So your righteousness is a person now. But for them in the world, their righteousness is not a person is in pursuit. And this was the conclusion we came to in our last transmission.

Now, we kick off from there today and we look at the 19th verse of the fourth Chapter.

Oh! Before you go, I don't think we can come to the end of Matthew Chapter 6 verse 33. Now while you are making a distinction between righteousness of those who are saved and those who are not saved, talking about the things and a person which is the difference.

But today we've seen the world moving away and trying to telling people to move away from seeking things, now experiences. So some is from experiences, so don't buy things, don't buy more of the cards and everything.

Now, people are seeking experiences now. So we need to clarify that.

Because it is revolving now from things...

Thank you for that.

But you see, you've got to understand one thing...

Anyway, the experiences are not even a person.

No! You have to understand the fact that things even when it comes to grammatical clause and context, things doesn't have to be physical. You can have visible things and invisible things. Can you see that?

We have abstract things and we have concrete things. You know in Nouns we have concrete Nouns and we have abstract Nouns.

So when I say things, it has to be any righteousness other than the person of Christ. It means it doesn't matter whether it is something that is tangible in terms of material possession or something intangible like for example peace. People are seeking for peace. Like we quoted a verse in the past where Jesus said my peace I will leave with you not the way the world gives.

Of course, there are lots of intangible things out there that people can try to seek a sense of satisfaction and completion from. But we know the danger, I will invite you to look for one of our transmission where we talked about **"the Robbery Alert."**

You've got to understand that what Jesus tells you and I, and he tells the whole world of humanity is as long as our righteousness is hang on things, on pursuit of life, that is the word to use. It means there is a lack of safety there.

He says moth and rust can always come in and corrupt. They can destroy. Things can change. Even the very people that you put your hope on can die. Even the very system that you depend can fail you. Even if they don't fail you, you can fail because when you die you leave those things.

The Bible says surely we brought nothing into this world and we will take nothing out of it. (1Timothy 6)

Now that is a very significance statement, it means if my righteousness, if my justification is dependent on things here, the scriptures says in death. Watch this!

He said when a man dies, he cannot take anything with him. So it means it will be wise and smart in the spirit for somebody to hang their righteousness and their justification on something they can take away in death. But Bible says anything here, you can't take it away in death.

So it means whether something happen to things here or something happens to you because if you are no more hanging unto those things, he is saying that moth and rust can destroy.

So follow us quickly as we carry on today to verse 19.

What does it says there?

John 4

19. The woman said to him, sir I perceive that you are a prophet.

You know the reason why the woman began to identify the prophetic ministry of Jesus is that Jesus was able to see into her personal moral life. She found out that for you to know that I have had husbands, and you even know that am not legally married to the sixth husband. It means you must have some kind of spiritual revelation. You are seeing things beyond the natural.

So I kind of perceive you've got to be a prophet one way or the other. You know things that naturally shouldn't be open to you because she just met Jesus for the very first time. There was no way Christ would have known naturally her marriage or marital situation was.

So she said I identify that you must be a prophet. That is what she was saying about Jesus there.

You want to say one or two things?

Yeah, it is good that we saw Jesus embolden this kind of ministerial gift, moving from a teacher to the prophetic. And we should excel and strive to excel in all these things. We cannot say oh! I am comfortable with this spiritual gift, this ministry gift. I am a teacher. I am just an Apostle. Some they even devalue some other ministry gift and say you need all together. So we see Jesus operating in the prophetic, teaching as a savior. So we need to strive...

But it is very different thing you talk about...

And you are listening to this, and you belong to the body of Christ, you belong to the local assembly or you are somebody trying to walk in the fullness of what God has for you in Christ Jesus. This is a very important thing we are talking about.

Because you've got to understand the fact that Jesus Christ was an embodiment of every gifting of the Spirit.

The Spirit within is without measure.

John Chapter 3 said the anointing on Christ Jesus was without measure.

So what that means is in Ephesians 4 when he says that he that has ascended first descended into the lower earthly regions, and when he ascended he gave gifts unto men.

It means what we call a gift of the Spirit today is just a part of Christ. Because they were the gifts of Christ that he gave to men. He gave his person to men but because Christ is multidimensional, so different people in the body of Christ will exhibit different aspect of Christ. That is why he was the one that gave the gifts unto men. They were his gifts.

And when he gave gifts unto men, in fact 1Corinthians 12 tells us that he distribute the gifts as he wills. It means he distribute to one and say profit. He distribute to another one Apostle, he distribute to another one pastoral as he wills.

So it means, sorry you can't decide what kind of office he puts you in because he knows you from the foundation of the earth. The Bible says he distribute the gifts as he wills.

The humbling thing about that will then mean that he takes the body of Christ to exhibit the fullness of Christ. That is where humility comes in.

So you can't be a stand-alone...

