



December 8

Just as I am!

Reading: John 4:8-15; 39-42

*"Whoever is thirsty, let him come; whoever wishes,
let him take the free gift of the water of life" (Rev 22:17)*

"Buy one! Get one free!" Such advertisements make thousands rush into shops. Hardly anyone takes seriously the divine offer: "Salvation free!" Is it because we have not made the simple plan of God's great salvation clear to people?

A woman in a village of Samaria was living in adultery. She was enjoying sin like drinking water. But the moment she found out that Jesus was the Christ, and drank the Water of Life given by Him, she could not contain it within herself. She ran to her village and became a Gospel broadcaster. But the villagers were apprehensive of accepting the message because it was "she"—a woman like her—who brought it to them (Jn 4:42). Because her testimony in the society was so bad, they couldn't believe that she was changed. Nevertheless, she was really saved and that was by her simple faith. That's why Jesus told the religious leaders and influential men of His day, "I assure you, corrupt tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the Kingdom of God before you" (Mt 21:31).

Man wants to do something and "earn" salvation so he can boast. But God will never share His glory with anyone. He has said, "I will not give my glory to another" (Isa 48:11). He gives His salvation absolutely free, so all glory, honour and praise may go to Him only! Our responsibility is to accept His offer in simple faith. This faith is emphatically stated in Ephesians 2:8,9, "God saved you by His special favour when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it."

Believing on Christ is the only way to be saved! Don't get stuck up worrying over the awfulness of your past life. Come to God as you are! The Blood of Jesus will cleanse you from all sin. You will be instantly justified—as if you had never sinned! Salvation is free. Believe and receive it—now!

*Just as I am— without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O! Lamb of God, I come! (Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871, an invalid)*

*(This hymn sung in all Billy Graham Crusades
has brought to Christ more sinners than any other in all history!)*
