

# CHAPTER 4 & 5

**TABLE OF  
SHOWBREAD**

# 4 Jewish **INSTITUTIONS**

- John Chap. 4 begins with the last of 4 Jewish Institutions that he presents.
  - He presents these to show that the Lord Jesus Christ is the REALITY of institution.
- 1) **Wedding** at Cana - Jn. 2:1-12
  - 2) The **Temple** - Jn. 2:13-23
  - 3) A **Rabbinical** Teacher Nicodemus - Jn. 3:1-21
  - 4) Jacob's **Well** & the **Samaritan** Woman - Jn. 4:1-45

# 4 Jewish INSTITUTIONS

## INSTITUTION:

- 1) Wedding
- 2) Temple
- 3) Rabbi Teacher
- 4) Jacob's Well

## CHRIST THE TRUE:

- 1) Celebration of Joy/Plenty
- 2) Place where Heaven & Earth met
- 3) True Teaching of New Birth
- 4) The Living Water

# TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

John 4 - 7

- In Chapters 4 to 7, John now, figuratively, shows us the **Table of Showbread** in the **Person** and **Work** of the Lord.
- This reminds us of Gods:
  - 1) Presence
  - 2) Provision
  - 3) Relationship with His own

# TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

John 4 - 7

- As the Table of Showbread exemplified the great **BENEVOLENCE** of God; this grace will be offered at/to:

- |                                |                                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) Jacob's Well(4:1-42)        | - To a <b>Samaritan Woman</b>         |
| 2) Galilean Official (4:43-54) | - To a <b>Sick Son</b> of Israel      |
| 3) Pool of Bethesda (5:1-15)   | - To a <b>Paralytic</b> - 38 yrs lost |
| 4) Feeding of 5000 (6:1-15)    | - To the <b>Common People</b>         |
| 5) Walks on Water (6:16-21)    | - To His closest <b>Disciples</b>     |

# TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

John 4 - 7

- These chapters reveal the Lord Jesus':

- 1) Heart for the **marginalized**.

- 1) Jacob's Well & the **Samaritan** Woman (4:1-42).

- 2) Power to **heal**.

- 2) Galilean Official's **Son** (4:43-54).

- 3) Transformative nature of **faith** in Him.

- 3) Pool of Bethesda & the **Paralytic** (5:1-15).

- We will examine these 3 events in this session.

# 7 MUSTS of the John

John 4 - 7

- 1) Must be **BORN AGAIN**: Sinful State & **Spiritual Rebirth** (Jn. 3:7)
- 2) Must be **LIFTED UP**: **Cross Work** of Christ (Jn. 3:14)
- 3) Must **INCREASE**, I must decrease: **Lordship** of Christ (Jn. 3:30)
- 4) Must go through **SAMARIA**: **Outreach** to all (John 4:4)
- 5) Must do the **WORKS** of Him who sent Me: Fulfilling God's **Mission** (Jn. 9:4)
- 6) Must fulfill the **SCRIPTURES**: **Prophetic** fulfillment (Jn. 19:24)
- 7) Must **RISE** from the dead: **Resurrection** (Jn. 20:9)

# 1) Jacob's Well/Samaritan Woman

John 4 - 5

- After being Born-again from above...
- The work of **OUTREACH** is a MUST.
- Our Lord's final command was, "Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation." Mk. 16:15
- Immediately after telling Nicodemus, he MUST be born again He (Christ) MUST go to Sameria.

# 1) Jacob's Well/Samaritan Woman

John 4 - 5

- Christ met the woman at Jacob's well, the city of Sychar.
- Sychar was ancient Shechem the capital city of Samaria.
- The city was associated with the covenant between God and Abraham, and later with Joshua.
- The name **Shechem** means “**shoulder**” in Hebrew, symbolizing its geographical position.
- Some think that **Sychar**, which means “**drunken**”, was a contemptuous name applied by the Jews to Shechem.