It means sorry to say, we are all the body of the Christ. **So it takes the body of Christ to manifest Christ. The fullness of Christ!**

A part of Christ cannot fully exhibit Christ. That is why we are always called the members of his body. You are not his body. You are the members of his body. **It means we will not really see the body of Christ until different members function in their gifting. That is humility that comes with the gifting of the Spirit.**

Nobody has it all.

It means you will need your next door neighbor. You will need the other member of the body of Christ. And we all need each other to walk together so that the world can see that is Christ. The world cannot see the fullness of Christ in an individual. It is impractically impossible. That is what we see there.

So what you are saying is, Christ manifest all the gifts. So when we see people today exercising the gifts of the Spirit...

We have three major classification even though this is not our focus today. We have the utterance gifts talking about speaking in tongues, diverse tongues, talking about the prophetic gifts. We have the gifts of power when it comes to the miracles and healings and all that. And we have the ones that has to do with discernment and all that.

So we have all these gifting, but Christ was an embodiment of all of them. And we are the expression of those gifts.

Yes, I was talking about where the Apostles... we have in the scriptures that encourages us to desire these gifts.

Oh! Definitely!

...to operate in this, even Moses was saying I wish you were all prophets. Desire to excel in this, desire this kind of office is still part of Christ.

Oh! Definitely!

You will need this gift to minister to someone, you need to walk in the gifts of understanding word of knowledge to even get their attention, to meet the kind of Samaritan woman. You might just his opening mind.

That is very important. That is why we trust that as you begin to go out there and to be a blessing to other people, in fact there are some time that unless we go out there, there are some gifting and some grace that we do carry that it takes hungry people, thirsty people to draw those things from us. And that is why we too must step out.

You must know and we must understand that you do not need a special empowerment from Christ for you to go out there and be a blessing to others.

You have been blessed with all spiritual blessing in high places, and as you step out, there are gifting and grace and deposits of the Spirit that you might not be aware of, but they will be drawn out of you as you seek to be a blessing to others, because you have received the Spirit of Christ. You have the Spirit of Christ and if you are part of the members of the body of Christ, the Bible tells us that the grace of God or the Spirit of God has been distributed to you as he wills.

There is a distribution to you already. You have a distribution. And if you are carrying a part of Christ, you must have carried a part of his gifting and of his functioning. You must have carry that. That is what we see in the scriptures.

So we encourage you today to go out and activate that which you have carried. You have been supplied. You are not empty. You don't have anything, you have something inside of you. So you have to activate it, fan it into flame. And the same with it here, the spring that is inside of you, you cannot give water to the thirsty. You need to go out and expose it.

The more you expose that, the more it will be drawn on, the more you can make a demand on the Spirit of Christ that is in you. The way the grace of God works in our life is unless you make a demand it doesn't supply. That is why unless we acknowledge it is there, it doesn't release.

That is why I like where Peter said that silver and gold I don't have, but that which I do have, I made a demand upon what I have. I know what I have in my spirit, I draw on it. And the more you draw on it and you believe it is there, the more it releases and activate itself to bring life, deliverance, liberty, freedom, solutions to your generation. And that is what we are calling you for today, to understand that you carry the part of Christ, his gifting. You carry the life of Christ, go out there and manifest it. And exhibit it.

In fact, the more you manifest that gifting, the more you found out that there is more release for you. That is what you notice there. I know this is not our focus today, but it is good to talk about it.

If you notice pattern of the Apostles in Acts Chapter 2, when they had the sound of the rushing of the mighty wind and they were in the upper room. If you notice pretty much at that time in Acts Chapter 2, all we notice was they were speaking in other tongues. There was no record of anybody being raised from the dead. There was no record of healing. There was no such thing. They began with tongue. It always start with the utterance gifts. That is the pattern you notice.

But the more they began to operate in that, when we get to the fourth Chapter of the book of Acts, we began to see there was a metamorphosis of the release of the giftings of Christ. We began to see them raising the man by the gate beautiful. We now saw healing. We saw miracles taking place.

And we see things happening and before you know it, it moved to Acts 12, 13 we began to see the prophetic began to manifest. That is where they were praying together in Acts 13 when the Holy Ghost said release to me Paul and Barnabas. We saw a migration, the progressive development of the manifestation of the gift of the Spirit as they began to exercise that which they have.

So don't ever say in your mind, that oh! All I can do is speaking in tongues, I don't think I have anything else. You always have to kick start from there. All they had in Acts 2 was tongues. That is it! But they began...

The first expression was tongue... they had the Holy Ghost which is the same.

But we didn't have any record that they needed to actually go back to the upper room and ask for a greater dimension

Acts Chapter 4 they were just asking for more to be filled...

Well, don't forget that in Act Chapter 4 was an exercising of that which...

We need to clarify it, not asking for the Holy Ghost again.

