

## “Life Water!”

### I. **INTRO:**

- A. **Water**, the *most important liquid* in the world. Without water, there would be **no life**.
1. The abundance of water on Earth's surface is a unique feature that distinguishes the *Blue Planet* from others in the Solar System.
    - a) *Liquid water* is **not** known to exist on any other planet's surface.
  2. This **source of life** makes up about *three fourths* of the **human body**.
    - a) **The body** needs about 3 quarts of water a day to operate efficiently. It helps **break up** and soften food. The **blood**, which is 90% H<sub>2</sub>O carries nutrients to the cells. As a **cooling agent**, water regulates our temperature through perspiration. And without its **lubricating properties**, our joints and muscles would grind and creak like unused parts of some old rusty machinery. **Even our brain is 80% water.**
    - b) I'm working on a water add: “*If you want to be **stupid sooner**, don't hydrate!*”
- B. **Water**, the *most important liquid* in the world. Without water, there would be **no life**.

### II. **LIFE WATER!**

- A. **THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES!** (1-9)
- B. (1,2) **Feast of Tabernacles** - occurs in Fall (also called Succoth/booths) **Lev.23:33-43**
1. Think of it as a **National Campout!** [It commemorated the days when the Israelites wandered in the wilderness & lived in tents/booths]
  2. **Daily**, during this 7 day feast, **water** was drawn from the *Pool of Siloam*. A **priest**, accompanied by a procession of **people & musicians**, would go & fill a golden pitcher from the pool. It was carried back through the Water Gate, while the people recited Is.12:3 “**with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**” The water was carried up to the Temple altar & **poured out** as an offering to God. It was designed to represent **3 things**:
    - a) [1] A **memorial** of the *water provided* for their fathers in the desert.
    - [2] A **symbol** of the forthcoming *latter rain*.
    - [3] A **reminder** of the water which sprang from *the rock* while in the wilderness.<sup>1</sup>
  - b) **Remember this for the end of the message!**
- C. (3-5) **They try to double-dog-dare Him to go down!** [Anybody have older brother's...ok then!]

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<sup>1</sup> Manners & Customs; John 7:37 & William Barclay; Vol.1, pg.249.

D. (10) Jesus lived on a *divine timetable*... & so should we.

1. Ps.31:14,15 But as for me, I trust in You, O Lord; I say, "You are my God." **My times are in Your hand;**
2. Job 14:5 (speaking of man) his **days** are **determined**, The **number** of his months is with You; **You have appointed** his limits, so that he cannot pass.
3. **The world** does not understand this & will often give you advice **contrary** to God's will.
4. Live on **God's schedule** & you will always have **God's help**. (Warren Wiersbe)

E. **CONFUSION & UNBELIEF!** (10-24)

F. This discussion reveals the **confusion & unbelief** of the people.

1. Some were **for** Him because of His miracles; Some were **opposed** to Him because he broke the Sabbath laws; Some **waited** to see what their leaders would do; & the leaders wanted to **kill** Him.<sup>2</sup>
2. Some felt He was a **good** man, others a **deceiver**;  
Some felt He was **demon-possessed**, others an **ordinary man**;  
Some felt He was a **prophet**, others the Messiah.

G. **Jesus teaches:** that His **mission & message** originated from God; that people in His audience **do not keep the law** of Moses; some want to **kill** Him right now; that both *healing & circumcising* on the Sabbath are permitted by the law; that He will soon leave but they wont be able to find Him.

H. **COULD THIS BE THE CHRIST?** (25-31)

I. (26) It would be like **Martin Luther** speaking in **Vatican Square** & *the Pope* nor *the Papal Swiss Guard* saying anything!

