

# John 7:37–39

## *I AM ... Living Water*

*The Summit Church, I AM (Bonus Track)*

**MPT:** *There is growing disagreement and division amongst the religious and the curious as to who Jesus really is. Drawing on OT traditions and festivals, Jesus shows them—and invites them all—to see him as the Messiah they've all been waiting for.*

**MPS:** *The same way God has been providing for his people from the beginning, he's now offering an open invitation to all to believe and be empowered by the HS that is to come.*

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**21,221.** That's the number of people who worshiped at one of our Easter services last weekend as we celebrated our risen Savior.

We've already heard some phenomenal stories from last weekend:

- **College:** *A girl that a student leader had been reading the Bible with for a year decided to follow Jesus two days before the Easter service on UNC's campus and she brought two of her non-believing friends who both said they are interested in starting a relationship with Jesus!*
- **SEE:** *A couple that's had a rough marriage reconciled during the middle of the service, believing that if God raised Jesus from the dead, he can humble them both and give life to their marriage too.*

I could honestly spend the next 30 minutes just telling you stories like those. One more time, can we give God some praise?

As awesome as Easter was, I have to admit there are two things that just didn't sit right with me this year:

1. Easter being on March 31. It should be illegal to have Easter in March.
2. The day after Easter being the first of the month when all my bills are due. Something about bills being due the day after "Jesus paid it all" doesn't sit right with me at all.

If you have your Bible, **open to John 7** ... For the last several weeks here at the Summit, we have been looking at the seven times in the Gospel of John that Jesus takes the loftiest name of God in the Old Testament—I AM (or, Jehovah)—and claims it for himself. What makes these "I AM" claims so significant to us is that each time Jesus takes the name of God, he applies it to one of our most acute places of felt need.

- To those who are **hungry**, he says, "I AM the bread of life."
- To those in **darkness**, he says, "I AM the light."
- To those who **feel in need of shelter**, he says "I AM the door."
- To those feeling the **sting of death**, he says "I AM the resurrection and the life."

This weekend we're gonna look at **John 7** and have a, let's call it, *Bonus Track* ... where Jesus addresses another **personal felt need** and applies to it, in this case, an image of **living water**.

## **John 7:37–39, STAND + READ**

<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.

### **PRAY: IOUS**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

#### ***What will I do with Jesus?***

In your head, I want you to think about the number of decisions you've already made today (*and then add one to that number cuz I just made you make another decision as to whether you'd do this exercise or not*).

Researchers tell us, listen to this, that **adults make upwards of 35k decisions per day**. That's roughly **2k per waking hour** or **one decision every two seconds**. They estimate we make **226.7 decisions each day on food alone** (.7? I assume that's when you're hungry but you shouldn't be, so you try to find a healthy snack but end up eating like 2 Oreos = .7).

Just in your waking hours today *you decided*:

- *how many times you'd **hit snooze** before getting up. (How many hit it at least once?)*
- *whether you'd have **coffee or tea**.*
- *if you're a **female**, you likely decided which of the four outfits you tried on you were actually gonna wear.*
- *if you're a **dude**, you did the **sniff test to decide** if you could get one more wear out of that shirt this week.*
- *I would ask how many decided to shower this morning but if that's you the last thing we want is for you to raise your hand. Jesus loves you. Be washed in the blood of Jesus AND in your shower, yes and amen.*
- *You decided whether you would **come to church**, what **route** you'd take to get here, whether you would obey the **parking guy or take the closer spot you could see just ahead**, whether you'd sit up front in "Amen corner" or in the back/aisle where you could slip out quickly.*

And that's not even a fraction of the decisions you've had to make if you have kids in the mix:

- Will they be okay with the **blue plate** instead of the **green plate** this morning?
- Is it **Sundays** they like the **mini waffles** or is that only **every other Thursday**? Should I feed them at all today?
- Should I **yell** at them or **hug** them?

On and on and on the decision making goes. 35k decisions per day: Even though 95 percent of these decisions are made subconsciously, every day we're **asking and answering tens of thousands of questions for ourselves**.<sup>1</sup>

- Read a book or watch a show?
- Steak or chicken?
- Athleisure or dress like an adult?

