

## Joshua Anderson – Grasping Gods Word Assignment 6.4

The topic of "Samaritan" help from dictionaries/encyclopedias on Jn. 4

They help us understanding the contempt between the Jews & Samaritans, with the Jews, included Jesus seemingly himself (in Matthew 10:5 & Luke 17:17-18), didn't count them as part of God's people despite them originally being part of the 10 northern tribes.

The Samaritans emerging as an amalgamated people intermixed with foreigners & the gods they brought with them, as well as their offer to help rebuild the temple in Jerusalem that was refused, helps understand this centuries old contempt, further aggravated as they then tried to disrupt the works, they wanted to be a part of. Later setting up their own counterfeit temple by a rouge priest of Levite & being later destroyed, as well as their rejection of God's full revelation (everything besides the Torah) helps set the scene for John chapter 4.

The tone of the conversation, Jesus' call to "worship in spirit and truth" and the fact the Jesus chose her to first publicly say He was the Messiah and invite her & by extension her people, to external life, all find greater significance when informed with such information.

Resources:

- "The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia", James Orr, 1915
- "American Tract Society Bible Dictionary", Willam W. Rand, 1859
- "Easton's Bible Dictionary", Matthew G. Easton, 1897
- "Smith's Bible Dictionary", William Smith, 1863