

CHRIST AT JACOB'S WELL

Lesson V.

John 4: 5-15.

January 29, 1899

Golden Text—"Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst."—John 4: 14.

Catechism—9. What can God do? God can do all that he wishes to do.



THE LESSON STORY

In Palestine anyone who digs a well is remembered for a long time. It is a hot and dry country, and water is very scarce. Jacob, who lived

thought Him only some Jew she had never seen before.

Jesus said, "Give me to drink." The woman said, "It is strange for you to ask me for water, because everyone knows that Jews and Samaritans are bad friends and do not speak when they meet." Jesus said, "If you knew who I am you would ask me to give you living water."

The woman did not understand that Jesus meant eternal life. She thought He was only speaking of water from the well.

Jesus said, "Anybody who drinks the water from the well gets thirsty again, but whoever drinks living water never gets thirsty again."

She did not know yet that it was Christ who was speaking, and she said she would like very much like to have living water, so that she



hundreds of years before Christ came, dug a well for his son Joseph, which was still in use when Jesus was living in the world.

One day Jesus had to take a long walk with His disciples. They were going through Samaria from Judea to Galilee.

About noon they came near to a town called Sychar, and presently they saw Jacob's well close by.

Jesus felt tired and thirsty, for the sun was hot and the road dusty, so the disciples said, if He would sit down by the well and rest they would go on to the town and buy food.

While He was sitting resting a Samaritan woman came along with a pitcher to draw water from the well. She did not know Jesus, but

need not take the trouble to come to the well every day to fill her pitcher.

Then Jesus looked into her heart, and saw the things she liked to do, and that her life had been bad. He was able to tell her everything she had ever done, because He was God.

As Jesus told the woman her sins, she felt sure that He was more than a man, perhaps the Son of God from heaven; so she dropped her pitcher and ran home as fast as she could to tell all her friends what a wonderful person she had seen at Jacob's well. She said to them, "Come, see a man that told me all things that ever I did. Is not this the Christ?"

And they, too, believed in Christ because of what the woman said.