

THE MIRAGE SHALL BECOME A POOL
(Living Waters for the Thirsty!)

Text: Isaiah 35:7; “The parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water...” “**The ‘mirage’ shall become a pool**”! This is the marginal rendering of this text in the New American Standard Bible. The Amplified Bible reads, “The burning sands and the mirage shall become a pool”!

Introduction: Desert travelers, when travelling through a desert, and when very thirsty and weary, very often will see up ahead of them what appears to be a pool of water! But when arriving at where the pool of water appeared to have been they find it to be a ‘mirage’ and not a reality! What they had actually seen was the shining glistening sand which gave the appearance of a pool of refreshing water! They had been mocked and disappointed!

D.M. Lloyd-Jones in commenting on this passage of Scripture in Isaiah 35 makes the following statements.

“In the whole of chapter 35, the Prophet Isaiah is giving a pre-view of some of the Glorious results of the coming of Christ and His Gospel and the great Salvation which He shall bring. He describes it all with His wonderful, picturesque imagery. ‘He will come and save you’, says the Prophet, or ‘He Himself will come and save you’, and the result of His coming will be that ‘The eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the mirage shall become a pool.’”

1. Let us note carefully the Words of Isaiah the Prophet:

Isaiah the Prophet of redemption pointed ahead to a time ‘when the mirage’ would be turned into a reality! That is - ‘Refreshing, Living Water’!

In **Isaiah 12:3** we read “Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of Salvation”. Compare again **Isaiah 35:7**.

In Isaiah 43:19-21 we read, “... Behold I will do a new thing; Now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert”

In Isaiah 44:3 we read; “For I will pour water on him who is thirsty. And I will pour floods upon the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit on your descendants and my blessing on your offspring”

In Isaiah 55:1-3 we read, “Ho everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters...”(Read this whole passage).

2. Now let us consider the Wonderful Promise of the Lord Jesus Christ

In John 4:10-14: The Lord Jesus spoke these words to a lonely, fearful, spiritually thirsty woman, at the well of Samaria: “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”; Jesus then went on to say to this woman, “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 living water springing up into everlasting life.” We see clearly from these wonderful words spoken by the Lord Jesus that HE is the one who will give as a free gift, spiritual living water, which will truly satisfy the spiritual thirst which is in the heart of every person. As we read the rest of the story in John Chapter 4 we can see that this woman not only found this living water herself, but then went into the city and told others about Jesus the Christ.

3. Now let us note carefully the Word of the Lord through Jeremiah the Prophet.

In Jeremiah 2:13 we read; “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.” From this passage of Scripture as well as the one quoted previously in John Chapter 4 we clearly see that the Lord Himself is ‘the fountain of living waters’! He alone can truly satisfy the spiritual thirst which is in the heart of every human being. We also see from this passage of Scripture that many people forsake the Lord, the fountain of living waters, and try to find satisfaction in other things which really end up being ‘broken cisterns’ which cannot contain water, nor can they satisfy. Some try to find satisfaction in pursuit of pleasures, possessions, or in popularity; while

others in sinful pursuits; others try to find satisfaction in religious activities and business; while still others seek spiritual fulfilment by becoming involved in the occult and Idolatry. This is what the people were doing in Chapter 2 of Jeremiah! However these things are all ‘broken cisterns! They cannot satisfy. They are just ‘mirages’ and not ‘reality. Only a vital relationship with the Lord Jesus can truly satisfy.

The words of a beautiful Hymn are so applicable:

“I tried the broken cisterns, Lord, but ah, the waters failed! Even as I stooped to drink they fled and mocked me as I wailed’.

“The pleasures lost I sadly mourned, but never wept for Thee, Till Grace the sightless eyes received thy loveliness to see.”

“Now, none but Christ can satisfy, None other Name for me, there’s love, and life and lasting joy Lord Jesus, found in Thee”.

4. Let us now consider the Words of Jesus on the last day of the Jewish feast of Tabernacles in John 7:37-40 “Jesus stood and cried out saying, ‘if anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water;’” then we read “But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, which those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given ,because Jesus was not yet glorified”.

The Lord Jesus did die for our sins and He purchased our redemption and salvation with His precious shed blood: He arose again and was glorified, ascending to the right hand of the Father in heaven, and He did ‘pour out the promise of the Father’, the Gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:33 & 37-39) for all who are now spiritually thirsty to come and receive freely. Now it is true that the Holy Spirit does come into the life of every believer giving them Life, victory over sin, and witnesses to our son ship and produces the beautiful Fruit of the Spirit in our lives for Christian character.-Compare (Romans Chapter 8 and Galatians 5:16-25); but He desires to also fill us to overflowing and to endue us with the power of the Holy Spirit, so that we might become effective witnesses for him for His glory. John 7:37-40 & Ephesians 3:14-21 & 5:18; Acts

1:4,5,8). All who are truly thirst are invited to come to Jesus the fountain of living water and drink in deeply of His fullness, and then allow His Life to flow out to others in blessing.

Conclusion: No longer does anyone have to be disappointed by a spiritual ‘mirage’! Come to the Lord Jesus and drink deeply from Him the Living Waters. Allow Him to first do a deep work of grace in your heart and life and then allow Him to work through you in bringing blessing to others for the glory of God.

There are believers whose lives have become spiritually dry and they have lost their joy and peace. They are no longer drinking at the fountain of living waters. There are ministers of the Gospel who no longer minister with freshness and power. They are not taking time daily in the Word of God and in the presence of Jesus the fountain of living waters to drink in deeply and be refreshed.

Today the invitation goes out to all. “If any one thirsts, let him come to me and drink”.

The Words of this powerful hymn come to mind:

“Ho every one who is thirsty in spirit; Ho every one who is wary and sad. Come to the fount there is fullness in Jesus. All that you’re longing for come and be glad”.

“Child of the kingdom be filled with the Spirit’; nothing but fullness thy longing can meet. Tis the enduement for life and for service. Thine is the promise so certain so sweet”.

“ I will pour water on Him who is thirsty, I will pour floods upon the dry ground; Open your heart for the gift I am bringing; while you are seeking me I will be found.”

God bless

Word in Season- By Lloyd Schuetz

