**John 4:23-24 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”**

Boy, these days! Evil is walking the streets. Immorality is everywhere. Good is being called evil, evil good. The politicians are prancing about and trying to use the law for their own advantage. Religious leaders are out for themselves – it’s all about the money. Government can set any curfew and people are supposed to bow down and obey. Some of the law enforcement is on the take. Taxes are out of control. It seems like these splinter groups keep rising up, causing all kinds of trouble. No respect for history. If you believe one way, some of your own people won’t even talk to you. The governor is crooked, Lawyers will twist your words to try and trap you, and the justice system is broken. Not to mention the fact that the rich just keep getting richer and the poor just keep getting poorer! It’s just a mess!

Surely you don’t think I’m talking about today! No. This is what Jesus dealt with while He was here on earth. Never fool yourself that Jesus operated in political rest and spiritual agreement. Jesus was called upon to stay focused and deliver the new covenant in a time of borderline chaos. And we must, as His disciples, stay focused today and deliver the Gospel to a lost and hurting world.

Today, we find ourselves near Sychar, in Samaria. Jesus disciples have gone off to the town and He’s talking to a woman alone – not acceptable in those days. He’s walking through Samaria – not acceptable to Jews in those days. The Jews and the Samaritans despised each other. We only think that Democrats and Republicans can’t get along!

Let’s read 23 - *But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.* The hour is coming and now is. Jesus said it then and He is saying it now. The word worship here means to adore. True adorers worship God no matter the state of the world around them. When taxes go up, they worship. When there is unrest in the community they adore. When people are fighting and backbiting, they stay focused. Jesus expected this of His disciples then and He expects it of us today. In fact, God is seeking such to worship Him. What does that suggest? That all those called by His name may not be adoring Him in spirit and in truth. Those who call themselves followers may not be true followers.

Look with me at two words – Spirit and Truth. Let’s take Truth first. We’ve seen this word before! It’s the Greek word Alethia meaning truth. In John 1:14 we read - *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.* There’s that word – Jesus, full of Grace and Truth. In John 14:6 we read this - Jesus said to him, “*I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.* There’s that word again Jesus says I am the way – I am the truth. We know that, in order to be saved, we must accept Jesus. Why? Because He is the Truth. In John 8:32 He says that we will know the truth and the truth will set us free. So the Truth is Jesus.

Let’s move to Spirit. We’ve seen that word before too. Over in John 20:22 – it’s the word Greek word pneuma - *And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”* That word used for Spirit is the same one as in our scripture. In Acts 2:4, we see the Holy Spirit come - *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.* When we believe on Jesus and receive Him, He fills us with the Holy Spirit, the Pneuma, and the Holy Spirit indwells our heart.

Verse 24 *God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.* When we put the pieces together, we are looking dead into the face of the Holy Trinity. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost in one verse. God is to be worshiped, adored. In order to do this, we must hold two things or worshiping Him is impossible… not hard… impossible. We must hold the Truth! Jesus. And we must hold the Spirit. In order to receive the Spirit, we must first believe on the Truth. No mystery. No wiggle room. If we don’t have Jesus, we don’t have spirit and if we don’t have both we aren’t worshiping and adoring God.

Since we have both, we must spend our time adoring God. How do we adore God? By adoring and loving others, He who will be first will be servant of all. But the times are hard Richard. They were in Jesus time too. But everyone’s so hateful. Yeah, Jesus time too. I feel uncomfortable and attacked. Yeah, that was in Jesus time too. It says that God is seeking those who have the spirit and truth and are adoring Him in spite of everything swirling in the water, in spite of the mess society is in, in spite of Satan’s attacks. The question is: have we received Jesus – the Truth – and the Holy Spirit and are we focused on adoring God or cursing CNN? The hour is now… the hour is now. The time to shine faith like never before is now. Talk about a contrast! The world spewing hate and a Christian giving love. Chaos and Peace. Dread and Hope. This is the time to let our light so shine that men see it and glorify Our Father in heaven. The question is: where is our focus? Adoration or agitation – we choose – the hour is now.