# 1) Jacob's Well/Samaritan Woman

John 4 - 5

- Why does John say, “He must PASS THROUGH Samaria” Jn. 4:4 to get to Galilee?
- After all Samaria was the shortest route from Jerusalem to Galilee.
- It would only make sense to go that way.

# 1) Jacob's Well/Samaritan Woman

John 4 - 5

- Pious Jews completely avoided Samaria! Why?
- In 722 BC the Assyrians conquered the northern kingdom of Israel, removing almost all the Jewish population.
- Those left behind intermarried with other non-Jewish peoples who slowly came into the region, and the Samaritans emerged as an ethnic and religious group.
- The Jews despised the Samaritans, even more than the Gentiles, because they were, religiously speaking, “half-breeds” who had a mongrel faith.

# 1) Jacob's Well/Samaritan Woman

John 4 - 5

- Thus, pious Jews went around Sameria to get to Galilee.
- Most took the Eastern route.
- But some to the longer Coastal route.

# 1) Jacob's Well/Samaritan Woman

John 4 - 5

- But our Lord's heart was for the Gospel to go out to the "whosoever".
- So, He needed to go through Samaria.
- The need wasn't because of travel arrangements or practical necessities.
- But because there were people there who needed to hear Him.

# 1) Jacob's Well/Samaritan Woman

John 4 - 5

- So, He went to speak to the most despised of people - the **Samaritans**.
- He spoke not to the men but to a what society considered its lower-class member - a woman.
- But not just any woman but to a morally reprobate woman.
- This woman had 6 men in her life and needed to go to the well in the heat of the day.

# 1) Jacob's Well/Samaritan Woman

John 4 - 5

- The Lord's **Master Class** in outreach:
  - 1) CONCERN - "must pass through Samaria." 4:4
  - 2) CONVERSATION - "Give Me to drink..." 4:7
  - 3) CAREFULNESS - "the Gift of God... Living Water" 4:10
  - 4) CONVICTION - "go call your husband" 4:16
  - 5) CONVERSION - "I ... AM He" 4:26
  - 6) CONTINUANCE - "come and see a Man who told me" 4:29
  - 7) CONCLUSION - "many more believed" 4:41

## 2) Galilean Official & his Son

John 4 - 5

- In the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the chapter, the lowest class of person is shown to have a need for God's provision - that's understandable.
- 'Nobleman' literally translated is - 'a royal person'.
- He too is shown to need God's provision.
- "I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened.... And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done." Rev. 20:12

## 2) Galilean Official & his Son

John 4 - 5

- The response of the Lord may, at first, seem harsh to a father pleading for the welfare of his son.
- “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.”  
Jn. 4:48
- But remember this was spoken not only to the nobleman, but to the Galileans generally.
- Remember, the ‘inferior’ Samaritans had believed without any miracle.

## 2) Galilean Official & his Son

John 4 - 5

- The Galileans, though He had performed miracles enough to convince them He was the Messiah...
- Wanted continual signs, or they would not believe.
- The first 2 signs in John took place at Cana of Galilee.
  - 1) At the **greatest joy** of life - a wedding.
  - 2) At the **worst tragedy** of life - the illness and soon death of a child.
- The Lord Jesus is real in both the heights and the depths.

## 2) Galilean Official & his Son

John 4 - 5

- At first the nobleman wanted salvation for his son in his way - “Sir, come down before my child dies.” Jn. 4:49
- But at the word of the Lord “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke.” Jn. 4:50
- We often come to God wanting to be saved in our way - the wrong way. (Naaman the Leper - 2 Kgs. 5)
- When the Lord points to the right way, His way - do we believe and trust Him?

