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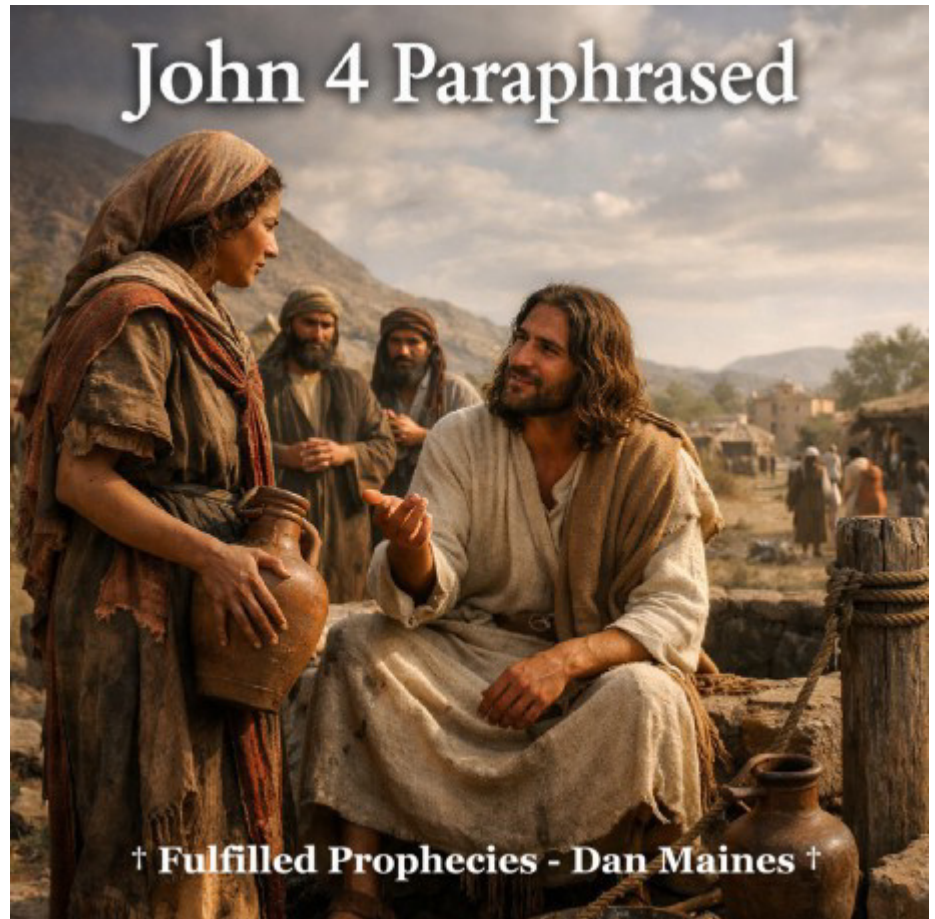
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## John 4 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

### **John 4 Paraphrased**

#### **Introduction**

† Jesus moves through Samaria on purpose, showing that the message of life isn't limited to one nation but was always meant to reach beyond Israel.

† This chapter reveals the shift from physical worship locations to spiritual reality being fulfilled in Him.

† It shows the gathering of the nations beginning, even before the judgment that would close the old covenant system.

**John 4:1**

When Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard He was making and baptizing more disciples than John

† The religious leaders were already watching and comparing, showing their focus on numbers instead of truth.

† This tension builds toward the coming judgment on that system (Matthew 23:37-38).

† The focus shifts from John to Christ, showing fulfillment moving forward.

### **John 4:2**

although Jesus Himself was not baptizing, but His disciples were

† The authority remained with Christ, even if others carried out the act.

† This shows the transition from external acts to what He would soon fulfill internally (Hebrews 9:10).

† The emphasis isn't the act, but who it points to.

### **John 4:3**

He left Judea and went away again into Galilee

† Movement here shows timing, He wasn't yet going to be taken before His appointed hour.

† He withdraws, not out of fear, but according to purpose.

† Everything He does lines up with fulfillment, not reaction.

### **John 4:4**

And He had to pass through Samaria

† This wasn't just geography, it was divine intention.

† Samaritans were despised, yet He's going straight to them.

† This shows the nations were always part of God's plan (Isaiah 49:6).

### **John 4:5**

So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph

† This ties the moment back to covenant history.

† The land had meaning to both Jews and Samaritans.

† It shows continuity from the patriarchs to fulfillment.

### **John 4:6**

and Jacob's well was there. So Jesus, being wearied from His journey, was sitting thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour

† His humanity is clear, He was tired and thirsty.

† Yet even in weakness, He's about to reveal life.

† The well becomes a place of revelation.

### **John 4:7**

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, Give Me a drink

† He initiates the conversation, crossing cultural boundaries.

† This breaks social norms, showing grace before judgment.

† He's about to turn a physical request into a spiritual revelation.

