

**Monday, 15 May 2017** John 4:21-24

Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

Nothing of him that doth fade,/But doth suffer a sea-change,/into something rich and strange, (*The Tempest*, by Wm. Shakespeare). The Lord Jesus is promising a sea change in the true sense of the phrase. No longer will we be called to worship in a physical location through our actions, but we will be called to worship with every aspect of our beings for we will be the temple of the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor. 3:16-19). Believe Him!

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**Tuesday, 16 May 2017** John 4:39

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did."

We often underrate the power of personal testimony; especially when the oral testimony is confirmed by observed transformation. This is frequently demonstrated in the prisons where other inmates are quick to comment on lapses in the behavior of someone who professes to have become a follower of Jesus Christ.

We need to be quick to acknowledge those failures of obedience rather than seek to excuse and minimize them.

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**Wednesday, 17 May 2017** John 4:41-42

And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

My testimony in word and deed is the work of the sower. Some is seed broadcast; some is seed carefully planted in tilled rows and cultivated but none has life until quickened by the Word of the LORD through the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

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**Thursday, 18 May 2017** John 4:47-49

When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe. The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

This father was not looking for signs and wonders—he believed that Jesus had the power to heal his son. He needed no further proof—just heal my son. He trusted! He had faith! He committed!  
Are my prayers for my children wishy-washy or are they the fervent prayer of a parent who knows and trusts the power of his Savior?

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**Friday, 19 May 2017** John 4:50

Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way.

See the juxtaposition between belief and action? The father believed and went; he didn't wait for confirmation by the servants. I'm sure he went rejoicing.  
Do you wonder what the reaction was when his servants found him? Were they shocked to find him rejoicing? How did he already know? Don't you think this story spread throughout Galilee like wildfire?

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**Saturday, 20 May 2017** John 4:51-53

As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household.

Did the father respond with a big smile and say, "Yes. I know"? Hadn't a sense of the peace that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7) entered his heart, a calmness that had not been there since his son fell ill? The Scripture tells us that he believed, but not what he believed. But like so many others throughout the Gospels, he knew without a doubt that he had been in the presence of the Son

of God, eg the testimony of the centurion in Mark 15:39.

All his household believed. They had not been present at the meeting with Jesus, but they read the testimony of the master of the household correctly; it was powerful.

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**Lord's Day, 21 May 2017 Psalm 119:12**

*Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!*

Continue to pour an understanding of Your statutes into my heart, through my mind, informing and shaping my conscience, transforming my heart to be like David's; one who sought You and was willing to cry out to You in repentance. May I be the same.

# VOICES TOGETHER

*Daily Meditations from the Scriptures*



*May 15-21, 2017*

**Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in:Philippians 1:3-6**

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

LORD, one of my problems is not lacking confidence that You will carry the work You have begun through the [congregation] to completion. Nor is it remembering to pray for the [congregation] when I pray. No, it is remembering to pray without ceasing.

My prayer for myself and for my fellow saints is that we become saints of prayer; that we spend more time on our knees praying and less time on our feet doing and that we pray with joy for the partnership that You have formed among us. *Amen*

**Creational Theology hint for the week--**Woodchucks, deer, moles, and other four-legged pests; dandelions, crab grass, poison ivy, and other growing pests. God's plan for the Creation or an evidence of the curse placed on man's toil as a result of original sin? I lean to the latter but believing that in the new earth we will see these pests revealed as another part of the completeness and beauty of a sin-free Creation.

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