## 2) Galilean Official & his Son

John 4 - 5

- When the nobleman saw his son was alive, we read “he himself believed” Jn. 4:53
- This is a yet fuller faith.
- He believed the report before he went back to Cana.
- But now there was faith “aided by sight”.
- “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” Jn. 20:29

# 3) Pool of Bethesda Paralytic

John 4 - 5

- Here, at Bethesda's pool, which means 'House Of Mercy'...
- There was no mercy from the Temple or its leaders.
- For 38 years the man lay helpless.
- He longed healing but there was none for him!
- This poor man had placed his hope in the wrong place.
- Until the Lord came that is.
- Christ's presence made all the difference!

# 5 PORCHES of Bethesda's Pool

John 4 - 5

- 5 in scripture symbolizes God's provision and grace.
  - 1) 5 **curtains** were coupled together in the Tabernacle Ex. 26:3.
  - 2) 5 **Levitical offerings** - Burnt Offering, Meat Offering, Peace Offering, Sin Offering and Trespass Offering.
  - 3) The 5 **books of Moses**, containing the laws of God.
  - 4) David's 5 **smooth stones**.
  - 5) King Nebuchadnezzar's 5-part **dream image** - Head of Gold - Babylonian Empire, Arms of Silver - Medo-Persian Empire, Belly and Thigh of Brass - Greco-Macedonian Empire, Legs of Iron - Roman Empire and Feet of Iron and Clay

# 3) Pool of Bethesda Paralytic

John 4 - 5

- There are **5 KEY ASPECTS** to this Salvation narrative:
  - 1) The **CONDITION** of the Man:
    - Helpless: Paralyzed for 38 years, symbolizing spiritual paralysis and the weight of sin and hopelessness.
    - Misplaced Hope: He relied on the stirring of the water for healing, reflecting how many today depend on hopeless sources for help.
    - Isolation: Surrounded by others but with no one to help illustrating sins isolating effect humanity.

# 3) Pool of Bethesda Paralytic

John 4 - 5

## 2) The COMPASSION of the Lord Jesus:

- Attentive Savior: Christ saw this man's suffering among the ... “multitude of invalids - blind, lame, and paralyzed.” No one else saw him but the Lord did. The 1 sheep of Luke 15!
- Responsive Sinner: Christ commanded him to “Rise, take up your bed, and walk”, demonstrating the power of His word to save and the necessity of faith in action.

# 3) Pool of Bethesda Paralytic

John 4 - 5

## 3) The CAPABILITY of the Lord's Word:

- Immediate Healing: The man was healed instantly upon obeying the Lord's command - the authority of Christ.
- Fulfilling Scripture: Healing on the Sabbath sparked controversy, as the Jewish leaders warped the law rather than seeing the miracle, illustrating willful spiritual blindness. They used the law against the Lawgiver!

# 3) Pool of Bethesda Paralytic

John 4 - 5

## 4) The CONFLICT with Leaders:

- Willful Blindness: The enemies of Christ acknowledged His miracle. They said to a paralytic, “Who commanded you to take up your bed”. This should have shown them who He is!
- Willful Blasphemy: Further, they accused God Himself of blasphemy for saying God was God! They had evidence of His deity but willfully denied it!

# 3) Pool of Bethesda Paralytic

John 4 - 5

## 5) The CONTROVERSY of the Sabbath:

- “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So, the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.” Mk. 2:27
- “Woe to you lawyers also! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers.” Lk. 11:46
- “My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.” Matt. 11:30

# SHEEP GATE

John 4 - 5

- This healing took place at the Sheep Gate.
- The Sheep Gate was where the sheep for temple **sacrifices** entered.
- The Lord refers to Himself as the 'Gate for the sheep'...
- “So, He said to them again, “Truly, truly, I tell you, I am the Gate for the sheep.”” Jn. 10:7
- The Lord Jesus is the entry point to salvation by being the True and Final Sacrifice.

# TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

John 4 - 5

- The 3 Events John recounts in Chapters 4 & 5, shows us the **Table of Showbread** in the **Person** and **Work** of the Lord.
- This reveals to us God's:
  - 1) Presence - The Samaritan Woman
  - 2) Provision - The Official's Son
  - 3) Relationship with His own - The Paralytic