J. (28b,29a) **You do not know Him,...I know Him!**

K. **YOU CANNOT COME!** (32-36)

L. (34) Contrast ch.14:3 **Where I am, there you may be also!**

M. **THE OFFER!** (37-39)

N. Remember the daily ritual we talked about in the beginning? The *pouring out of water* in the Temple.

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<sup>2</sup> Warren Wiersbe; With the Word; John 7

1. When we read passages out of the Old or New Testaments, we must always remember that our Bible stories are about **desert people**. *Desert people are intimately bound by **life-giving, life-sustaining** water.*
  2. Jesus finds His **spring board**...and **dives** right into His water analogy!
- O. **Water**, the *most important liquid* in the world. Without water, there would be **no life**.
1. We now have over **3,200 brands** of *bottled water*, from more than 130 countries. **Yet**, 1 billion people on our planet **don't** have access to clean drinking water (that's about 1 in 6 of us).
  2. We have the most trendy, "*imported, glacial, steamdistilled, and filter-pure waters*" that now fill our grocery aisles, **yet** most North American go around in a constant state of **dehydration**.
    - a) Our massive consumption of **tobacco, alcohol, caffeinated and sugared drinks**, along with enormous quantities of **salted and processed foods**, *all suck the moisture right out of our eyeballs, brains, and bones.*
      - (1) We're standing up to our waist in soft drink cans & are *dying of thirst*.
- P. But, **the cells** of our **bodies** **aren't** the only parts of us that are **parched**!
1. **Even more dry** is *the state of our souls*. Instead of pouring in **living water** to cure our **dehydration** **however**, we grasp out at a huge variety of the worlds **crackers**. *Crackers?* [I'm so thirsty...*eat a cracker!*]
- Q. **Q:** **How many crackers** will quench your thirst? (no amount, **yet we keep trying!**)
1. **This world** won't quench your thirst; your **boyfriend** won't quench your thirst; **Travel** won't quench your thirst; **Fine Food** won't quench your thirst; **Prestige** won't quench your thirst; a **New Car** won't quench your thirst; **Moving in** with her won't quench your thirst; **pornography** won't quench your thirst; **Leaving your husband** won't quench your thirst; **No amount of dollars** will quench your thirst; **No amount of experiences** will quench your thirst; **No amount of goals** will quench your thirst.
- R. No amount of *this worlds crackers* will *quench* your physical thirst **or** fully *satisfy* you.
1. Because you were created w/a **yearning** for relationship w/your Heavenly Father - **Only the Holy Spirit** can satisfy & meet that need.
- S. **Life has made you** thirsty! Maybe you notice it when you lay your head on your pillow at night, & stare at the ceiling. When the music of the day has stopped.
1. You're thirsty because of decisions **you've** made.
  2. You're thirsty because of decisions **others** have made.
  3. **Only the Holy Spirit** can quench your thirst! - Your **spiritual** thirst; your **marital** thirst; your **business** thirst.

- T. And when you drink, your heart shall **not** be a **sponge** to absorb, **nor** a **pitcher** to contain, **but** a **conduit** in which the Spirit's love flows right through us. (i.e. Holes in silver basin)
- U. **Water** for drinking, *pictures* the **Holy Spirit** who is given to those who trust Christ.
1. **Get it?** The H.S. is our **spiritual life water!**
  2. **Life is a key theme** throughout John's gospel (nearly 50 x's): Jesus **is** the **life** (14:6); Jesus is the **light of life** (1:4); **bread of life** (6:48); **water of life** (here).
  3. **Living water = Life Water!**
- V. **Believers are you thirsty?** From **what wells** have you been drinking? Have you been back to **tasting** the world's *Saltines* again?
1. **Believers**, you can find your **thirst quenched only by** drinking from Christ!
  2. Jesus offers **streams** of **living water** to **His children** that are thirsty!
- W. **Friends, have you recognized your thirst for relationship w/God this morning?**
1. You can find your **thirst quenched only by** coming & drinking from Christ!
  2. Jesus offers **streams** of **living water** to **all** those who are thirsty!
- X. **The Water of Life:** Its **source** is in God; Its **flow** is from Christ; Its **channels** is through believers; Its **receivers** are simply *thirsty*.
1. Is.55:1 **Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters.**
  2. Rev.22:17 **And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!"**  
**And let him who hears say, "Come!"**  
**And let him who thirsts come.**  
**Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely!**
    - a) *Will you come & drink?*