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Come And Quench Your Thirst**Jn 7:37-39**

Six months have passed since Jesus attended the Passover and before that He healed the paralytic at the Pool of Bethesda and as a result He has been under persecution from the Jewish leaders and their constant intent has been to put Him to death. 5:16, 18

1. They sought to kill Him because He had healed the man on the Sabbath day.
2. They sought to kill Him because He made Himself out to be equal with God by calling Him His Father.

Jesus has already been proclaimed to be the Son of the living God at Caesarea Philippi by Peter and Jesus has revealed that He is going up to Jerusalem to suffer at the hands of the elder, chief priest and the scribe, in order to be killed and raised on the third day. Matt. 16:16, 21

It is now six months till He is crucified.

Jesus has been walking in Galilee and not in Judea for the Jews sought to kill Him but now Jesus is going up to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles walking under the shadow of the cross. 7:1

At this point Jesus is rejected by his brothers and challenged to reveal himself openly to the world,

insulted by the people declaring He had a demon, the people are divided as to who He is and the leaders seek to arrest Him!

This is the very background under which Jesus proclaimed the promise of the Holy Spirit as He taught in the Temple.

We want to examine the proclamation of Jesus regarding the promise of the Holy Spirit which is marked by three things.

- I. The invitation. vs. 37
- II. The appropriation. vs. 38
- III. The interpretation. vs. 39

I. The invitation. vs. 37

- A. The invitation took place on the last day of the feast. vs. 37a-b
 1. The Feast of Tabernacles was one of the seven feast given in the law of Moses.
 - * Passover, Unleaven, First Fruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, Atonement and Tabernacles.
 2. The Feast of Tabernacles was one of the three major feast that every male over the age of 20 had to attend at Jerusalem. Deut. 16:16
 3. The Feast of Tabernacles lasted seven days and an eight was a holy convocation or Sabbath rest. Lev. 23:33-36

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- * The feast took place on the month of October from the 15-22.
- a. The feast would be celebrated with the building of booth out of branches and palms to commemorate God's faithfulness to keep them through the wilderness. Lev. 23:42-43
 - * There would be room left between the walls and roof to see the sky and the wind to enter.
- b. The feast also was a celebration of thanksgiving to God for the harvest.
- c. The woman's court would be lit up with golden candle stand in memory of the pillar of fire in the wilderness.
- d. The feast would include a procession of priests who would go down to the Pool of Siloam to draw a pitcher of water each day and then pour it out on the court area at the alter as a witness of God's faithfulness to provide water for them in the wilderness.
- e. The passage of Isaiah would be sung at the time as well as the Hallel Psalms. Ps. 113-118
 - * Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation. Is. 12:3,
- f. The feast would not have water brought on the eighth day as a

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declaration that they no longer were in need of water from God.

* Josephus called it the Holiest and greatest of the feasts!

- g. The feast looks forward to the Millennium , it is the only feast mentioned to be celebrated and if not attended, no rain will be given. Zach. 14:16-19

- B. The invitation was given as a Harold. vs. 37c-d
 - 1. The position of a teacher was to sit and the students stood, ensuring that none fell asleep.
 - 2. The position of a herald was to stand and proclaim.
 - a. A herald was given the message it was not his own.
 - b. A herald was given the authority to proclaim, it was not his own.
 - c. The herald was only responsible to proclaim the message and expected a response but he was not responsible for the response.
 - 1) Jesus stood to His feet on the last day of the feast when no water was brought forth from the Pool of Siloam.
 - 2) Jesus cried out with great emotion revealing their ongoing need to depend on God's provision instead of

celebrating their complacency to remain empty.

