sermon OUTLINE

HIS STORY – HIS PEOPLE "The Samaritan Woman" John 4:1-42

No. 3075

Stuart Briscoe

The mission of the Incarnate Christ was to make the invisible God known and "to seek and to save the lost." The meeting of Jesus and the Samaritan woman illustrates this ministry.

I. Jesus Goes Out of His Way to Meet a Woman with a Past.

A. She was a product of her culture.

- 1. The status of a first-century Middle Eastern woman.
- 2. The ethnic minority.
 - a. Samaritan history. 2 Kings 17:24f
 - b. Jewish antipathy. v. 9
- B. She is a product of her circumstances.
 - 1. Five times married. v. 18
 - a. Victimized by divorce? Deuteronomy 24:1f; Malachi 2:13f
 - b. Devastated by death?
 - 2. Desperate for love.
 - 3. Ostracized by neighbors. v. 6
- C. She was a product of her choices. v. 18
 - 1. The relationship she had chosen.
 - 2. The responsibility she bore.

II. Jesus Takes Time to Address a Woman with a Problem.

A. The problem identified-spiritual blindness. vv. 10-24

- 1. Seeing the significance of Jesus as Messiah. v. 10
- 2. Seeing the significance of the gift of God. vv. 10, 13-14
- 3. Seeing the significance of her own sinfulness. v. 17
- 4. Seeing the significance of true worship. vv. 19-24
- B. The problem mishandled-denial, defensiveness and deceit. vv. 7-9
 - 1. A tendency to trivialize. vv. 11, 15
 - 2. A tendency to be evasive. vv. 17, 20
- C. The Problem addressed acknowledgement of self and of Christ.

III. Jesus Successfully Creates a Woman with a Purpose.

- A. She demonstrates the difference Christ makes in a life. vv. 28-29, 39
- B. She learns to eat the meat of doing God's Will. vv. 31-34
- C. She discovers her role in reaping the ripe harvest. vv. 15-42

Points to Ponder: Is Christ accomplishing His mission in me? Does He continue it through me?