

# Only To The Thirsty

8-7-16

John 7:37–39 (ESV)

<sup>37</sup> 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. <sup>38</sup> Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘**Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.**’ ” <sup>39</sup> 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.

**Hook – Jesus makes a power promise!**

**Jesus moves us from the Age of the Law into the Age of the Holy Spirit in which we now live.**

John 7:37 (ESV)

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.”

**This is the Feast of Tabernacles. This Feast is significant because it was one of only three occasions (along with Passover and Pentecost) at which all the people of Israel were expected to appear before God at the Temple at Jerusalem. This was the last of the feasts, which many believe picture the worldwide ministry of the church. This Feast involved living in temporary shelters made of tree and palm branches. During Jesus’ day the Feast of Tabernacles was embellished.**

**They included a daily procession of priests from the temple to the Pool of Siloam, from which they drew water that was poured out as an offering. Therefore the NT picture we have is pouring water out at the feast picturing the church living in temporary shelters.**

**This is the context for Jesus. HE stands up and cries out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.”**

**This statement is very similar to what Jesus said earlier to the woman at the well.**

John 4:10 (ESV)

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.**

**Look #1 Living water is given to the thirsty!**

**What does it mean to be thirsty; to thirst after God; to come to HIM for a drink?**

Psalm 63:1 (ESV)

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.**

**We are at the Cross. Not only do we receive Forgiveness, Acceptance, and Eternal Life, but also we receive Living Water. How glorious to receive Life Giving, Powerful, Living Water! Now Jesus gives a powerful revelation concerning “The Thirsty” who receive Living Water”! They become sources of that very same water.**

John 7:38 (ESV)

Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘**Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.**’

**The same thing Jesus said to the woman at the well.**

John 4:14 (ESV)

The water that I will give you will become in him **a spring of water** welling up to eternal life.

**Look #2 Those who are thirsty that drink the Living Water become Rivers of that very same Living Water.**

**What does this picture of Living Water mean? Jesus gives us the very clear explanation of Living Water that is crucial to all believers.**

John 7:39 (ESV)

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.

**Speaking directly about the Holy Spirit after HIS resurrection, Jesus restates the promise and HE reveals the significance in the Age of the Holy Spirit.**

Luke 24:49 (ESV)

And behold, **I am sending the promise** of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are **clothed with power** from on high.

**Going back to John, Jesus tells us the ramifications and HIS reason for sending believers the Holy Spirit. The reason Jesus desires us to “be clothed with power” from on high.**

John 14:12 (ESV)

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me **will also do the works that I do**; and **greater works** than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.

**Look #3 Jesus promises the Holy Spirit, so that believers can minister in the power and authority as Jesus HIMSELF did.**

**The Ministry of the Holy Spirit is absolutely central and crucial to Christianity.** Through the Holy Spirit we are transformed and bring the very presence of Jesus to people. **We need to speak the life of Christ, power of Christ, hope of Christ to those around us.** **Being Thirsty, we earnestly desire the gifts of the Spirit as tools to carry out the ministry of Christ.**

**Even with these gifts of the Holy Spirit we have to be thirsty and earnestly desire them.**

1 Corinthians 14:1 (ESV)

Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.

**Took – This is the Age of the Holy Spirit! Jesus empowers the thirsty!**

**Reconciling the gospel message of Jesus and the Holy Spirit to the Thirsty Listener!**

Galatians 3:13–14 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> **Christ redeemed us** from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us ... <sup>14</sup> **so that** in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles (*worldwide church*), **so that** we might **receive the Spirit as promised** through faith.

**Prophetic Team**

**Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future!**

**Only for the Thirsty!**