Some decisions are more serious:

- Where should I go to school? What should I major in?
- Is this the right relationship for me? Should I address that thing with that person?
- Where should I invest?
- Should we move my aging mother in to live with us?

This morning I wanna submit to you life's most important question to decide. How you answer this question **impacts all other questions** ... it will **shape your identity, determine your purpose, and influence your actions** every day for the rest of your life. Here's the question: **What will I do with Jesus?**

- Now if you're already a believer—you've decided what to do with Jesus—I want to show from John 7 **what Jesus wants to do with you**. It's crucial to understanding your purpose as a follower of Christ. *What will I do with Jesus?*

## CONTEXT:

### *Pharisees, Followers, and Feast of Tabernacles*

This is exactly what the crowds are being forced to consider by the time we get to John 7. Here, we find **Jesus in Jerusalem** teaching to a **divided crowd**: Some have become **infatuated** with him, while others—namely the religious crowd—have become **infuriated**.

- The religious crowd was made up of chief priests and Pharisees ... if you're new to church, these groups were basically the **Board of Directors for all things Jewish**.

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<sup>1</sup> Owe this intro on question-asking to Tony Merida in his sermon [Can This Be the Christ?](https://www.pbsnc.org/blogs/science/how-many-decisions-do-we-make-in-one-day/); <https://www.pbsnc.org/blogs/science/how-many-decisions-do-we-make-in-one-day/>; <https://hbr.org/2023/12/a-simple-way-to-make-better-decisions>

- So when Jesus comes around equating himself with God through these “I AM” statements, they’re outraged.

Not only has he infuriated them with claims about *himself*, look at vv. 28–29: <sup>28</sup>So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, “You know me, and you know where I come from. But I have not come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know. <sup>29</sup>I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me.”

- Jesus looks at the most **religious, privileged, and well-taught** people of the Jewish Scriptures and he says, “*The fact that you’ve rejected me—and I came from God—means you don’t actually know God as Father.*” In fact, in the very next chapter Jesus is gonna double down and say, “*Not only is God not your father, but you belong to your father, the devil!*”<sup>2</sup>

One of the things you need to know is that **you cannot remain indifferent toward Jesus**. This statement is as offensive today as it was to them back then: To reject Jesus—or even to remain indifferent toward him—is to reject God. To not have **Jesus as your Savior** is to not have **God as your Heavenly Father**.

So the question for you today is the same as it was to them: *What will you do with Jesus? What emotions does Jesus provoke in you? Love or resentment? Peace or confusion? Delight or boredom?* I can tell you, the one thing people never were with Jesus was bored, which means if you’re bored with him you’ve probably never encountered the real Jesus.

That’s the background leading up to v. 37: <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.”**

Everything Jesus is about to say happens on **the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles** (or Feast of Booths as some translations call it). Pastor J.D. talked about this in his “I Am the Light of the World” sermon. But let me give you a quick refresher: The Feast of Tabernacles was a seven-day feast where **all families would come to Jerusalem** to celebrate and remember how God provided for Israel during their 40 years of wandering in the desert wilderness.

So for seven days the people would come together during this feast and live in little tents to be reminded of God’s faithfulness.

One of the main parts of this seven-day ritual was the part that involved **water**. See, every morning a priest would **gather everyone at the temple** and then **lead them to the Pool of Siloam** about a half mile away. Once at the pool, the priest would **fill a golden container with water** and carry it back to the temple as the people sang the *Hallel*: a collection of praises we can find today in Psalms 113–118 that recounts how God has worked in their midst while they sing:

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<sup>2</sup> John 8:44

- *Trust in the Lord!*
- *Give thanks to the Lord!*
- *Praise the Lord!*

Once back at the temple, the priest would take the golden container and **pour the water out on the altar**, which would jog everyone's minds in three directions:

- First, it forced them to **look back** at how God provided and *poured out* water for them in the desert. In the desert, God led them by a pillar of cloud by day and fire by night, and provided **manna to eat and streaming water from rocks in the desert to drink**. God had Moses strike the rock in the desert and water would flow forth.
- Second, it called them to look at the **present**, praising God who provided the year's harvest and seeking his blessing for the coming year, believing God would provide for them *now* in the same way he provided for Israel *then*.
- Lastly, this ritual would cause them to **look forward** to the day God would fulfill his promise through **Isaiah**: For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.<sup>3</sup>

So, v. 37 says, <sup>37</sup>On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out...