Now, they were not asking for the Holy Ghost to come down, that is why I did say an exercising of that which you have. That is the word I used. **Exercising!**

If you notice in Acts Chapter 4, if you take your Bible and read carefully. After they prayed together, Bible says the place where they were was shaken and they were filled with the Holy Ghost.

Now, that is to tell you that the exercise in the place of prayer and the experience of fullness from within. That is a fullness from within...

And again I want to draw the attention of our audience to even the kind of prayer they were praying, is not the kind of prayer that people are praying today. Because people after they had receive Holy Ghost, they seek the Holy Ghost come down again. In the next three weeks they come to the Holy Ghost service to be asking for the Holy Ghost to come down.

You know the prayer point, they said boldness... they were not asking. Even when the Holy Ghost came to fill the house and the place were shaken. The prayer point were not the same prayer point people pray again today. People pray to be filled. People pray Holy Ghost come down and manifest all these things. But they prayed that they had boldness to go about what was inside of them. Behold their threatening and so with boldness we go out to exercise...

So we must understand the prayer point and get the purpose and see the prayer points in Acts Chapter 4 was not the one in Acts Chapter 2. They are asking for more grace. In places of prayer, is not asking for more of the Holy Ghost to come. We've already had it. The boldness to go out with it, that we will not be threatened, that we will not keep quiet. If you got these things, you go and flaunt it.

Thank you for that.

It means the challenge we do have as believers is not really about the gifting of Christ in our spirit. It is about the fact that the world system tries to intimidate us from exercising what we have. That is the trick of the enemy. To intimidate you from exercising the gifts of God.

You might simply say who am I? What about if nothings happens? Do I have what it takes? I don't think I can say anything in that context. I don't think I can lay hand upon that person who has that terminal disease, I don't think so. What about if nothing happens? This is the hand of the enemy.

In fact, in most cases the enemy tries to intimidate us to make sure that we don't even call on the name of Jesus in the context and situation where we should have. That is why

when they were praying in Acts Chapter 4, they prayed unto God and say behold their threatening...

To threaten you doesn't means that people are shouting on you, it means there is a system, the society is automatically design in such a way that your mouth is shout. It's a treat in the system. Either physical, whether psychological even whether what people will think of you or what is already in place that don't allow you to exercise that. Especially for places where they have good hospitals, people will just be reluctant in exercising the grace of healing...

In fact, atimes it's shame. You feel like it might be a thing of shame. People will look at you and feel uneducated, barbaric, are you ignorant? Why are you acting like uneducated? In fact, that kind of shame, all those things are threat preventing us from exercising the gifting of Christ.

So when they prayed in Acts Chapter 4, instead of praying that Holy Ghost anoint me or send down your fire upon my life, the prayer they were praying is consider their threat. They were praying that behold the threatening, grant us boldness to face up to the threat so that we can go out there and declare and speak and exercise and lay our hands in the name of Jesus Christ.

So that is what we see there. That is the thing that can mitigate against the exercising of the gifts of the Spirit.

So today we are simply saying arise. Just say like Paul Romans Chapter 1 verse 16, am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the power of God unto salvation.

See! Bible says a workman needing not to be ashamed, rightly diving the Word of truth. This is not the time to be ashamed. You have to go out there and take out the Word of God to the street.

In fact, you will see some miracles you never thought you could have done in the name of Jesus. You will see signs happening. You will see things happening that will be mind boggling not just to people even to you yourself. But all you need to do is overcome the threat. Just overcome the threat. You need the boldness of the Lord to go out there and exercise it.

You want to say one or two things?

Yes, even beyond the one going outside, some people are being threatened even within in the house, things that they could have used the provision of the Spirit for, things that the Lord has made available, but because of what is already in the system, so they are being conditioned, they are already been threatened, defeated.

We are talking about taking your territory back knowing what is already given. So we should not be silent even beyond going out there, even within as we go about life. So there are some threats that is coming to you, why will you make a recourse to what is available in the spirit?

Now, thank you for that.

That is why if you notice in Ephesian 5 where he says **do not be drunk with wine as in exercise but ye filled with the Holy Ghost**. And when you read the other verses, he said praying and singing psalms and making melody in your heart to the Lord. You can see that?

So he was simply saying that, you've got to exercise your spirit man so that there can be a refilling of what which you already have. So it means antidote for what we are talking about today, an antidote to deal with the problem now is that you must keep on firing up if that is the word. You just keep getting fire up.

Because for example, if you see a man that is drunken in the natural, in most cases they don't appreciate the reality of what of they see around. Some of them they will see, they might see a big gutter, they can say yes, I can always... That is a bed. They want to sleep on

Or even atimes something that they cannot do physically, they found out that they can do all things when they are drunk because they are not able to take in the natural... they have altered perception.

