

The Sitting of Jesus

John 4:1-6

The **postures of Jesus** is an interesting study:

- In the Bible we find Jesus **standing** (Luke 4:16; John 20:14; Acts 7:55).
- There were times when He **laid down** (Mk. 4:38).
- You find Him **kneeling** (Luke 22:41).
- Often you see Jesus **walking** (John 1:36; Mt. 4:18)
- Once Jesus **“stooped down”** to write in the ground with His finger (John 8:6)
- In the garden He **fell on His face** (Mt. 26:39).
- And sometimes **He simply sat** (Luke 4:20; Mt. 26:55).

Jesus' sitting never implied Jesus was “sitting down on the job.” Jesus was busy from sunup to sundown. When Jesus sat down it was more than just a moment to catch His breath and rest.

There are times when it appears the Lord is not responding as we'd like. Why doesn't Jesus stand up and help me. Yet He chooses to remain seated.

On a stormy sea, the disciples accused Jesus of not caring because He had not arose. When Jesus remains seated, it doesn't mean He doesn't care.

➡ In this message I want us to consider a few occasions when Jesus sits. The sittings of Jesus may teach us some very important lessons.

When Jesus sits down, it may be...

TRUE CONCERN (John 4:1-6).

➡ Jesus is at Jacob's well at the hottest part of the day. Yes, He was weary and perspiring. But Jesus also knew a woman who needed what He had to offer would be coming to this well shortly.

A. **A necessary WAY** (v. 4-“*And he MUST NEEDS go through Samaria.*”).

- The Jews tried to avoid any contact with the Samaritans. They would take a longer route around Samaria. However, Jesus must go through Samaria to meet this woman at the well.

B. **A patient WAIT** (vs. 6). Jesus is sitting and waiting for the woman to arrive where He is.

C. **A thirsty WOMAN**. This woman needed more than water from Jacob's well. She needed living water.

1. Matthew 9:10-11—Jesus genuinely cared about people and they knew it.
2. If we are to win the lost we must **go where they are** and be-friend them. We must have **contact** with them. We must learn their **names**, their **families**, and their **needs**! We must learn what we can do to help them! We must show we are real... genuine... and we can be trusted.
3. By the way, we should use all lawful means to bring others under the sound of the Gospel (1 Cor. 9:19-22).

When Jesus sits down, it may be...

THOROUGH CONFIDENCE (Luke 4:16-20).

- Luke 2:46—A young Jesus sits "*...in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.*" Jesus sitting and listening reveals a complete grasp of what was being taught.
 - No situation ever puzzled Him.
 - No incident ever got the better of Him.
 - No crisis was unmanageable for Him
 - He was never "under the circumstances." He was "on-top" of every circumstance. He was in charge of every event that came His way.
- In Matthew 15:29, Jesus went up to "*..a mountain, and sat down there.*" While seated multitudes of sick people were brought to Him "*...and He healed them.*" He demonstrated that even from a seated position no task was too difficult for Him to handle.
 - The Lord is able to maintain a **seated composure** amidst all our distresses, problems, and trials because His power is not limited by His posture.
 - He is just as **capable sitting as He is standing!**

When Jesus sits down, it may be...

TOTAL CONTROL (Mt. 21:1-9; Mk. 11:1-7; Luke 19:29-35).

- A. The TAMING of the colt—Jesus sits on an unbroken colt and immediately the colt submits to Jesus' control. There was no resistance... no rebellion... no kicking. It is instantaneously broken.

- Life may try to throw you down—No matter how untamed life may seem, when the Lord sits on your situation, He has it under control.

A PICTURE OF SALVATION:

down—"*So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, He was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.*" (Mk. 16:19)

1. Jesus work was finished, so He sat down (cf. Heb. 1:3).
2. When God gave instructions to build the tabernacle He gave specifics for the brazen altar... the laver... the table of showbread... the candlestick... the altar of incense... the ark of the covenant—But He made no provision for a place to sit—No chairs. That is because the work of the priests in the Old Testament was never finished.
 - The only time you find a seat in the tabernacle was when Eli was "sitting down on the job" (1 Sam. 1:9). He was backslidden. That seat lead to his death (1 Sam. 4:18).
 - We stand today because God has a work for us to do. We stand ready to serve at our Lord's command.

SUMMATION: Lessons:

1. Don't interpret Christ's sitting as Him being uncaring.
2. Jesus sitting does not lessen His capacity to act. He is the same in whatever posture you find Him.
3. Jesus is in total control of whatever He sits upon. He can tame the wildest affairs of your life.
4. Does your life need breaking / taming? Are you saved? Are you going where He wants you to go?