

Elements - Water

- Water covers about 71% of the earth's surface
- Water regulates the Earth's temperature.
- Water is the most common substance found on earth.
- Water can dissolve more substances than any other liquid including sulfuric acid.
- Water makes up about 66 percent of the human body.
- 70% of the human brain is water.
- A person can live about a month without food, but only about a week without water.

We need water...around us and within us. God created us with a need for water. Today in the series on Elements, we'll look at our spiritual need for water!

Jeremiah 2:13 (NKJV)

"For My people have committed two evils:
They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters,
And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.

One of my favorite things that Jesus said was "freely you've received, freely give." And when we look around at our world that desperately needs the fountain of living waters...I have to wonder if most of the church needs the living water! You gotta receive it to give it!

Here in Jeremiah, God said "MY PEOPLE" have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.

God's people are dehydrated, dry, thirsty! Which is ok if we come and drink from the fountain of living waters.

But what happens more often than not is that we don't recognize the severity of our condition. We've been walking around in the desert for so long we have stopped believing God for the Promised Land!

It's right here...with a fountain that never runs dry...living water...yet we don't drink. Instead we keep trying to draw from the same old broken cisterns (hole in the ground for storing water)...the ones that God says can hold no water!

In John chapter 4, we see this familiar story where Jesus meets the woman at the well. This Samaritan woman experienced a similar thirst. She meets Jesus while drawing water from an earthly well, yet she didn't realise her true spiritual need...until Jesus revealed it to her.

We're going to pick it up kind of mid story...read John chapter 4 later today for a full picture.

John 4:10 (NKJV)

Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

If you knew the gift of God
If you knew who says this to you
Then you would ask and He would give.

This is the 3 step breakdown to change your life! Jesus made her curious about the things of God, curious about who He is, and curious about what He could give her that she did not have!.

Now look at her response:

John 4:11-12 (NKJV)

The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? 12 Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"

When you're spiritually thirsty, you can't look to the natural. This woman...had been married 5 times and was now with another man that was not her husband...Jesus calls her out on it to show here that you can't find anything in the natural that will satisfy what your soul longs for!

How many times in your life have you been tired and hot and you want an ice cold soda, or beer...you just know that's what you want...but does it quench your thirst? Ehhhhh. You might think it does for a moment, but both caffeine and alcohol dehydrate your body...what you NEED is water!

This woman comes to draw physical water, and as He offers her living water...to meet her spiritual needs...again she looks to the natural. "How can you get this living water?" No bucket, a deep well...also, Jacob dug us this well...he's the best...are you greater than Jacob? Do you know more than him? Really?

1 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV)

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

But here's the deal, when we don't understand, yet we are willing to ask God questions, He responds...

John 4:13-14 (NKJV)

Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

“Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again”

Remember this is his response to her question about the natural. He says if you drink actual water you will thirst again. If you try to meet spiritual needs with physical things, the things the world has to offer are temporary...they only last a while and then you need more!

But you can't quench spiritual thirst with natural things. What do you do when you're spiritually dry? Who hasn't been in that place of thirst?

Often we try to treat it with ice cream and tv. Or women and sports. Or gossip and shopping.

It's like satan offers fountains and wells to this thirsty, dry world. But they are traps...they are a mirage...looks good but it's not what it seems... it's poisoned water that causes slow and painful death!

Church we need the LIVING WATER!

“Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst”

Whoever...ANYONE...this is not limited to certain people...it's an open offer! And if you drink it, you will never thirst again???

Remember what this woman said to Jesus? How will you get this living water, you didn't bring a bucket. Because it can't be gathered with a rope and a bucket...

See when you come to Jesus, dead in your sin, you come empty handed. You come in a position of such desperate thirst...no bucket...no way to obtain water for your soul...you've tried everything and keep coming up empty...and when you finally come to Jesus...HE gives you living water.

It rescues you from sin and judgement, it removes the separation between you and God, you are reconciled to Him, you are free in Him, your heart of stone is replaced with a heart of flesh, and nothing can separate you from His love...EVER.....THIRST. QUENCHED.

You'll never thirst in that way again. But how many of you have experienced that...yet you thirst for MORE of God?

“But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

This water becomes a fountain IN YOU! It's a continual provision of living water.

And it springs up...hallomai in the Greek...means “to leap”

It's the same word Jesus used when talking about the man who was lame since birth when he was healed...he hallomai-ed...leaped! It's a supernatural effect from a touch by God's Spirit.

But with the living water, it's the fountain that hallomai, it leaps within you. It's not a slow bubbling, it doesn't seep in...it springs up!

Still thirsty? Get filled up by the fountain that springs up in you!

John 4:15 (NKJV)

The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

The woman still doesn't fully get it...Do you? Thankfully Jesus explains more in John 7

John 7:37-39 (NKJV)

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Ahhh....Holy Spirit! Yet another way that Jesus tells us how much we need the Holy Spirit.

"Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water" I like the old KJV better it's more accurate when it says "out of his **belly** will flow rivers of living water"

That means the innermost part of a man, the soul (mind, will, emotions). So think about this...when you get saved...you come to Jesus empty and He gives you living water, your spirit is saved. But THEN, out of your belly will flow rivers of living water...Holy Spirit comes in you and begins to work through your soul.

Your mind, will, emotions have the rivers flowing through them...constantly washing, pushing out debris. It's a continual work of the Spirit!

"Although we thirst throughout our whole life, yet it is certain that we have not received the Holy Spirit for a single day, or for any short period, but as a perennial fountain, which will never fail us." - John Calvin

You see it's because of the Spirit that we forever long for Jesus...

Jesus does not mean that our thirst is forever quenched in the sense that we cease to long for more and more of Him.

We still hunger and thirst after righteousness. Our hearts still pant after God like the thirsty deer for the water brook. We still pray, "O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; my soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water."

Jesus is the source for the rivers. And the river brings you back to Him.

See a river has a source and then it has an outlet. Holy Spirit is sourced to us from Jesus without Him you can't have the Holy Spirit. Then the Holy Spirit has an outlet...you...your life...and you have an outlet...others...

It flows from Jesus through you and leads **you** back to Him. It flows from Jesus through you and out to others to lead **them** back to Him.

So what happens in the lives of believers that we have the living water but it appears to no longer be hallomai, springing up, leaping in us and through us?

God showed me a picture of a well. That well is Jesus, the source from which the living water springs up. It's a good well. The water flow is strong and unending. It will never run dry.

It's there for you...full access, 24/7/365, and this well is the key to the rivers flowing from your belly. If this well were to get stopped up, the water would not feed into the river, and would slow the river's flow.

Yet every time in life, when we choose to meet our spiritual thirst with the things of this world, it's like throwing a scoop of dirt in the well. Remember this is a strong well...powerful...and the water can rush over that little bit of dirt.

Yet the more dirt we toss in the well, if it's all we are doing with our life, if we start bringing wheelbarrows full, or tractor scoops full, we will stop up that well....

So it is with the flow of Christ in our lives...It's time to stop throwing dirt in the well, people of God! Let us live by the water of God...that cleanses, refreshes, sustains, flows through us and from us to others!

If you're in a low place right now...it's not too late...

"Just like water ever seeks and fills the lowest place, so the moment God finds you abased and empty, his glory and power flow in." – Andrew Murray

Revelation 22:17 (NKJV)

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.