Let me paint this picture for you: For six straight days they've been performing this ritual. Now it's the last day ... it's **early** in the morning ... they're all **gathered for the morning sunrise** as they're **singing the Hallel**s. For the final time, the priest returns with the golden pitcher ... as he pours out the water, just as the pitcher runs dry, Jesus stands up—right when the water has run out—and he cries out, <sup>37</sup>"If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink."

It's at this moment Jesus was declaring, *"You've all experienced and tasted the best that religion and ritualism has to offer ... This is as good as it gets. Now, if this whole thing has left you wanting more, if it hasn't fully satisfied your thirst, **come to me and drink.**"*<sup>4</sup>

In this short story, Jesus gives us three things to consider: **a condition, an invitation, and a commission.**

### **1) Our Condition (v. 37a)**

"If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink."

<sup>3</sup> Isaiah 44:3

<sup>4</sup> Pritchard, *The 7 Principles of an Evangelistic Life*

This is one of those things about Jesus' message that was so offensive to the Pharisees. They'd spent their lives trying to become the kind of people God would bless: They **kept the commandments**. They **memorized the Torah**. They **perfectly performed the rituals**. Yet Jesus stands before them and says, "If *ANYONE* thirsts, let him come to me and drink." . . . *BUT*, there's **one condition** to coming: "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink."

The condition isn't **perfection**; it's **thirst**. That's the only condition!

*What does Jesus mean by thirsting?* Jesus isn't suggesting here that we all just need a **quick Sunday morning hit from the praise and worship fountain** to take the edge off of life. He's pointing out the reality that all of us have felt in one way or another: There's something inside of us that's constantly **thirsty**, constantly **longing**, constantly **yearning for something**. Maybe you haven't known what to call it or how to identify it, but there's something inside of you that always thinks there's something **more**, something **better**, something more **satisfying** . . . or that you're just **not doing enough**, you **could be doing better**, that **success** and **happiness** and **peace** are right around the corner but it's always *just* out of reach.

There's a German word for this concept: **Sehnsucht** (*zeen\*zoekt*): an **inconsolable yearning** or **wistful longing** for something you **can't explain or don't even know yet**. It reflects your **search for happiness and meaning** . . . your **struggle to cope with losses and unrealizable wishes**. It's your soul grappling with a pervasive emptiness that lurks in corners you're scared to actually explore—yet you have this paradoxical yearning for some inexplicable "more."

Or maybe that went way over your philosophical head. You might resonate more with British psychoanalyst **Anna Freud**: "*If some longing goes unmet, don't be astonished. We call that Life.*"

You might call it **life**; you might call it **sehnsucht**: Jesus calls it **thirst**. As long as you're trying to satisfy yourself with anything other than God you will remain in this condition: thirsty.

- I don't know about you, but **my life has been marked with being thirsty**. I've been thirsty for **love**, thirsty for **meaning**, and thirsty for **purpose**. Before Christ, I thought the next **girlfriend**, or the next **high**, or the next **party**, or the next **accolade** would make the thirst go away, but it always left me asking, "*What now? What's next?*"

Keller paraphrased: "**Most of us tell ourselves that the reason we remain unfulfilled is because we simply haven't been able to achieve our goals . . . so you experience your inner emptiness as 'drive' and your anxiety as 'hope.'** All the while remaining completely oblivious to how deep your **spiritual thirst actually is.**"<sup>5</sup>

- So much of what we label as good things—like **drive** and **hope** and **ambition**—is really just masked-up thirst.