- C. The invitation was all inclusive. vs.37e-f
1. The condition to be recognized by the individual is, "If anyone thirst".
 - a. The loud cry must of seemed out of order.
 - b. The loud cry must of seemed arrogant.
 - c. The loud cry must of seemed a call to be noticed.
 - d. The loud cry was in reality a proclamation of God's love, seeing man's desperate need which he was ignorant of.
 2. The condition is based on the exercise of one's free will, "Let him come to Me and drink".
 - a. The exercise of one's free-will is by the drawing of God not by one's own ability. Jn. 6:44
 - b. The exercise of one's free-will is in recognition of the illuminating work of the Holy Spirit to show me my need of God through the conviction of the Spirit.
 3. The condition is fulfilled by the experience of drinking in a personal way in order to satisfy one's spiritual thirst

that can not be quenched with things the world has to offers.

The invitation is to those who recognize their spiritual thirst for God!

II. The appropriation. vs.38

- A. The promise is to the one who believes in Jesus. vs.38a
1. He who believes identifies any person who recognizes their spiritual thirst for God without limiting or qualifying their personal condition, it is simply conditioned on , "He who believes".
 - a. The drunkard.
 - b. The fornicator.
 - c. The prostitute.
 - d. The adulterer.
 - e. The drug-addict.
 - f. The murderer.
 - g. The thief.
 - h. The idolater.
 - i. The terminally sick person.
 - j. The good moral person.
 2. He who believes "in Me" identifies the person in whom they are putting their trust to do for them what they can not do for themselves.
 - a. The person of Jesus as the promised Messiah conceived by the Holy Spirit

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and born of a virgin. Gen. 3:15, Is. 7:14, Matt. 1:18, 23

b. The person of God who became flesh and tabernacles among men in order to be the substitute for every person. Jn. 1:14, Matt. 20:28, 2Cor. 5:21, 1Jn. 2:2

c. The only person who is able to reveal the Father and forgive a person's sins and make them a new creature. Jn. 1:18, Acts 2:38, 2Cor. 5:17

3. He who is "in" Christ identifies the person's position justified by faith. Rom. 5:1

a. It speaks of abiding.

b. It speaks of dependency.

c. It speaks of safety.

d. It speaks of reverence.

e. It speaks of honor.

f. It speaks of love.

g. It speaks of wisdom.

B. The promise is based on the Scriptures. vs. 38b

1. The reference to the Scripture is not to any specific quote.

2. The reference is to the whole of Scripture that was prophetic of the promise such as the one in Isaiah.

* The Lord will guide you continually,
And satisfy your soul in drought, And
strengthen your bones; You shall be like

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a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. Is. 58:11

a. The Scriptures refer to the revelation of God's mind, Himself and His will for man.

b. The Scripture are distinct from all other writings of man in that they are inspired, which means that the men who spoke and wrote them did so under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and not out of their own impulse, thereby guaranteeing the accurate recording of the Scriptures. 1Pet. 1:20-21

c. The Scriptures are also said to be breathed out from God and therefore profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, and thoroughly equipped for ever good work. 2Tim. 3:16-17

1) This declares that the Scriptures are infallible and innearent as they are literally expired out from God.

2) Not one yod or one title will fail Jesus declared, therefore any teaching or practice that is not identified as coming from the Scriptures in it's proper context has no authority.

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C. The promise was to impart power for spiritual life. vs. 38c

1. The targeted area was the heart of man.
 - a. The word for heart “koilia” from “koilos” which means "hollow" denoting the entire physical cavity but most frequently it was used to denote the womb, the place where the fetus is conceived and nourished until birth.
* Here in John it is used in a metaphorical way to indicate the innermost part of a man, the soul, heart as the seat of thought, feeling, choice.
 - b. The heart of man is said to be deceitful and desperately wicked. Jer. 17:9
 - c. The heart of man is used symbolic of who a man really is and the whole man, his intellect, emotions and will.
 - d. The heart of man is his basic problem, it is rebellious towards God and self serving as pointed out on the Sermon on the Mount.
 - e. The heart of man must be replaced with a new heart through the new birth and the love of God is shed abroad in the heart of man by the Spirit. Jn. 3:2-5, Rom. 5:5

