

## Book-Burning

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There are two accounts of book-burning in the Bible, one in the Old Testament and one in the New Testament. Both accounts of book-burning teach us some important lessons about our attitude toward God's word.

The first account involves the wicked king Jehoiakim in Jeremiah 36. He got rid of God's word by burning it because he didn't want to hear it or obey it. The Bible says: *"Now the king was sitting in the winter-house in the ninth month: and there was a fire in the brazier burning before him. And it came to pass, when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, that the king cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was in the brazier, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was in the brazier"* (Jeremiah 36:22-23).

The second account involves the Ephesians who turned to the Lord in Acts 19. They got rid man's word by burning it because it stood in the way of their service to Christ. The Bible says: *"And not a few of them that practiced magical arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all; and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver"* (Acts 19:19).

Friend, which is it for you? Do you get rid of God's word in your life, or do you get rid man's word? - Chris Reeves

## Sentence Sermons

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- Knowledge is the progressive removal of ignorance.
- Many do not love and obey God because they love and obey the Devil.
- There are no short cuts to true, spiritual growth and maturity.
- You being the "light of the world" starts with you being a light at home.
- Your faith should grow, not shrink.

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# THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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December 4, 2022



For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

With this article, I conclude our series of lessons from John 4 and Jesus with the woman at the well. I have been examining his words and actions with this woman to encourage us to do personal work with others today. How he shared the truth with this woman is a good example for us. Let us examine two final points from this great chapter in the Bible.

### **Be Content with Jesus' Words (4:39-42)**

*John 4:39-42: "And from that city many of the Samaritans believed on him because of the word of the woman, who testified, He told me all things that ever I did. <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came unto him, they besought him to abide with them: and he abode there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word; <sup>42</sup> and they said to the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy speaking: for we have heard for ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world."*

The Samaritans believed because of Jesus' words. We must understand that true faith and conversion is based upon the words of Jesus alone (Acts 2:37; 11:14; 15:7; Romans 10:17).

When doing personal evangelism, we must be content to use Jesus' words alone and stay away from any gimmicks or social-gospel approaches to personal evangelism. We must share the unadulterated truth of God's word and not try to add anything to it or take anything from it. Just share the New Testament gospel, that's all.



### **Begin with Who You Know Best (4:27-29,39)**

*John 4:27-29: "And upon this came his disciples; and they marvelled that he was speaking with a woman; yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why speakest thou with her? <sup>28</sup> So the woman left her waterpot, and went away into the city, and saith to the people, <sup>29</sup> Come, see a man, who told me all things that ever I did: can this be the Christ?"*

This last lesson is taken more from the woman at the well, than Jesus. She shared her new-found faith with people she was familiar with. One of the best ways to do personal work and share the gospel is to start with those closest to us. It may be family members (Acts 10:24) or a spouse (1 Pet. 3:1).

Take a look again at how Jesus did personal work with the woman at the well and let's all go out and do the same with those around us. Like Jesus, we can and should...

- Be intentional (4:1-5)
- Be sacrificial (4:6-8,40,43)
- Be unprejudiced (4:9,27)
- Be opportunistic (4:10-15)
- Be willing to correct error with the truth (4:16-26)
- Be urgent (4:27-34)
- Be a visionary (4:35)
- Be cooperative (4:36-38)
- Be content with Jesus' words (4:39-42)
- Begin with who you know best (4:27-29,39)

- Chris Reeves -