Now, the Apostle Paul used that allegory, example in Ephesians Chapter 5 talking about being filled in the Spirit that if you get to a point that you are so spirit conscious that you are less human reasoning conscious.

So if you have water perception of the natural, you can't even see it. You cannot see the natural. We are being encouraged to walk by faith and not by sight. And we need to walk by faith and not by sight that you will be blinded, then you need to be drunk to be able not to see things. People see it as a normal, the natural will see it because you are under the influence of the Spirit just like influence of the wine.

So you cannot see it and you will talk like a drunk man. Because you are not talking from the natural reality. You are not talking with your sanity and consciousness in place. You are talking from the consciousness, you are drinking from another well. So you have a source of information that is just not around... that is what the Holy Ghost is inviting you to.

That is the reason why when Lazarus died and they told Jesus that Lazarus was dead and he was there for four days, he was a bit delay before he went back there. Jesus said he sleeps. Can you see that? That man is sleeping.

That will be altered perception if that is the word you want to use. How can you say a man who is being dead for four days and Jesus said Lazarus our brother is sleeping? It means you get to a point where you see things from heaven's perspective not from earth's perspective. And that can only happen if you get drunken with the Spirit, when you get drunken in the Holy Ghost.

What we are simply saying is, the focus there, the goal of you praying in tongues all the time, the reason why you sing spiritual songs all the time, the reason why you make melody in your heart all the time. The reason why you always try to worship the Lord is not that you are trying to hijack something from God or you are trying to convince God to be blessing to you or you are trying to be in the good book of heaven to say I have prayed today, Father as I prayed today, today must favour me. Those are idolistic thinking that is imported into Christianity.

But the reason why you do all these prayers, you stay in step with the Spirit is so that you can keep being fired up, so that you can keep having heaven's perspective over circumstance, over situations, over life itself, over your words. You have heavens perspective. This is what we need to be able to exercise the gifting of Christ that you have receive as a member of the body of Christ.

So we saw in this John 4:19 that Jesus exercised his prophetic aspect. And there are times he showed forth his Apostolic, atimes he showed forth his teaching, atimes he showed forth his pastoral. The Bible says he looked at them as sheep without shepherd. That was his pastoral gift at work. Christ showed forth all these aspect of him as

And he wanted us to do more than what he did. He said because I am going to the Father. I have left even here to do much more. We are not even going to stop at what he did, we are to do more. So we have our work cut out for us.

This is for people to know that we are in a system at the moment, the world system where atimes this gifting of Christ to penetrate some circumstance, some situation. Like see how Jesus was able to penetrate into this woman's life. How he was able to gain hold and gain access to her life because he exercise this prophetic gifting to this woman.

Even we found out in the case of the Lazarus, Jesus want to show forth his glory. He just have to use the healing resurrection power so there are some cases you will not go to, you cannot address some communities or some things without having some expressing demonstrate that I am walking in this grace.

So let's go on from there, what does it says next?

Verse 20

20. Our father worship on this mountain but you Jews says that the place where one ought to worship is in Jerusalem at the temple.

Now a discussion comes up about the issue of worship.

Why do you think she just move to that, you are a prophet and trying to move away from her lifestyle? This was a discuss on her life.

Well, see! Some Bible commentators think... I have looked at this and study this over time, I have been able to see what some other perceptive people have.

Some Bible commentators think that the reason why she raised up this issue of worship is simply because she wanted to distract Jesus because Jesus was technically pock nosing, was already beaming attention into her life as an individual and she doesn't want to get personal with Jesus.

You know it happens atimes somebody want to get personal with us. Somebody says tell me about your plans and you just try to talk back to them and try to divert discussion and say...People do this in day to day conversation trying to divert focus from yourself. But some theologian believed that the reason why she come up with the issue of worship was to take attention to the fact that I have five husbands. Please let's not get personal.

And again I was just thinking maybe she had established that Jesus was a prophet, he will go further and further because when you think of somebody that you know he doesn't even have much. He can't even say much. Fine! Anyway I can play along. I can play you. But we found out, he cannot afford that risk, she cannot play Jesus because she has found out and established that he is a prophet.

So because she cannot match up with what will come up. It's a lost battle, I just have to move away. I am just thinking.

Well, that is a good thought. In fact some other theologians like Dakes, some of them did actually agree to that. That is why I say we have different school of thoughts. Some didn't see the correlation no wonder she was trying to distract Jesus with any other topic as long as it is not about her personal life. And this is a theological discussion. There are people out there even today in the church....

Jesus was actually making her comfortable...

Yeah...

In the church, some people just prefer to discuss theology. They like to discuss theological concept theoretically, but when it comes to personal...

That is one way we can look at it. But some other people believed what you just said. Some theologian believed that of course the reason why she brings that question to Jesus

is because it must have been something that was really of concern to her and she does not have anyone to answer that question ever since.