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2. The purpose was in order that man be a channel for this living water to flow through.
 - a. The word "flow" implies that man is never to be thought of as a container of the Holy Spirit, for it would be limited to the individual.
 - b. The word "flow" implies that the promise was to be constantly flowing as a fresh source to others thereby revealing man’s greatest capacity, that of a channel to reach others.
3. The resource would be inexhaustible.
 - a. The metaphor is that of a river which once again emphasizes that the source is not in and of itself.
 - b. The metaphor also implies an abundance of water by the use of the plural.
 - c. The metaphor clearly teaches that the divine quality.
 - 1) It has power to do what man so desperately needs.
 - 2) It has the ability to cleanse and freshness his life.
 - 3) It has the property of life, implying the state of man in his natural order as dead spiritually as Jesus told the woman at the well. Jn. 4:13-15

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* The prophet Jeremiah knew the difference between living water and cisterns. Jer. 2:13

The appropriation is to those who believe the promise of Jesus!

III. The interpretation. vs. 39

- A. The metaphor of rivers was symbolic of the Holy Spirit. vs. 39a
 - 1. The Holy Spirit is all present in the world for He is God but not all indwelling.
 - 2. The Holy Spirit came upon certain individuals in the Old Testament for a time as prophets, Kings or priests.

- B. The recipients would be those believing in Jesus in the future. vs. 39b
 - 1. The Holy Spirit would be given to the individual in a new and different way. Joel 2, Acts 2
 - 2. The Holy Spirit would indwell every believer through Jesus. Jn. 14:16-17
 - 3. The Holy Spirit would be the source of power to be a witness of Jesus in Jerusalem, Judea and the ends of the world. Acts 1:8
 - 4. The Holy Spirit was to be a constant filling on an ongoing basis. Eph. 5:18

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5. The Holy Spirit would be an essential for the last day survival kit. Jude 20-21

- C. The promise of the Holy Spirit was prophetic. vs. 39c-d
 - 1. The Holy Spirit at this point was not yet given.
 - a. The period of time was a transitional one from the Old Testament to the New Testament.
 - * The number eight represents “new beginnings”.
 - b. The period of time was climatic in that it was witnessing the fulfillment of the coming Messiah to redeem the world.
 - 2. The reason was because Jesus was not yet glorified.
 - a. Jesus called Himself the comforter to His disciples.
 - b. Jesus also declared that He would send another "allos" one of the same source but different number. Jn. 14:16
 - c. Jesus said that if He did not go away the Holy Spirit could not come, therefore it was essential that He leave. Jn. 16:7
 - 1) He would not speak of Himself.
 - 2) He would not glorify Himself.
 - 3) He would not teach anything that Jesus had not taught.

- 4) He would be with the believer forever.

The interpretation is prophetic of Jesus being glorified!

IV. The application.

- A. The invitation is open to you.
 - 1. If anyone includes you.
 - 2. If you recognize your thirst for God, then it is by the drawing of the Holy Spirit.
 - 3. If you do, then you must exercise your own free will and drink.

- B. The appropriation must be made by you.
 - 1. Your belief must be in the person of Jesus as the Savior of the world.
 - 2. Your belief is made valid due to the fact that it is the revelation of the Scriptures.
 - 3. Your benefit is that you will become indwelled by the Holy Spirit of God and become a channel towards others.

- C. The interpretation being prophetic is fulfilled in you.
 - 1. By receiving the person of Jesus.
 - 2. By quenching your spiritual thirst.
 - 3. By acknowledging that Jesus has been glorified.

The proclamation of Jesus regarding the promise of the Holy Spirit consisted of three things.

- I. The invitation is to those who recognize their spiritual thirst for God!
- II. The appropriation is to those who believe the promise of Jesus!
- III. The interpretation is prophetic of Jesus being glorified!

Conclusion