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<sup>5</sup> Timothy Keller, *Encounters with Jesus: Unexpected Answers to Life's Biggest Questions*

This is the type of thirst the Samaritan woman had at the well in John 4: She didn't realize the depth of her spiritual thirst so she was continually going to the **well of relationships** trying to fill that lonely void with men. Instead she ended up jumping from relationship to relationship, only for each to end in disappointment and a continued thirst for *someone* to love. But then Jesus comes along, meets her at this well in the sweltering heat of midday and says to her in **John 4:14**, "Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

- Jesus says to her, *"What you need isn't physical water to satisfy your thirst; you don't need to keep coming back to this well or any other well to satisfy your thirst. You need the spiritual water that only I can give."*
- Some of you, like the woman at the well, have been thirsty for **relationships** out of a **desire to be loved**.
- Or thirsty for **sexual fulfillment** to fill that **desire to be wanted** ... jumping from partner to partner, app to app. Maybe to be satisfied for a night but then you're thirsty again. Back to swiping. Back to searching.
- Some of you have been thirsty for **recognition**. Thirsty for a **title** and a **paycheck** to feel **accomplished, approved of, or some form of affirmation**. You keep climbing the ladder only to realize there's always another rung with someone who has more **money**, more **power**, more **influence**, or more **accomplishments** than you. You drink for a moment but then you're thirsty again.

Makes me think of **Rainn Wilson**: *"When I was on **The Office** I spent several years really mostly unhappy because it wasn't enough . . . here I was on the greatest job I could ever imagine, on one of the greatest TV shows of all time, getting paid millions of dollars, playing one of the most memorable characters, getting nominated for awards, part of this beautiful family of actors and writers . . . Yet all I was thinking about was, 'Why am I not a movie star? Why am I not the next Jack Black or the next Will Ferrell? How come I can't have a movie career? Why don't I have this development deal?' . . . It was never enough."*

- (Contrary to Dwight's belief, apparently *Perfectenschlag* is not actually attainable through earthly circumstances.)
- *It was **never enough***. This is what **thirst** feels like.

Here's the thing: God actually explains why we keep feeling this thirst. . . . In **Jeremiah 2:13** God says, "For my people have committed a double evil: They have abandoned me, the fountain of living water, and dug cisterns for themselves—cracked cisterns that cannot hold water" (CSB).

Don't forget our context: In John 7, Jesus isn't talking to a **rebellious** group of people; he's talking to a **religious** group of people. It's one of the things that's most surprising: **Religious people can be the thirstiest people of all!**

- Religious people may know how to avoid the "secular" cisterns of **immorality** and **debauchery** and **promiscuity** . . . but they still have a tendency to go back to the cracked, man-made cisterns of **performance** and **pride** and **arrogance** and **self-righteousness**.

Jesus comes along and turns that works-based righteousness on its head. He says:

- Only the sick need a doctor.
- Only the hungry will receive the Bread of Life.
- Only the lost will be found.
- Only the blind will see.
- Only the thirsty will come to drink the living water.

The same gospel that the **rebellious** need is the same gospel that the **religious** need, because without Christ we ALL have the same spiritual condition: thirsty.

## 2) Jesus' Invitation (v. 37b)

"If anyone thirsts, let him **come to me** and drink."

This is as simple as it gets right here: If you find yourself thirsty, come to Jesus. Notice what he *doesn't* say ... he *doesn't* say:

- Sign this statement
- Memorize these verses
- Recite this creed
- Go through these classes
- Perform a ritual

No, he simply says: *Come have a personal relationship with me.*

Now I know this can sound like some **super-spiritual, ethereal, "Let go and let God"** kinda thing: *Just give your life to Jesus and all your hopes and dreams and desires will be filled!* That's not what Jesus is saying and that's not what I'm saying. But if what he is inviting us to is true, then that has **unending benefits** for your life. If "coming to Jesus" means a personal relationship with him, then:

**It means that when you come to Jesus you have absolute assurance that he will accept you and keep you**, no matter what guilt, regrets, sins, or scars you have because he is the one who invited you in the first place!

**It means that even during the hardest, driest times of your life you will still be like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever you do will prosper.**<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Psalm 1:3

**It means God's love and approval of you is not dependent on how well you "performed spiritually" this week.** That there is nothing I have done that could make God love me less, and nothing I could do that would make him love me more.