### **John 4:8**

For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food

† He's alone with her, making the moment intentional.

† This removes distraction so truth can be revealed clearly.

† The setting highlights personal encounter.

### **John 4:9**

Therefore the Samaritan woman said to Him, How is it that You, being a Jew, ask me for a drink since I am a Samaritan woman?

For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans

† The division between Jew and Samaritan is exposed.

† She's surprised because this barrier was real and strong.

† Christ is about to remove that barrier.

### **John 4:10**

Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have

asked Him, and He would have given you living water

† He shifts from physical water to spiritual life.

† The gift of God is Himself, not just what He gives.

† This points forward to fulfillment of spiritual life (John 7:37-39).

### **John 4:11**

She said to Him, Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep, where then do You get that living water

† She's still thinking physically.

† This shows how natural thinking misses spiritual truth.

† Jesus is about to lift her understanding higher.

### **John 4:12**

You are not greater than our father Jacob, are You, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself and his sons and his cattle

† She appeals to tradition and ancestry.

† This reflects reliance on physical heritage.

† Jesus will show He surpasses all of it.

### **John 4:13**

Jesus answered and said to her, Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again

† Physical things never fully satisfy.

† This exposes the temporary nature of earthly provision.

† He's preparing to reveal something eternal.

### **John 4:14**

but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst, but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life

† The life He gives is internal and continuous.

† This points to spiritual fulfillment, not physical repetition.

† Eternal life is present reality in Him (1 John 5:11).

### **John 4:15**

The woman said to Him, Sir, give me this water, so I will not be

thirsty nor come all the way here to draw

† She's still focused on convenience.

† Yet she's being drawn into deeper understanding.

† Her request shows growing interest.

### **John 4:16**

He said to her, Go, call your husband and come here

† He shifts the conversation to her life.

† Truth must expose before it restores.

† This reveals her condition.

### **John 4:17**

The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said to her, You have correctly said, I have no husband

† She speaks partially, He reveals fully.

† Truth is acknowledged before correction.

† This shows His knowledge of her life.

### **John 4:18**

for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband, this you have said truly

† Her life is exposed completely.

† Yet He doesn't condemn, He reveals.

† Grace and truth are working together.

### **John 4:19**

The woman said to Him, Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet

† She recognizes something supernatural.

† Her understanding is growing.

† This opens the door for deeper truth.

### **John 4:20**

Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship

† She brings up the central dispute, location of worship.

† This reflects the old covenant system.

† Jesus is about to redefine everything.

### **John 4:21**

Jesus said to her, Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father

† This is a direct statement of coming change.

† The temple system was about to pass away.

† Worship would no longer be tied to location.

### **John 4:22**

You worship what you do not know, we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews

† The covenant came through Israel.

† Yet it was never meant to stay limited there.

† This sets up the inclusion of the nations.

### **John 4:23**

But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers

† The shift is already beginning.

† Worship becomes spiritual, not location-based.

† This is fulfilled reality in Christ.

### **John 4:24**

God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth

† Worship aligns with God's nature.

† This removes dependence on physical systems.

† The old covenant shadows are fading.

### **John 4:25**

The woman said to Him, I know that Messiah is coming, He who is called Christ, when that One comes, He will declare all things to us

† She expects fulfillment.

† The hope of Messiah was widespread.

† She's about to see Him directly.

### **John 4:26**

Jesus said to her, I who speak to you am He

† This is a direct revelation.

† He openly declares Himself.

† The fulfillment is standing before her.

### **John 4:27**

At this point His disciples came, and they were amazed that He had been speaking with a woman, yet no one said, What do You seek or Why do You speak with her

† Cultural norms are challenged again.

† They are surprised but silent.

† The kingdom breaks barriers.

### **John 4:28**

So the woman left her waterpot, and went into the city and said to the men

† She leaves what she came for.

† Her focus shifts from water to truth.

† She becomes a witness immediately.

### **John 4:29**

Come, see a man who told me all the things that I have done, this is not the Christ, is it

† Her testimony draws others.

† She points them to Him.

† This shows the spread of truth.

### **John 4:30**

They went out of the city, and were coming to Him

† The message spreads quickly.

† People respond to truth.

† This foreshadows the gathering of many.

### **John 4:31**

Meanwhile the disciples were urging Him, saying, Rabbi, eat

† They focus on physical needs.

† They still don't fully understand.

† Jesus redirects their thinking.

### **John 4:32**

But He said to them, I have food to eat that you do not know about

† His nourishment is doing the Father's will.

† Spiritual purpose sustains Him.

† This contrasts physical and spiritual focus.

### **John 4:33**

So the disciples were saying to one another, No one brought Him anything to eat, did he

† They misunderstand again.

† Their thinking is still natural.

† He's about to clarify.

### **John 4:34**

Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work

† His mission is His sustenance.