And when she found out that Christ has form of authority as a prophetic, somebody who could see, somebody who has a kind of spiritual understanding because if not, how come he knew about her life?

So she felt this is a man that probably knows, has some spiritual insight and this question that has been boggling my mind, it think he is the best person that I can bring question to. Some people believed that as well, that is why she raised that question.

But prior to that question, does anybody has a story about her life that she has a conflict of where to worship? Has she gone to a particular mountain or something? Is there anything about...

No! it doesn't have to be about that. We can only project this based on where she came from. She is a Samaritan.

Is it out of national interest?

This question she was asking was not a unique question. This concern in her life was not unique to her. This was a general concern of the Samaritans because the Jews have excluded them from the worship. It is a fact.

We've said this in the past many weeks ago. The Jews believed that the Samaritans are second class citizens. In fact, they believed the Samaritans genetically or in terms of their background were born out of harlotry, out of prostitution because of the fact that, they came from the mixed marriages, the Assyrians and the Jews. So there is a pollution, a contamination about this Samaritans. So they were not allowed to come to the Jewish mountain for worship because the Lord God said that nobody unclean should come into the temple of God.

So the Jews bind them from worship. But because they believed they had a Jewish heritage and they believed they had to worship so they had to set up an alternative place so that Samaritans can go and worship. Jews will never allow them to worship on their mountain because they were polluted and corrupted.

So it was not something unique about, it is question that all Samaritans have.

So any other Samaritans could have asked Jesus?

That is a fact. So we can project the fact that this is something of concern to them.

But to make themselves happy, since they know they can't be allowed to worship on the mountain with the Jews, they came up with own mountain and that's where they want to worship. And they claim on their mountain that is where God can actually meet you.

That is why it's actually Mount Eber. You know this mountain they are talking about. It is the two mountain that is there in the Old Testament. The mount of blessing and the mount of curses. That is the two mountain that they were talking about.

So Jews chose the mountain of blessing, they went to the other mountain. Geographically they could use the other mountain because they didn't have to go through Judea. So the mount of blessing and the mountain of curses, these are two mountains they were talking about. Even it is not written there, am just quoting some historical context by some Theologians.

So we know that what she was asking is not something special, is not something you need to, is a general question Samaritans have.

And is a very important question to simply say to Jesus, she said you Jews...

Settle this once and for all,

You said you Jews should worship on that...

In fact theologians agreed that those mountains she was referring to were within the eye sight of the two of them at the point of discussion. Because if you look at what she said,

She said **our fathers worship in this mountain.**

She didn't say in mountain. She said this mountain. Which means like if I'm talking to you saying in this mountain. So they believed the mountains were within the eye shot of the two of them at the time she was talking. She said this mountain. Jesus was aware of that mountain.

She maybe probably pointing to it and then

But you Jews says in Jerusalem...

You can see that?

So the other mountain was probably not in their sight because they were in Samaria at the moment don't forget. Jesus had to pass through Samaria. So when she said this mountain, we have to believe that mountain was in Samaria and they could see it.

And we know that's what she was talking about. But the fact is, the reason why she's asking that question, we may then project and say just a question that every Samaritan asked at that time. We know our fathers came up to this mountain as a solution to why we couldn't go to Jerusalem, but the fathers told us that is the right mountain to worship.

Now, there are some things I want us to point out from this. Looking at the significance of this question is, you will notice that there was issue of mountain.

You will notice that worship was connected to elevation. Worship was connected to height. This is very significant because even though the Samaritans are sure they are not doing the right thing, but they still believed they have to worship it has to be on the mountain. It has to be on the elevation.

And if you notice as well when the Lord began to rebuke the Israelites in the book of Jeremiah and some of the other prophets and began to talk to them even through Ezekiel that they were going to every high hill, every high elevation, they sacrifice to idols.

So the question you want to ask, and for some of you who might have come from maybe from some other cultural medieval or traditional culture where...

I don't think it is only the Samaritan that even subscribe to this school of thought because everybody is going to the mountain. There is a mountain of this, of that. You were in Bragga at that time I think it was the highest place of worship. Like how many steps? Like 8000 steps. People set up religious institution and mountain.

You see don't forget that even like I said, we just talked about the Israelites they were setting up places of idol worship on every high hill. Can you see?

That is the book of Jeremiah... even if you go out of the biblical context in people who came from traditional cultures who... I know some of these things are fast disappearing now physically speaking, but if you still go back and check on some historical book you will notice that a lots of shrines tend to prefer to be on elevation. It is about mountain.

And then you wonder why mountains? Why is mountain connected to worship? That is a big question, even for those who are into idol worshipping, what is the connection?

Don't forget that these things are a shadow of the reality because as mountain are in the physical, we have a reality of this in the Spirit. Why did I say that?