**It means when the world lets you down, when the boss doesn't recognize you, when your kids think you're an evil witch, when your friend betrays you, when your body fails you,** that your identity and self-worth are no longer dependent on other people's opinions of you. That you can still be confident that you are **loved** by God, you have been **chosen** by God, **forgiven** by God, **redeemed** by God, **adopted** by God, **cherished** and **honored** and **eternally part of the family of God.**

I can honestly say after following Jesus for over 15 years that **there is no one like him.** To know every single day when I wake up that God **loves** me, that he **approves** of me, that he **wants to be around me**, that **he will never leave me no matter how bad I mess up.** To know I don't have to perform for him is so good for my soul! To know that everyday my **identity** and **security** and **satisfaction** aren't on the line is so freeing.

- And when you find your fulfillment in him it allows you to enjoy other things like friendships, relationships, work, and fun without needing them to supply fulfillment for you.

That's the freedom and joy you get by coming to Jesus. But we don't just come...

**"If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink."**

True story: In 1999, a **4-year-old girl in Wales all of a sudden turned a bright orange and yellow color.**<sup>7</sup> Her parents couldn't figure out what was wrong with her—she was **acting normal**, not showing **signs of any illness** ... and they lived in Wales where it's basically just **cold, gray, and wet** year-round so it couldn't be like a sunburn.

They ended up taking her to the local hospital and what Dr. Cameron of Glan Clwyd Hospital figured out was that her condition was caused by a massive intake of beta-carotene. Beta-carotene was an additive found mainly in one popular kids drink at the time to help boost its orange color. The drink was **Sunny Delight.**

- They figured out that this 4-year-old kid was drinking so much Sunny D that she literally began to turn orange and yellow. She was drinking an average of 1.5 liters of Sunny D per day!

Here's my point: She started to become like what she was drinking. Listen, the same is true of us spiritually: **We become like what we drink.**

- If you're constantly drinking in a love for **praise**, a love of **money**, a love of **pleasure**, a love of **success** ... it's gonna change you spiritually. You'll begin thirsting when you don't receive those things.

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<sup>7</sup><https://www.independent.co.uk/news/too-much-sunny-delight-turns-girl-s-skin-yellow-1134703.html>

- If you're drinking in the **belief that you have to earn your way to God**, you have to **do enough religious things**, you have to **perform in order to get God's love and approval** ... it's gonna change you spiritually. You'll never have assurance on where you stand with God. It's gonna leave you **uneasy** and **spiritually anxious**.
- But if you drink deeply of the gospel, you'll see that **no one is too bad to be lost** and **no one is too good to be saved!** You'll thirst after his **grace and mercy** which, according to Psalm 23, **will follow us all the days of our lives!**
- If you're drinking in the gospel then the living water that now flows into you—**love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control**—is what you will become, because *you become like what you drink.*

The obvious question is, *How do we drink?* **We drink by faith.**

- Listen, if you're thirsty and all you have is a rope and a bucket that's not gonna do you much good. But if there's a well nearby, you *need* the rope and bucket to get the water out.
  - **Faith is the bucket** by which you have the ability to draw water out of the well of salvation and drink to satisfy your heart's deepest longing.<sup>8</sup>

I need you to see how simple Jesus' invitation is: **Come and drink.**

- Drinking is easy—it's so easy that both **babies** and **fools** can do it; **infants** and **idiots** can do it.
- It doesn't take a **college degree** or a **list of accomplishments** to do it. Every person—from least to greatest on this earth—all experience thirst.
- That's all it takes to be satisfied by Jesus: **thirst** and the **ability to drink.**

Here's the sad part though: Many people stop there. They come and drink, but then that's it.

But here's what I know about water—the best lakes are those that have an **inflow** *and* **outflow**. Lakes that are **inflow-only grow stagnant**. Think of **the Dead Sea** (which is actually a lake): It's so salty that it's impossible for any living thing to survive. There are no fish, no plants, no microorganisms, nothing.

- The main factor causing these conditions actually isn't the salt—it's that **there aren't any outlets**.
- A ton of water pours in from the Jordan River, but **nothing flows out**. The Dead Sea is **input with no output**.

