

Only Jesus Satisfies

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John 7:37-39 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

John 4:13-15 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

- I. Jesus is not referring here to thirsting for a drink of water or some other liquid.
 - A. What He is addressing is that desire in every man and woman that cannot be satisfied with anything that is in this world.
 - B. To thirst is that empty feeling inside.
 - C. It is that longing for something that you cannot even identify, but you know that there is something you are missing.
 - D. There is a thirst for truth that is visible in a child at a very young age.
 - 1. They start speculating about life and death and the soul very early.
 - 2. But they live in a world full of lies and will suffer many disappointments through the deceit of their mind and heart before they ever find the source of all truth, if they ever do.
 - E. There is a consciousness of moral weakness, feeling an obligation to do what is right, recognizing right from wrong, but continually failing to do what is right.
 - 1. So there is this longing for strength to do what is right, and to be what they know in their heart they should be. (Romans 7)
 - F. There is the consciousness of sin and the guilt of past sins and a thirst for forgiveness and restoration to a clear conscience.
 - G. The heart of man thirsts for something more than just happiness.
 - 1. This is obvious in the never-ending pursuit of happiness through worldly pleasures and possessions.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity.

- 2. Man was created for something far greater than those things and cannot be satisfied with them.
 - 3. There remains emptiness in the heart and soul and the mind cannot be at rest because of that thirst for something more than the world has to offer.
 - H. In the natural man thirst is manifested by want and emptiness, restlessness, and misery.
 - 1. It is a powerful driving force that demands satisfaction.

2. Without satisfaction it intensifies until it is the only thing in life that matters.
3. If that thirst is not satisfied in time, it ends in death.

II. So Jesus, in so few words, declares the need and the solution.

If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. (v. 37)

- A. Jesus is the only way that thirst of the soul, that emptiness of the heart, that restlessness of the mind, can ever be satisfied and quieted.
- B. He is the bread of life, the living water; He is the one who breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life, and He is the only source of satisfaction, peace, rest, and contentment.
- C. Those who find Jesus all testify to the fact that, "I have found the answer!"

Song of Solomon 3:1-4 By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not. I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets, and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not. The watchmen that go about the city found me: to whom I said, Saw ye him whom my soul loveth? It was but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth: I held him, and would not let him go, until I had brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me.

- D. Jesus is the answer to all the questions of the mind and the heart, because He is the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 48:22 There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.

- E. The experience of life is that men seek for peace in the wisdom of men and always find it short-lived and vanity.

Jeremiah 8:11 For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

1. There are hundreds of religions and countless philosophies of men that try to put out this fire in the soul of men, but they ALL ALWAYS fail.
2. There are also innumerable cults and idolatrous forms of Christianity that do the same thing, because they are of this world, and under the devil's control.
- F. The evidence that a person has come to Jesus and found satisfaction for his soul is that out of his belly shall flow rivers of living waters.
- G. That person will become an avenue of blessing that leads others to Christ.

III. But it is not simply the knowledge that Jesus is the answer that quenches the thirst of the soul, heart, and mind.

...let him come unto me, and drink. – Jesus said.

- A. Coming is believing, but that alone will not quench the thirst.
- B. We must drink if we would be satisfied; we cannot just come to Jesus and stare at Him, we must take from Him what He is offering to us.
- C. "Drink ye all of it" is the command He gave concerning the cup of communion.
- D. To drink of the water of life, and to eat of the bread of life, means that it is what sustains our life.

Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

- E. It is not about a creed, but about the Creator, and being made one with Him again.