Even when it comes to God himself, there is a prophetic word for the church, he says the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be exalted above all other mountain. That was a prophetic word that was spoken. But we know that has a spiritual relevance or significance even in the Spirit because mountain talks about highest, talks about elevation.

Does that not agree with what we've been discussing over the past few episodes when we are simply talking about the fact of the ultimatum, the highest goal, the highest purpose, the highest good; what is your ultimate? What is the over-arching goal? What is the thing that is the most significant for you? What is the thing that is the most important for you?

There are things that are important to us in life. But what is the thing that controls other things? What is the thing that is the end destination for your life? What is the thing that your life is all about? What is the highest? What is the peak of your pursuit? What is it?

I know some might say, they are pursuing God. But again, could it mean that God is a pursuit? Could it mean that there is something that is much more required or needed for your satisfaction more than God?

Every man has an elevation, has a mountain. Every man has something that is the most important or the most significant for you. And that is why worship is always connected to mountain.

So ultimately in summary whatsoever you worship, it's not hard to find out. What is the highest? What is the most significant? What is the thing that you know if it's in place, that is life being fulfilled for you? What is your fulfillment? What is your satisfaction? What is your highest goal? This is what worship is connected to.

So if you then say talking about worship, you know worship is all about you devoting your energy, your focus, your concentration on the thing that is the highest or something you elevate above every other thing. It means other things are good, but this particular thing is not just good, this is the highest.

That is why every time the scriptures always connect worship to mountain. And that is what we see there.

So we need to look at our life to see what we put at the crest, what is at the top of every other things else? That is what your worship is connected. So you always worship on the mountain. You don't worship in the valley. You don't worship on the plane. You always worship on the mountain.

So what I see on the mountain of your life, then that is what you are worshipping. You don't worship what is on the valley but what is at the top of your priority? What do you priorities in life? What is on the top of your list? That is your worship.

It is good that you brought that out because some people might be saying I am not the Samaritans woman here, I don't have this kind of question in my heart where will I worship or what mountain is it? But the thing is, the question everybody ask is the question you need to get an answer for once and for all. And that is what Jesus is doing for this woman and is doing it for us to say check the place of elevation, check the crest, check the peak of your mountain, what is there? Whatsoever is there is what you are worshipping.

Because this question is not only the question for Samaritans, is a question for everybody to know what am I worshipping? In case you are not sure, just look for the height, look for your high places, look for the crest or the peak, your priorities. Whatever that is on that shelf, that is the worship.

Thank you for that.

Now, you see if you are here and you are not saved, if you are listening to this because we trust that some people are not born again might come across our transmission. We trust the Lord that through those transmission you will understand the gospel.

And for those who are saved, who are born again and you want to engage in evangelism or preaching of the gospel that will be effective, that will touch the heart of people, that will not just be stories to them, but with the reality of the life of God. This is a kind of thing that you cannot brush aside.

You see, there is a kind of challenge that we have in presenting the gospel in the 21st century. You know what we used to do or should I say what it used to work before or probably is still working but is freezing out is when you talk to people and you present the issue of the fact they need a savior. They need a savior.

Of course, if somebody doesn't need a savior, they don't need to come to Christ. If they can save themselves, if they have a self-salvation project, who needs Christ?

If Christ will be received, if Christ would be loved, if Christ would be accepted, if Christ would be worshipped, he has to be needed by men.

And what we used to do, what always used to work is to tell people that they should know you are a sinner, that you cannot measure up to the standard of God and that you have disobeyed the laws of God. You just have to dapple the law of God right in their face and tell them you have fallen short of that. And if you are fallen short, it means you can never saved yourself.

And even if they think they are very good and nice, you have to keep raising the bar until that person knows that they cannot qualify by themselves.

Jesus actually did that with the young rich ruler. You have kept the law...

Thank you.

And the reason why it works with the rich young ruler was because of the context where he came from. If you notice the rich young ruler told Jesus, I have kept these laws. If Jesus already gave that presentation because the man in his context where he came from knew that there are ultimate laws of God that a man has to keep for him to be justified. So that was easy. So that was the okay.

And the system works as long you are society that agrees that there are objective law of God that we must keep for us to enter into life. And if he believes that, it is easy for you to say you don't measure up, you need a savior.

But you know what happened? What happened in the 21st century is that the devil has gone snicky. What's happening now is what we have come to in the 21st century is, if you

tell somebody objective laws of God, the question they are going to ask you is, who made the laws?

They can say even I set my own morality laws. I set my own rules. If you tell somebody about doctrine, talking about sexual immoralities, they can say well, you know what? There is nothing wrong as long as you and your partner do agree. That is why today we have people talk about open marriage. They say as long as you are not hiding and both of you are happy with it. Both consensual party are happy.

If it is consensual if both of you are having extra marital affair. Who says it is adultery? You see the problem we have now. It means you cannot tell people and say... they can say as long as both of you are open to it, it is not bad and they will have a lot of people that say it is okay. And you do know people say it is okay. In some culture it is okay to do that.

