

# John 4:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.

## Analysis

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The woman's response reveals the depth of Jewish-Samaritan hostility, making Jesus' request remarkable. The parenthetical explanation ('For the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans') emphasizes how grace crosses boundaries that sin and pride erect. Christ's gospel demolishes ethnic, social, and religious barriers.

## Historical Context

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The Samaritan-Jewish schism dated to the Assyrian conquest (722 BC) and the return from exile. By Jesus' time, animosity ran so deep that Jews traveling from Judea to Galilee often took the longer route across the Jordan to avoid Samaria.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. What modern equivalents exist to the Jewish-Samaritan divide, and how does the gospel address them?

2. How does recognizing Christ's willingness to cross boundaries embolden us to do likewise?

## Interlinear Text

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λέγει	οὖν	αὐτῷ	ἡ	γυναικὸς	ἡ	Σαμαρείτιδος	
saith	Then	unto him	G3588	a woman	G3588	of Samaria	
G3004	G3767	G846		G1135		G4542	
Πῶς	σὺ	Ἰουδαῖοι	οὔσης	παρ'	ἐμοῦ	πιεῖν	αἰτεῖς
How is it that	thou	a Jew	being	of	me	drink	askest
G4459	G4771	G2453	G5607	G3844	G1700	G4095	G154
οὔσης	γυναικὸς	Σαμαρείτιδος	οὐ	γὰρ	συγχρῶνται		
being	a woman	of Samaria	no	for	dealings		
G5607	G1135	G4542	G3756	G1063	G4798		
Ἰουδαῖοι	Σαμαρεῖταις						
a Jew	with the Samaritans						
G2453	G4541						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 10:28** (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

**John 8:48** (Parallel theme): Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?

**Matthew 10:5** (Parallel theme): These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:

**John 4:27** (Parallel theme): And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her?

