

Seeing What Jesus Sees: Two Views of Europe

John 4:27-42

When we look at Europe, what do we see? When we consider serving God in this environment, what do we experience? For many of us, the view is a challenging one, with too much work yet to be done, an uneasy environment to do it in, and many distractions to pull us from the task. This is the view the disciples had when they looked at ministry to the Samaritans in John 4:27-42. But Jesus saw something entirely different. How can we begin to see as Jesus did? And what would change if we did?

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I. Understanding our setting

- A. What is the current state of Europe?

- B. What is it like to serve in this environment?

- C. What can we expect in the future?

- D. Is this what Jesus sees?

II. Lessons from the Samaritan Woman

A. View 1 – what the disciples saw

- 1. **4:3-4** – A long journey – with much still ahead
- 2. **4:5** – An uncomfortable environment where were not totally welcome
- 3. **4:6** – Weariness and a need to rest
- 4. **4:27** – An insignificant woman
- 5. **4:31-33** – much practical work that needs to be completed. You have to eat!

6. View 1 is **my view**
 - a. Through my eyes
 - b. From my vantage point
 - c. With my interests in mind

B. View 2 – what Jesus saw

1. 4:28-30, 35 – **a white harvest**
2. 4:34, 36-38 – **a work in motion**
 - a. God is working
 - b. Others are working
 - c. The work is rewarding and joy producing
3. 4:39-42 – **a wave of transformation**
 - a. See Acts 8:4-25
4. View 2 is **Jesus view**
 - a. Through his eyes
 - b. From his vantage point
 - c. With his interests in min

C. Jesus gives only three commands in this passage. All three are in vs 35.

1. **“Look”**
2. **“Lift up your eyes”**
3. **“See”**

D. It seems Jesus just has one thing on his mind – that they **leave View 1 and start to **live from View 2**.**

What you **see** changes what you **say** and what you **do**

III. What would happen in Europe if all of us left View 1 and started to live from View 2?

- A. How would that change what we would **see**?
- B. How would that change what we would **say**?
- C. How would that change what we would **do**?

D. View 2 -

- 1. A white harvest
- 2. A work in motion
- 3. A wave of transformation

It is harvest time in Europe – Look, lift up your eyes and see!