

John 4

We have seen Jesus' first miracle at the wedding in Cana, and the first Passover of Jesus' earthly ministry. We have also examined Jesus' discussion with Nicodemus about being "born-again". We have seen that man is condemned already due to unbelief, and how we are to decrease so HE can increase.

I. THE SETTING V.1-3

II. THE SCOPE OF GOD'S LOVE V.4,9

- THE UNLOVED
- THE UNWANTED

It's name likely meant "kept or preserved" in Hebrew (named after it's founder in 1st Kings 16)

- In it was the capital city of the northern kingdom known as "Israel".

According to biblical tradition, the region known as Samaria was captured by the Israelites from the Canaanites and was assigned to the Tribe of Joseph. After the death of King Solomon (c.931 BC), the northern tribes, including those of Samaria, separated from the southern tribes and established the separate kingdom of Israel. Initially its capital was at Tirzah until the time of king Omri (c.884 BC), who built the city Shomeron (Samaria) and as established it as its capital.



The region was conquered by the Assyrians in c. 722 BC, and reportedly much of its population was taken into captivity and deported.

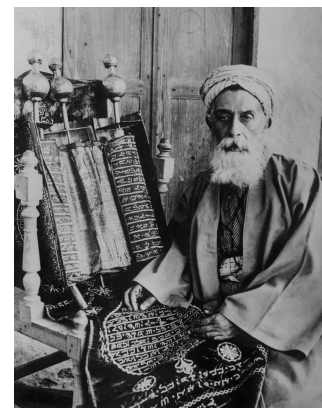
In AD 6 the region became part of the Roman province of Judaea, after the death of king Herod the Great.

Over time, the region has been controlled by numerous different civilizations, including Israelites, Babylonians, the classical Persian Empire, Ancient Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Crusaders, and Ottoman Turks.



The Samaritans are an ethnoreligious group, named after and descended from ancient Semitic inhabitants of Samaria, since the Assyrian Exile of the Israelites. Religiously the Samaritans are adherents of **Samaritanism**, an Abrahamic religion closely related to Judaism. Based on the Samaritan Torah, Samaritans claim their worship is the true religion of the ancient Israelites prior to the Babylonian Exile, preserved by those who remained in the Land of Israel, as opposed to Judaism, which they assert is a related but altered and amended religion brought back by those returning from exile. It is commonly, though inaccurately, accepted that Samaritans are mainstream Jews.

Their temple was built at Mount Gerizim in the middle of fifth century BC and was destroyed by the Macabbean (Hasmonean) John Hyrcanus late in 110 BC, although their descendants still worship among its ruins. The antagonism between Samaritans and Jews is important in understanding the New Testament's stories of the "Samaritan woman at the well" and "Parable of the Good Samaritan."



Jews would purposely avoid traveling through Samaria due to the ethno-religious stigma that the people had.

- **JOHN 3:16**
- **ROMANS 10:13**

III. THE INTENSITY OF GOD'S LOVE V.6

- **WHAT CHRIST DID ON THE CROSS**
- **THE ULTIMATE EXAMPLE OF "MISSIONARIES"**

IV. THE GIFT OF GOD'S LOVE V. 7-14

- **WE MUST OPEN OUR MOUTHS**
- **LIVING WATER IS NOTHING NEW**
- **ISA 12:3**
- **JEREMIAH 2:13**

V. THE EXTENT OF GOD'S LOVE. V.15-19

- **THE UNGODLY**

VI. THE PERSON OF GOD'S LOVE. V. 20-26

VII. THE OPPOSITION TO GOD'S LOVE. V. 27

VIII. THE OBJECT OF GOD'S LOVE. V.28-43

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