

“The Last Word: Just Another Pretty Face?”

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○ John 4:1-42

○ “Grace, like water, flows downward.”

- Philip Yancey: “George said, ‘That night I fathomed for the first time the truth that God loves me just as I am. Everybody else loves me with strings attached. I disappoint my family because I have never realized my potential—in school, in career, whatever. I disappoint my church in my decision to fight in a war and in my personal behavior. I disappoint my friends and doctors in the way I treat my health, with cigarettes and drinking and poor diet. I’m poor, fat, ugly, and soon old. Only God loves me just as I am.’” (*What Good Is God?—In Search of a Faith That Matters* 78)
- Calvary embedded in this story:
 - Clue #1—notice v 6—“it was about the sixth hour”—the only place in the Fourth Gospel that the “sixth hour” is mentioned is at the cross, for it was the hour of Jesus’ crucifixion.
 - Clue #2—notice v 7—“Give Me a drink”—the only other place in the Fourth Gospel where Jesus speaks those words is from His cross, “I thirst.”
 - Clue #3—notice v 21—Jesus uses the strange vocative, “Woman”—the very expression He used while hanging from the cross and addressing His mother.
 - Clue #4—notice v 14—the Jesus who speaks of “a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life” is the same Jesus from whose side there would flow a fountain of water and blood upon his death.
- *Desire of Ages*: “Jesus did not convey the idea that merely one draft of the water of life would suffice the receiver. He who tastes of the love of Christ will continually long for more; but he seeks for nothing else. The riches, honors, and pleasures of the world do not attract him. The constant cry of his heart is, More of Thee. And He who reveals to the soul its necessity is waiting to satisfy its hunger and thirst. Every human resource and dependence will fail. The cisterns will be emptied, the pools become dry; but our Redeemer is an inexhaustible fountain. We may drink, and drink again, and ever find a fresh supply. He in whom Christ dwells has within himself the fountain of blessing—‘a well of water springing up into everlasting life.’ From this source [we] may draw strength and grace sufficient for all [our] needs.” (187)

○ A Daily Prayer

“Fill My Cup, Lord”

Like the woman at the well I was seeking
For things that could not satisfy;
And then I heard my Savior speaking:
“Draw from my well that never shall run dry.”
Fill my cup Lord, I lift it up, Lord!
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul;
Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more—
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!

There are millions in this world who are craving
The pleasures earthly things afford;
But none can match the wondrous treasure
That I find in Jesus Christ my Lord.
Fill my cup Lord, I lift it up, Lord!
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul;

Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more—
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!

So, my children, if the things this world gave you
Leave hungers that won't pass away,
My blessed Lord will come and save you,
If you kneel to Him and humbly pray:
Fill my cup Lord, I lift it up, Lord!
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul;
Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more—
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!

—Richard Blanchard