† Fulfillment is His focus.

† This points to the cross and completion.

### **John 4:35**

Do you not say, There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest, behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest

† The harvest is present, not future.

† People are ready now.

† This includes the nations coming in.

### **John 4:36**

Already he who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for life eternal, so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together

† The work is already happening.

† Eternal life is being gathered now.

† This shows fulfillment in progress.

### **John 4:37**

For in this case the saying is true, One sows and another reaps

† Different roles in the same purpose.

† Prophets sowed, Christ fulfills.

† The harvest belongs to God.

### **John 4:38**

I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored, others have labored and you have entered into their labor

† The disciples step into existing work.

† This connects Old Testament to fulfillment.

† The foundation was already laid.

### **John 4:39**

From that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, He told me all the things that I have done

† Her testimony brings belief.

† The nations begin responding.

† This fulfills the wider gathering.

### **John 4:40**

So when the Samaritans came to Jesus, they were asking Him to stay with them, and He stayed there two days

† He remains with them.

† This shows acceptance beyond Israel.

† The barrier is broken.

### **John 4:41**

Many more believed because of His word

† Direct encounter increases belief.

† His word brings life.

† This shows the power of truth.

### **John 4:42**

and they were saying to the woman, It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed the Savior of the world

† Their belief becomes personal.

† They recognize Him as Savior of the world.

† This confirms inclusion of all nations.

### **John 4:43**

After the two days He went forth from there into Galilee

† He continues His mission.

† Movement shows ongoing work.

† The message keeps spreading.

### **John 4:44**

For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country

† Rejection at home was expected.

† This contrasts with acceptance elsewhere.

† It shows Israel's coming judgment.

### **John 4:45**

So when He came to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all the things that He did in Jerusalem at the feast, for they themselves also went to the feast

† Some in Israel still respond.

† They believe based on signs.

† Yet deeper understanding is still needed.

### **John 4:46**

Therefore He came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a royal official whose son was sick at Capernaum

† This ties back to earlier signs.

† The need for healing is brought forward.

† Another opportunity for faith.

#### **John 4:47**

When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and was imploring Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death

† Desperation drives him to Jesus.

† Faith begins with need.

† He believes Jesus can help.

#### **John 4:48**

So Jesus said to him, Unless you people see signs and wonders, you simply will not believe

† He exposes dependence on signs.

† Faith should go beyond visible proof.

† This challenges shallow belief.

#### **John 4:49**

The royal official said to Him, Sir, come down before my child dies

† His concern is urgent.

† He pleads for immediate help.

† His faith is still forming.

#### **John 4:50**

Jesus said to him, Go, your son lives. The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off

† Faith now rests in His word alone.

† No sign was given first.

† This shows true belief forming.

### **John 4:51**

As he was now going down, his slaves met him, saying that his son was living

† The confirmation meets him on the way.

† The word proves true.

† Faith is rewarded.

### **John 4:52**

So he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better. Then they said to him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him

† The timing matches Jesus' word.

† This confirms the miracle.

† It strengthens belief.

### **John 4:53**

So the father knew that it was at that hour in which Jesus said to him, Your son lives, and he himself believed and his whole household

† Faith spreads to the household.

† One encounter leads to many believing.

† This reflects the growing kingdom.

### **John 4:54**

This is again a second sign that Jesus performed when He had come out of Judea into Galilee

† Signs point to who He is.

† They confirm His authority.

† They support the message of fulfillment.

### **Historical References**

† Josephus notes the tension between Jews and Samaritans, confirming the significance of this interaction, Antiquities Book

11

† Irenaeus wrote that Christ gathered people from every nation,

showing this moment wasn't isolated, Against Heresies Book 3  
† Eusebius records the spread of belief beyond Judea, confirming early expansion, Ecclesiastical History Book 1  
† Clement of Alexandria emphasized spiritual worship over physical forms, Stromata Book 5

### **How it applies to us today**

† Worship isn't tied to buildings or locations, it's fulfilled in spirit and truth through Christ  
† The message was never meant for one group only, it reaches all people  
† True life isn't external, it's internal and ongoing  
† Faith rests in His word, not in visible signs  
† We've already entered into the fulfilled reality He spoke about

### **Q & A Appendix**

**Q:** Why did Jesus go through Samaria

**A:** To show the message was always for more than Israel (Isaiah 49:6)

**Q:** What is the living water

**A:** The life He gives that doesn't run out (John 7:37-39)

**Q:** What does worship in spirit and truth mean

**A:** Worship not tied to location but fulfilled in Him (John 4:23-24)

**Q:** Why did He reveal her life

**A:** To bring truth before restoration (Hebrews 4:13)

**Q:** What does the harvest represent

**A:** People ready to receive life now (Matthew 9:37-38)

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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### **Source Index**

† John 4

† Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies  
† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History  
† Clement of Alexandria, Stromata

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