

If You are Thirsty Come and Drink

John 7:25-39 ²⁵ Some of the people of Jerusalem therefore said, "Is not this the man whom they seek to kill?" ²⁶ And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ? ²⁷ But we know where this man comes from, and when the Christ appears, no one will know where he comes from." ²⁸ So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, "You know me, and you know where I come from? But I have not come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know. ²⁹ I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me." ³⁰ So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come. ³¹ Yet many of the people believed in him. They said, "When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?" ³² The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him. ³³ Jesus then said, "I will be with you a little longer, and then I am going to him who sent me. ³⁴ You will seek me and you will not find me. Where I am you cannot come." ³⁵ The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks?" ³⁶ What does he mean by saying, 'You will seek me and you will not find me,' and, 'Where I am you cannot come'?" ³⁷ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" ³⁹ Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

❖ Introduction

➤ Recap of 1-24 (Unbelief and Legalism)

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❖ Remember always throughout the book of John what its purpose is...

- John 21. – so people will believe and get life
- But more than that... remember Jesus purpose for coming into the world...
 - Then you see the correlation with John's book...
 - Jesus said "I have come to seek and to save that which was lost."

❖ Our Purpose:

- **Oh My! What a purpose We have!**
 - It is to seek the lost.
 - It is not to pay our bills, although we need to...
 - It is not to promote peace on the earth...
 - It is not to get involved politically (could be of some use)
- **It is to seek the lost... and bring them to Jesus.**
- **LIVE YOUR LIFE WITH THAT PURPOSE**
 - God forgive us of our unfaithfulness...
- **How can each weeks sermon help you practically fulfill your purpose as a child of God**
 - The Word will increase your faith
 - Increase your knowledge
 - Prepare you with how to share Jesus.
 - You should pay close attention...
 - Write down things you need to remember, so you can be prepared to give an account of God's Word

❖ What is going on here?

- **The People Were wondering if this was the guy the Pharisees and leaders were trying to kill**
 - So, it was common knowledge amongst the people that they were seeking to kill Jesus
 - But... the people were confused as to why they were letting Him speak openly...

- **They began to wonder if He really was the Christ...**
 - Since the authorities were not arresting Him, maybe they figured out He was the Christ...
- **Their Objection: We know where this man comes from...**
 - And they thought that when the Christ came no one will know where He comes from
 - To have the Word of God at their fingertips, they were not too well up with it..
 - They were following some man made traditions in regards to the Christ they were expecting...
 - They assumed they were not supposed to know where He was from...
 - **The Problem: The crowd didn't know where He was from... they were usually half wrong...**
 - They thought He was from Galilee, but He was born in Bethlehem as the Scripture said He would be...
 - But they never got down to the truth...
 - They made a lot of assumptions and listened to man made writings, instead of trusting God's word alone...

❖ **Jesus Responds:**

- **"You know me, and you know where I come from? But I have not come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know. ²⁹ I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me."**
- **Jesus's Response indicates their misunderstanding...**
 - He is either making a statement here, or asking them a question...
 - You know me, and you know where I come from?!
 - You can tell He is trying to tell them, they do not know what they are talking about...
 - And more than that
- **They don't know a lot of things...**
 - #1 Why He came
 - #2 They don't know God
 - Wow... how upfront is Jesus...
 - They knew as He was talking about the one who sent Him, He was referring to the Father...
 - And Jesus says... "Him you do not know" But I do...
- **Application:**
 - **Go to the Source:**
 - Many of you have truly faulty understandings of what is true...
 - ◆ Because you have not been in God's Word...
 - ◆ You have not studied it properly
 - ◆ You have not taken the initiative to learn it...
 - ◆ What a pity that is... and how easily you will be
 - ◆ **Matthew 7:15 ¹⁵ "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.**
- **Their Response: They are completely offended by this...**
 - And we know this offends them because immediately John says...
 - **So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come.**
 - They were Seeking to arrest Him... because of what He was saying

❖ **Yet many Believed on Him**

- Some Good news... finally... we see some more believers...
- And their reasoning is very sound... and I like it,,,
 - **When the Christ appears will he do more than this man?**
 - Just some common sense guys...