What has happened now in our generation is, men with the help of demonic system, they've been trying to make sure they tamper with what is accepted as objective laws of God.

So when you come out presenting and say that you have fallen short. They say fallen short of what? Of what you created? I do not agree even with the law of morality. Or I do not even agree with the person who made the law in the first place.

This is the point where the 21st century evangelist will get stocked, which was not a problem in the time of rich young ruler. You can use that.

So this is where we get stocked. And this is why this kind of discuss today is very critical. You shouldn't get stocked if you understand the things we are talking about today in this John 4:20.

There is always a mountain.

Because in John 4:20 the woman said to Jesus, you that you are Jews, you worship on that mountain. We Samaritans that you consider as irreligious, you consider us as unholy, you consider us as ungodly, the Jews think Samaritan are very ungodly. They think they are children of pollution. We also worship on this mountain. What does that tell you?

It means when the gospel is presented from the mountain point of view, every man subscribe to a mountain. I don't care whether you are in an individualistic culture, western culture, traditional culture, if you come to anyone and ask them, there is an ultimate good for you. There is something that makes your life good. Some people it is social justice, fighting for the cause of the poor. That is all they are all about. They wouldn't disagree that with you. They will tell you there is something that consumes their passion.

Nobody can fight the notion about this mountain. I don't care who they are. They will always tell you, for them social justice or something can say for them it is about the fact that they want to be free. They want to live free. So being free is what they must have at all cost, something that consumes their person.

Every man looks to a mountain. And nobody can honestly denied that fact. That is what we are saying.

And the fact is if everybody agrees like this woman said to Jesus we worship on that mountain, you Jews said is on the other mountain we should worship. **It means we come to a conclusion that whether Jews or Samaritans, whether bond or free, whether Greek or Scythians no matter who they are, everybody worship on mountain.**

This bring it to popular... I think there was a time we had people attend some of our...

So what this woman is trying to tell Jesus is, you Jews and we Samaritans, we all agreed that we all worship. Everybody worship something. This is the point.

So when the gospel is presented from that platform to anyone, it doesn't matter whether they are 21st century person that listens! something come yes or no?

And it is good for some people who thought they are free from worship, they feel like oh! I have moved away from religion, I am not worshipping anything.

No! Something drives you.

Because they just look at the major religion and feel like oh! I did not subscribe to this. So I am free from worshipping. And feel like oh! I did not bore the regular attendance to this. I do not join this and feel like I am free of worship. I am a free thinker. I am just alone.

Well, that itself drives the person.

That is even a mountain on his own.

That is what drives him. That is what makes him feel significant. That is what makes him important or feel different, or feel better or something. It is a pursuit. The fact is, every human, every person has mountain. And it is hard for anyone to disagree with this, it doesn't matter who they are.

And it is good that even the Samaritan woman understood this. Some people don't even understand this point and feel like oh! I am not a worshipper. She actually agree even though the animosity, even the generosity of the whatsoever hostility that is between the Jews and Samaritans, she assumed that we are equal in this. (In the worship)

Even though culturally which one is better? Who is worshipping right?

He knows even worship has put everybody on the same ground. Though we have disagreement about the purity of race, you feel better. You have this and this. But there is something every humanity has and there is no point for argument for it.

She is not asking Jesus about it that who should worship? Who is not meant to worship? Is it right to worship at all?

So everybody irrespective of the race and irrespective of the class and how the world has even stratify and put people in different cadre. You feel like we all are united in this and we are worshippers.

So in summary the rich, the poor, the educated, the illiterate, the wise, the foolish. The one that the society has called by propaganda to it know that we are all worshipping something.

The atheist, and the one that is not an atheist. The one that is freethinker and the one that is making up their thought for them religiously.

This woman understand that everybody worship. We can argue on the object of worship or where who is worshipping right? That is I think the argument was who is worshipping right but is not an argument of is anybody worshipping or not.

I just hope some people come to the same elevated thinking of this woman to agree that we all worship.

I think people that do that do not seem to think straight about this are people who think they are free thinkers or people who think they are highly educated or people who quickly remove themselves maybe they are just attaching from one kind of religion and feel like oh! stop going to this. I don't worship anything and I have not joined another. And feel like I am a none worshipper.

They used the commitment to know, I don't go to the temple. I don't do this. And so they look at those things.

Do you have a mountain? Is there something that is exalted above other things in your life? Is there something that has a higher elevation than every other thing in your life? That you don't really care if other things crumble but this particular thing must not fail? Is there something that is elevated above other thing?

As long as you've got a mountain then you get worship right there. Because worship always happen mountain and nobody can escape the mountain. No! Nobody can escape the mountain.

