From the Mouth of Yochanan

Faith for Life

Like the Hebrew prophet Habakkuk, who taught, "The just one" or each righteous individual will "live by faith," Yochanan, the apostle who walked with Yeshua, taught that faith, that is, strong belief, and even more, the action connected to that conviction, is the true source of a meaningful life, a life of "ever increasing abundance" (John 10:10). Yeshua came to give life, not merely existence in staying alive, but rather an abundant life. Faith and belief become the purpose that empowers each one to live with greater spiritual meaning. He wrote this eye witness report that everyone who reads may believe. The fourth Gospel is all about faith for living life the best it can be.

The Samaritan woman believed (John 4:7-26). She believed in the holy place of her people's faith on Mount Gerizim, the mountain of blessing in Scripture. She believed in a coming Messiah. Yeshua, however, challenged her Samaritan belief system. The Samaritans did not accept Jewish ways. Yeshua told her, "We worship Whom we know, because salvation is from the Jewish people" (4:22). The words recall the *Shema*, "Hear O Yisrael, the LORD our God, the LORD is one" (Deut. 6:4). The Jewish people know Whom they worship. Yeshua was Jewish.