- They recognize How great He is, and that only the Christ could do these things...
- So, that is enough for them...
- And you do not see any asterick here...
 - There is no, ... But they really didn't believe...
 - They had faith by what they had seen from Jesus... it was enough for them...

❖ **The Pharisees heard these things so they sent officers to arrest Him**

- They did not like Him getting all this attention...
 - They thought He was leading people astray
 - because He did not measure up to what they thought He should be...
- **Application:**
 - How often do we try to define God to make Him fit our own beliefs...
 - Let God be God in your life, and deal with the results...
 - He will not change... We need to make sure we change to conform to Him

❖ **Jesus Responds:**

- , "I will be with you a little longer, and then I am going to him who sent me. ³⁴ You will seek me and you will not find me. Where I am you cannot come."
- **Jews didn't understand what He meant...**
 - More confusing stuff from Jesus... to make their minds spin...
 - Remember, a great rule of thumb when you here Jesus talking in a way that seems hard to understand...
 - Remember the Cross... Remember His death...
 - Everything HE is doing is in preparation for His death...
- **He is telling them, He is going to die.... And Go back to the Father**
- **Ill be here just a little longer...**
 - You are trying to arrest me... and to kill me...
 - But I will only be here a little longer...
 - But then I am going back to him who sent me...
 - Going back to the Father...
 - And when I do... you will seek me and not find me...
 - Where I am you cannot come...
- **Then they get even more confused...**
 - "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? ³⁶ What does he mean by saying, 'You will seek me and you will not find me,' and, 'Where I am you cannot come?'"
 - Jesus has really go them confused...
 - And why?
 - Because they will not listen to Him...
 - They are more concerned with what they already know, instead of learning from Him...
- **Pay attention to what God is telling you today...**
 - He speaks through His word...
 - So, learn to read it in context and pray over it and ask Him for understanding...
 - These people asked for no help in understanding...
 - They just stayed confused...

❖ **Our Main Focus:**

- **On the last day of the feast... HE cried out!**

- Jesus: “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ ”
 - **Then John Explains:**
 - ◆ ³⁹ Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.
 - ◆ **FYI – Jesus humbled Himself and took off His glory... He unclothed Himself of many of His God attributes...**
 - He never ceased being God
 - But He humbled Himself as we see in the scriptures say...
 - And He was found in the likeness of a servant man...
 - So we see at His baptism, the anointing of the Spirit upon this humbled God
 - We here Him praying that God would glorify Him again...
 - And He was waiting on this...
 - But He knew He had to finish His task...
 - And We see His invitation here...

❖ **Jesus says: “Come to me!”**

- “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ ”
- **Jesus is making an offer to Mankind...**
 - On this last day of the feast....
 - For seven days part of this feast was a focus on water... Almost like a water parade
 - When they would dip water out of a pool and carry it up to the gate...
 - Where they would remember that thirst that was fulfilled in the desert
 - by God providing water from a rock
 - And they would pray for rain...
 - B/c by this time their water was drying up a bit...
 - So... it is at the end of this time that Jesus stands up and places the focus of their thirst on Him
 - And He calls out saying He can fulfill their thirst
- **Notice: This offer to quench thirst goes for the Believer in Jesus, and the Non Believer in Jesus**
 - The believer has had His thirst satisfied and provided for....
 - He was on the brink of death, and Jesus gave Him living water...
 - But often He fails to continue to drink
 - The Non-Believer has never drank and become satisfied...
 - He has never had His souls thirst quenched... And He is on the brink of death
- **#1 - The Souls of Mankind are Thirsty**
 - **If anyone thirsts...**
 - **A Conditional Statement... If... You are thirsty...**
 - I have a fundamental belief that all men are thirsty... for something.
 - Since God created man in His image, I believe there is a part of man that thirsts for God.
 - Many men apply the thirst their soul has for God toward other things...
 - Things that are satisfying for a moment, or even longer, but never fulfill the man...
 - **What does it mean to be thirsty? – from a physical point of view**
 - Well, first of all, it means your body is craving something that it is lacking...
 - If You are Thirsty, You are Unsatisfied...
 - You thirst when your body needs sustenance...
 - Thirst is your body’s way of telling you that it is lacking something essential to its survival...
 - ◆ Would that be correct to say?

