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She Left Her Waterpot

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SHE LEFT HER WATERPOT
John 4:27-30

I. There is no book like the Bible.
   A. It thrills, challenges, enlightens.
   B. It's complete in purpose but not in curiosity.
   C. Joy to see the greatest of minds cope with its truths.

II. Jesus & the Woman at the Well.
   A. After animated conversation, she left her waterpot, hurried to the village, told the good news - did she return? See V-42.
   B. Does what we leave convey a disinterest. I've forgotten:
      1. Ties - Wilburne's I wore 1 week
      2. Razor
      3. Toothbrush at Prescott, Arizona
      4. Sermon outlines
      5. Car
      6. Children left in seats & pews.
   C. Why did she leave it?
      1. Forgot it?
      2. Could run faster without it & thus quickly tell good news?
      3. Thought Jesus might need it?
      4. Pledge - I'll return?
      5. Inconsequential - I've found something far superior?
III. I want us to ask "where do I place the emphasis? What can I leave off in pursuit of something I think more valuable? What's No. 1 to me?

A. It's important we establish Priorities.

1. "No other force in the world - psychological or material - can equal the indomitable drive of a man who has committed himself to the achievement of a personal goal." Paul Meyer, Success Motivation International.

2. "A man or woman becomes fully human only by his or her choice & his or her commitment to them." Dr. Rollo May, Psychologist.

3. "Achievement is almost automatic when the goal becomes an inner commitment". Dr. Dennis Waitley, Psychology of Winning.

4. "There isn't a person anywhere who isn't capable of doing more than he thinks he can". Henry Ford

5. "If we did all we are capable of doing we would literally astonish ourselves." Thomas Edison.

B. Bible not timid about stating priorities.

1. The Kingdom.
   Matt. 6:33 "Seek ye 1st the Kingdom of God"
   (Clip on church attendance)

2. The commandment.
   Matt. 22:38 "This is the 1st commandment"
3. Gospel
Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed
1 Cor. 15:3 "I delivered unto you 1st of all that which

4. People
2 Cor. 8:5 "First gave their own selves" 
  (David Livingston "I will place no value on anything I have or possess except in its relationship to the Kingdom of God") Also Ignatius card-

5. Jesus
Col. 1:18 "He is the head of the body, the Church"

IV. What's Elevated Today?
A. I want to grow.
  1. Clip on it - two of them.
B. I want fame.
  1. Edward VII funeral.
C. I want money.
  1. Clip from USA Today.
  2. Study Psalm 49.
D. Psalm 49
V-2 Addressed to all classes - all should hear.
V-4 If you address others, listen yourself. Bring harp close to ear to hear.
V-5 All face days of evil.
  1) Seems they get temporary advantage.
  2) How do we face our declining years?
V-6 They trust in their wealth.
  3) Lofty in their self esteem.
  4. Money is stamped round - apt to run.
Ps. 49:17 "Rich man takes nothing away when he"
V-7 None can redeem his brother.
5) Money can't save from death.

1 Pet. 1:18-19 "Not redeemed with silver & gold"

V-8 Redemption of soul.
6) No golden key to unlock death's dungeon.

V-10 Wise men die - fool also & brutish.
7) Jollity cannot laugh off last hour.

V-11 Houses continue forever.
8) Earthly goods don't last forever.
9) Call fields after ourselves.
10) All ebbs & flows.

V-13 Their way is folly.
11) Their way not God's - folly.
12) We accept world's ways.
13) Sela - well we need to pause.
14) Crates card. #17
15) Alexander card. #12

V-17 Die carry nothing - glory not.
16) Death ends our tenure.
17) Hell knows no aristocracy.
18) Augustine card.
19) Make a decision. #9

E. Conviction.
1. Commie in China clip. #10
2. Martin Smith. #11
3. Bloesch card. #12
4. Harold Sola quote. #13
5. Solzhinitgyn. #14
6. Betty Stam. #15

West End 4/7/85
York College (Chapel Service) York, NE - 9/10/86
SHE LEFT HER WATERPOT

David Lipscomb College Chapel - 11/4/86
David Lipscomb High School Chapel - 11/5/86
St. Ignatius of Loyola prayed, "Teach us, Good Lord, to serve Thee as Thou deservest; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for any reward save that of knowing that we do Thy will. Through Jesus Christ out Lord."
I believe any man's life will be filled with constant and unexpected encouragement if he makes up his mind to do his best each day and as nearly as possible reaching for the high-water mark of pure and useful living.

— Booker T. Washington
Billy Jones not well
This is his daddy

GI late – what say?
Stood, seated, how’ll be this at
Col. sir

Foot & Faith
Un Reform me
I’m speaking – feel

Faith – it’s only faith that anyone is listening
Office Manager to new stenographer: "Miss Smith, I don't know how you do it. You've been here only two weeks and already you're a month behind."

—Sunshine Mag.
"The folly of man seldom appears more than in being very busy about nothing, in making a great cry where there is little wool; like that empty fellow that showed himself to Alexander—having spent much time, and taken much pains at it beforehand—and boasted that he could throw a pea through a little hole, expecting a great reward; but the king gave him only a bushel of peas, for a recompense suitable to his diligent negligence, or his busy idleness. Things that are vain and empty are unworthy of our care and industry."

Treasury of David - Vol. 1 Spurgeon - 48th Psalm p. 379 vs. 13
The shy country boy had been courting a girl for years, but just couldn’t find the right words to ask her to marry him. One afternoon as they strolled by the village cemetery, the right words came to him.

“How,” he asked, “would you like to be buried over there with my people?”
When the Communists took over in China, Sam Moffatt was arrested and thrown in prison. One day, thinking of the turmoil that had come to that country and of his own fate, he asked one of his captors, "What chance is there?" The man replied, "None." "Why?" asked Moffatt. "Because they are willing to die for what they believe, and I don't believe you are." That's the answer!
and the tares will grow together until the end of the age (Matt. 13:24–30), though false prophets will appear on the scene when Satan makes his final stand; those who have the eyes to see and the ears to hear will be able to distinguish the false from the true.

In light of the secularization of the mainline churches today, some scholars depict the community of the faithful as being increasingly on the defensive. Peter Berger has given this pessimistic prognosis: "By the 21st century, religious believers are likely to be found only in small sects, huddled together to resist a worldwide secular culture."²⁰ According to Martin Smith,

Jews and Christians today belong to the dwindling minority of the religious people in the Western world. Majority and minority faiths no longer exist. The religions are a minority themselves, in constant danger of being buried by the Gentiles, i.e., the floodtides of communism and nationalism.²¹