Even for those who feel they are minimalist, (I am just using that word loosely) even in the valley and feel like I am going down to the recess, to the other ground and off the

radar, because some people are living the life and say oh! the evil of technology. I am going to deprive myself and am going in the underground. There is a mountain in your underground.

Is there something that is elevated above other things for you? For some it is just the acceptance by other people. They must be accepted by people by all means. They would do all it takes for them to be in the good book of other people. That hitch for acceptance overrides every other desire for them.

And some to be seen as knowledgeable, so they would do anything to make an appearance of knowledge or subscribe to the new thing if it is a new wave of thinking now, they just have to subscribe to feel like I am ahead, I look better. That is a mountain.

As long as you have a mountain, you have a worship. Because we saw this woman in verse 20 of John Chapter 4, she connected worship to mountain. It takes a man with no mountain not to worship.

As long as you have something that elevates, everybody is got. That is the point. Everybody... like this woman subscribe to the fact that Jews and Samaritans...

And Jesus did not autocorrect her and say no! The Jews don't worship or the Samaritans don't worship. It was just agreement that yes! You are right about mountains and the worship that everybody does that. You have spoken another truthful statement again. That is it!

Now you see! If you are listening to this today, what **we want you to take away from today's transmission is the fact that worship doesn't respect anyone.** Jews or Samaritans, the rich, poor, young, old, educated, illiterate, living in the western world or living in traditional world. Worship is not a respecter of anyone. Everybody worship. (John 4:20)

As long as you have something that consumes your desire above other things. As long as you have something that is elevated for you above other things. As long as you have something that is your most highest priority in life. You've got a mountain. And if you've got a mountain, you've got worship. That is what John 4:20 says.

And it is foolishness to look at worship the way you've been looking at it again any further, because you cannot attach worship to temple, to a physical structure or to some religious book or ritual and feel like since I am not doing this or somebody is doing this. Because some people can look and say, oh! maybe they are coming from a different culture, and feel like why do this people have all these? And feel like we don't have these. These are the worshipers.

So you cannot attach it to maybe the keeping of some rules or some ritual or some structures or the attendance into this. Everybody worships and so worship is beyond temple, is beyond following some ordinances or from school of thoughts. Some say I subscribe to nobody, I listen to myself. Then you are your god yourself.

Now, thank you for making reference to that.

That reminds me of 1 Samuel Chapter 15 when Saul was being told by Samuel when he says, for rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and he says stubbornness and iniquity is as idolatry.

I repeat that again, he said rebellion is as witchcraft but he said stubbornness and iniquity is as idolatry.

So it means stubbornness, when you only subscribe to yourself.

You are as good as a witch.

He said stubbornness is as idolatry. It is also worship. That was even in the Old Testament. The understanding of Prophet Samuel speaking to Saul.

So in summary it will mean that as long as that person regards himself as the highest authority, he must have his way.

So for stubborn people, that means if they don't have their way in any situation, they go crazy. So what really makes them satisfy is that they are able to have their way. That is priority to them.

As long as you have your priority, you've got a mountain. You've got mountain, you've got worship. So it means this is inescapable. That is why I said we come to present the gospel to anyone on earth today on this platform of worship. You can capture anyone.

That is why I said even if the society has changed, there is a metamorphosis that has happened with the issue of sin, but again as long as somebody worships any other thing than the creator. He is a sinner. But sin must be understood from that context of worship. That is what we see there. That is why I said, this will capture any one, it doesn't matter who they are.

So I think this is good point to stop today and cause our viewers to go and reflect on this and do the introspection by the Holy Ghost in our lives and to the mountain in our lives and what we placed on them.

Things that nobody can talk us out of it. Things that subconsciously we will do, we will fight with our last blood. Things you can even use God for, because God is even a means to those things. That is it! They are higher than God.

We use everything for it and some people they can use things, they can use their spouse, they can sacrifice for, they use anything to achieve that thing. And some they don't have all those things to use, so they use prayer to get them.

So everything on their ways is to achieve those things, whatsoever is on their way, even God can be used to achieve those things... That is a mountain. It is higher than God. Use prayer, use career, use anything on their way. So they are blinded to use anything for it.

And so it is good for us to look at this and think about these. We will continue this John Chapter 4 and move beyond this so that we can even come to the realization of this woman to accept that today that everybody has a mountain to worship.

So this is going to be a wrap from us today and so we do welcome you to join us as we continue on John Chapter 4.

Do you reckon how many session and episodes we do have?

As long the Lord will help us.

We've spend part of today talking about Acts of the Apostles and ministry Gifts that kind of, I feel is like bringing a blessing to somebody who needs to hear that,

So should you have any questions or comments, you know where to go on our page. We are open to receive whatever you want to say, what the Lord is shedding forth, shedding abroad further in your heart.

So till we see you again, we want to say as you have received Jesus Christ the Lord, so walk in him.

God bless you.