- Your survival on this earth is dependent on recognizing you are thirsty and filling that thirst...
- **What happens if you do not drink?**
 - So let's say... you are thirsty, but you decide not to get anything to drink...
 - The first thing that happens is you lose a little energy...
 - Then as the dehydration sets in you start to get a headache
 - You get lightheaded, your blood pressure drops, your heart rate speeds up,
 - Eventually you would go crazy (delirious) and then become unconscious...
 - Then you will die
- **God made man in such a way, that God is the only way man can be satisfied...**
 - **Unless Man drinks what Jesus is offering:**
 - ◆ His soul will surely die, and exist eternally in Hell
 - ◆ Where there is no water, and there is no way for thirst to be satisfied
 - David understood this hunger and thirst for God...
 - ◆ Psalm 42:1-2 As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?
 - ◆ Psalm 63:1 O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
- **Our Problem: We seek other alternatives besides God...**
 - Jeremiah 2:12-13 ¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked, be utterly desolate, declares the LORD, ¹³ for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.
 - Expound... God knows we seek after wrong things...
- **What should You do...**
 - Seek after God...
 - Look for Him to quench that thirst in your life... that unsatisfied part of you...
 - If you know you are without God, but do not even notice your thirst, ask God to show you
 - ◆ To show you how thirsty you are, and how much you need Him...
 - Because God made us in His image, I know that thirst is there...

➤ #2 – A Universally Free Offer

- **If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink...**
- The offer is to anyone
 - He continues to say... Whoever believes in me... Its open to Whoever... Whoever wants to
- **Come and drink freely**
- **Isaiah the Prophet wrote as God spoke through Him...**
 - Isaiah 55:1-3 ¹ "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

➤ #3 – The free offer is Exclusively through Jesus

- Come to me
- Whoever believes in me
- **Jesus is setting Himself apart as the source of this water...**
 - John 14:6 "I am the way the truth and the life, and no man comes to the Father but by me"
- **Remember back in John 4 and the woman at the well....**
 - John 4:10 ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

- John 4:13-14 ¹³ Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

➤ **#4 - Jesus will quench your thirst**

- “Out of His heart will flow rivers of living water
- Not only does Jesus say come to Him and get some drink... but He is claiming...
 - That He can fulfill your thirst...
- Isaiah 12:3 ³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
- Revelation 22:1 ¹ Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb

❖ **A Personal Note**

- This might seem a little confusing... but it just takes a little thought
- **I can remember back to before I got saved... (and I was just a teenager)... but I can remember it clearly**
 - I had a hunger for something that had not yet been fulfilled...
 - I tried to fill that with success...
 - Or by being tough and having people respect me...
 - I tried to fulfill it with pleasure...
 - But I was never satisfied as a young man...
 - I tried to use sports and friendships to satisfy it.... Nothing worked...
- **Now, let me say...**
 - I did not realize what was going on until later....
 - I was not purposely on a mission to fulfill my souls thirst with things of this world...
- **But, when I met Jesus... My thirst was satisfied...**
 - And boy did He satisfy... and continues to satisfy, and to be a constant source of life giving water...
- **Now.... From time to time a try to satisfy my thirst with worldly things... and they never work**
 - But when I seek Jesus to know Him, and spend time with Him
 - My souls longings are satisfied...
 - Nothing Gives me the joy and Contentment and hope that I can get from Jesus
 - Not new things... gadgets, vehicle, new toys, guns
 - ◆ Ladies... I would say for you... Jewelry
 - ◆ Decorating stuff
 - Hunting doesn't do it..... Watching sports
 - Watching television shows..... Having friends...
 - Sex..... Drugs or alcohol wouldn't do it...
 - More Money (Not that I know what the is)
 - All of these things are so temporary
- **I am not saying we can't not have some of these things...**
 - We can, but do not use them to quench the thirst that only Jesus can quench...
- **Jesus is the Reason:**
 - A selfish person with thoughts of only personal gain
 - Can leave everything he has or ever wanted to have...
 - And serve Jesus in a place that is not His home, while storing up little to know earthly treasures...
 - Jesus is all we need.... He is our source...
 - Stop... Just stop fooling around with stuff that will turn to dust...
 - Drink from the fountain of living water...
- **How do we Drink? By Believing!**