

## **BULLETIN REFLECTION**

**MARCH 07, 2021...3<sup>RD</sup> SUN LENT YR-B...JN 4, 5-42**

9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" (For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.)

*Cf. endnotes of NABRE...[4:9] Samaritan women were regarded by Jews as ritually impure, and therefore Jews were forbidden to drink from any vessel they had handled.*

This is where the Samaritan woman is coming from in response to Jesus's request...take note Jesus is a Jew, not by virtue of him doing something to acquire it. Our Lord was predisposed on concepts that He did not create. It has become a culture that He is bound to observe...what shall we do now?

On so-called 'concept barriers,' for example 1. The law on external cleansing of plates hands etc. 2. Treatment towards people with leprosy or sick people in general 3. Perception about kingship so on so forth...Our Lord gave whooping statements that contradicted such 'concept barriers'...

**Lk 4, 28** When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury. 29 They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong. **30** But he passed through the midst of them and went away.

After introducing Himself to the Samaritan woman look what happened on verse **15** *The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."* At first, we may not like the position presented to us by our Lord because it does not conform to the existing reality or it is not what we like. But after a thorough analysis of Christ's teaching we would be beholden to embrace His words just like what the Samaritan woman did.

Let prevailing concepts not be a hindrance in the nearness of God (that's God taking the initiative) and our desire to be closer to Him (man's response). We allow God's word takes precedence no matter what even if it's against all odds. And pray for realization to happen soon.