**Summit, God has not called us to be Dead Sea Christians:** attending church, listening to podcasts, reading books, studying the Bible, safely locked away in our holy huddles—input, input, input—but not actually doing anything to expand the kingdom, not actually loving your neighbor, not actually pursuing justice, not sharing the gospel with others. **Sometimes we can be so spiritually minded we're no earthly good.**

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<sup>8</sup> Charles H. Spurgeon illustration

This is why Jesus said, <sup>38</sup>“Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ ”

- To be clear, this isn’t “*More work for Jesus to satisfy him . . . Live on mission because that’s what God is most pleased with.*”
- It’s working *from* the satisfaction we’ve found in Jesus because of the Holy Spirit in us . . . living on mission because we can’t wait to share the living water that lives in us with everyone else!
- The Christian life is not “do, do,” but “*Come, drink, be filled, and the Holy Spirit will do through you!*”

And this is our third consideration from Jesus—we’ve got a condition, an invitation, and then we have...

### 3) Spirit’s Commission (vv. 38–39)

We’re not just **saved to be satisfied**; we’re **saved to live sent!**

<sup>38</sup>“Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart (literally “out of his belly” . . . innermost being) 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.” (At this point Jesus *has* been glorified: That’s what we celebrated last weekend at Easter.)

Therefore, now when we come and drink, the Holy Spirit is poured *into* our lives—just as was **prophesied in Joel 2** and **fulfilled in Acts 2** at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came upon believers. But as believers we don’t bottle up the Spirit to keep for ourselves—we’re not to be Dead Sea Christians.

This **life-changing, perspective-altering, eternity-securing, thirst-quenching** living water that’s now in us should flow *through* us into the lives of others. We’re not just **recipients of grace**, we’re now **channels of it** . . . you’re not just a *receiver*; you’re a *river*.

- This isn’t reserved for some kinda **super saints**—those with incredible speaking gifts and outgoing personalities and apologetic intellectualism. No, if the Spirit is inside of you then you have **rivers of living water** flowing through you.
  - You are now a **minister of reconciliation**.
  - You are now an **ambassador for Christ**.
  - God makes his **gospel appeal to others through you**.

What an invitation, what a commission—to not only have your own soul totally satisfied forever but also to know that **your life now impacts eternity for others** as you offer them the same living water that was offered to you.

- Our condition. Jesus’ invitation. The Spirit’s commission.

## CONCLUSION

Six hundred years before Jesus would give this invitation, the prophet Ezekiel saw a day when a mighty river would flow from the temple in Jerusalem. A river that got deeper and deeper as it went, bringing **life** and **health** and **growth** and **flourishing** and **abundance** to all the places it reached.

In his vision, this river that began in the temple would finally empty into (surprise surprise) the Dead Sea. To Ezekiel, the Dead Sea represented lost nations who didn't have the hope of the Messiah.

But now, here's Jesus standing in this temple on the last day of the Feast of Booths declaring:

- *I am Ezekiel's river that brings life to the ends of the earth through the fulfillment of the gospel message.*
- *I am the living water your soul has been longing for.*
- *Just as I am standing in this physical temple, from this moment on the temple will be in your hearts, and my Spirit will dwell inside of you.*
- *Just as God protected Israel in their tents in the wilderness, I am the tent that covers your shame and protects you from the penalty of your sin.*
- *Just as Moses struck the rock in the desert to pour forth water to drink, I am the Rock that will be struck to pour out the Holy Spirit who gives you eternal life.*
- *I am the one who will drink the cup of God's wrath on your behalf, so that you can drink from the well of salvation.*

And just a few weeks after declaring these words, Jesus would hang from a cross and declare, "**I thirst.**" He would experience **cosmic thirst** on the cross, so now you and I can experience satisfaction for our **spiritual thirst**.

Just like the priest pouring out the water at the Feast of Tabernacles, the blood of Jesus would be poured out on the cross as God's way of saying, "*I've provided not just for your body, but for your soul.*"

*So what will you do with Jesus?* Whether you're rebellious or religious, come and drink and:

- You can go from longing to truly living.
- You can go from performing to actually enjoying life.
- You can go from being consumed with others' opinions to being consumed by the love of God.
- You can go from being needy to meeting needs.
- Instead of striving and thirsting, you can rest and be satisfied.

*I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one;  
stoop down, and drink, and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in Him.<sup>9</sup>*

## PRAY

*Give eyes of faith ... come and drink...*

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<sup>9</sup> Hymn: "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"