

Jacob's Well by Karen McSpadden

John 4:6 "Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by [Jacob's] well."

In John 4:6, Jesus was in the middle of a long journey when He stopped at Jacob's well, and scripture says he was weary from the journey. When you look at biblical maps, He started in Judea where He was baptized by John, and as He was on His way back to Galilee, it was approximately a 60 mile trip one way. Of course this is before cars and even bicycles so that's a long way on foot or even to ride on the back of some sort of animal. Jacob's well was about the halfway point, so when it says Jesus was wearied from the journey just imagine how you might feel if you'd walked 30 miles. Now I love to hike and I love to jog, but I can't imagine doing either of those things for 30 miles! At some point (probably long before 30 miles) I'd need to just sit down and have some water and rest for a while before I could go on.

In the Old Testament, we can look back and read that Jacob's well where Jesus rested in John 4 was established after Jacob had wrestled with God in Genesis 32 and then reconciled with his brother Esau in Genesis 33. The well Jacob then dug represented blessing and open heaven, which for him had manifested in reconciliation of a long conflict. So here Jesus sits, weary, but of all places to rest He finds a spring-fed well where the literal water is always going to be fresh, and it is a well of blessing and open heavens. I find it so powerful that He chose that place to stop and be refreshed in His journey. He knew He didn't just need physical water, but He also needed to be replenished by the Blessing found in the Father's living water. He demonstrated a key spiritual principle for us. There will be times in our walk and our journey where the road gets long and we may feel weary, but if we will come to the River we will come alive and be refreshed in His presence by the Spirit of Truth. But we also have to be aware that there will be lesser "food" and lesser "water" that we could use to try to satisfy our souls. Maybe it's a spouse or family member, a friend, your job, your ministry, a hobby. But eventually those things won't satisfy the deepest places in us that only He can fill. If only we would learn to just let Him fill us first, then all these other things will be given to us as well, only then they are just added blessings to put the icing on the cake because we are already fully satisfied in Him.

Rick Joyner says, "Only the famished seek food, and only the thirsty will search for a drink. The Lord promises to feed the hungry and satisfy the thirst of those who seek Him." Lord, keep me being desperately hungry and thirsty for You. Keep me coming back to You as my energy drink, as my sustenance when I feel like my well is getting dry. Teach me to sit down under Your open heaven, in Your blessing, and be refreshed by the Spirit of Truth.