

Crystallization-Study Outlines — Isaiah (2)

Message Ten

The Call to the Thirsty Ones to Come to the Waters

Scripture Reading: Isa. 55:1-4; Jer. 2:13; Psa. 36:8-9; 46:4; John 7:37-39; Rev. 22:1; 7:17

- Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.
- Isa 55:2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And the result of your labor for what does not satisfy? Hear Me attentively, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in fatness.
- Isa 55:3 Incline your ear and come to Me; Hear, so that your soul may live; And I will make an eternal covenant with you, Even the sure mercies shown to David.
- Isa 55:4 Indeed, I have given Him as a Witness to the peoples, A Leader and a Commander to the peoples.
- Jer 2:13 For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew out for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns, Which hold no water.
- Psa 36:8 They are saturated with the fatness of Your house, And You cause them to drink of the river of Your pleasures.
- Psa 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.
- Psa 46:4 There is a river whose streams gladden the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.
- John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.
- John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.
- John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for *the* Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
- Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.
- Rev 7:17 For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and guide them to springs of waters of life; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

I. In the Scriptures there is a line concerning the river of water of life—Gen. 2:10; Psa. 36:8-9; 46:4; John 7:37-39; Rev. 22:1:

- Gen 2:10 And a river went forth from Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided and became four branches.
- Psa 36:8 They are saturated with the fatness of Your house, And You cause them to drink of the river of Your pleasures.
- Psa 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.
- Psa 46:4 There is a river whose streams gladden the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.
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- John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for *the* Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
- Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.
- A. The river in Genesis 2:10 signifies the river of water of life, along which the tree of life grows; this river quenches man's thirst.
- Gen 2:10 And a river went forth from Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided and became four branches.
- B. In Psalm 36:8-9 the fountain refers to the Father as the source of life, and the river refers to the Spirit as the river of water of life—John 1:4; 7:37-39.
- Psa 36:8 They are saturated with the fatness of Your house, And You cause them to drink of the river of Your pleasures.
- Psa 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.
- John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.
- John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.
- John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for *the* Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

- C. The river in Psalm 46:4 signifies the flow of the Triune God in Christ through the Spirit as life to God's people.

Psa 46:4 There is a river whose streams gladden the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.

- D. Revelation 22:1 speaks of the river of water of life:

Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.

1. The river, typified by the rivers in Genesis 2:10-14, Psalm 46:4, and Ezekiel 47:5-9, signifies the abundance of life in its flow; as indicated in John 7:38, this one river with its riches becomes many rivers in our experience of the different aspects of the riches of God's Spirit of life—Rom. 8:2; 15:30; 1 Thes. 1:6; 2 Thes. 2:13; Gal. 5:22-23.

Gen 2:10 And a river went forth from Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided and became four branches.

Gen 2:11 The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that goes around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.

Gen 2:12 And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.

Gen 2:13 And the name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that goes around the whole land of Cush.

Gen 2:14 And the name of the third river is Hiddekel; it is the one that goes east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

Psa 46:4 There is a river whose streams gladden the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.

Ezek 47:5 Then He measured a thousand cubits, and it was a river that I could not pass through; for the water had risen, enough water to swim in, a river that could not be crossed.

Ezek 47:6 And He said to me, Son of man, have you seen this? Then He led me and brought me back along the bank of the river.

Ezek 47:7 And when I returned, there were very many trees on the bank of the river, on one side and on the other.

Ezek 47:8 Then said He to me, This water flows out toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah and goes to the sea; when it flows into the sea, the water of the sea is healed.

Ezek 47:9 And every living creature which swarms in every place where the river goes shall live, and there will be very many fish, when this water comes there. And the water of the sea shall be healed, and everything shall live wherever the river comes.

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

Rom 15:30 Now I exhort you, brothers, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,

1 Thes 1:6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction with joy of the Holy Spirit,

2 Thes 2:13 But we ought to thank God always concerning you, brothers beloved of the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning unto salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth,

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal 5:23 Meekness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

2. The water of life is a symbol of God in Christ as the Spirit flowing Himself into His redeemed people to be their life and life supply; it is typified by the water that flowed out of the riven rock (Exo. 17:6; Num. 20:11) and symbolized by the water that flowed out of the pierced side of the Lord Jesus (John 19:34).

Exo 17:6 I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

Num 20:11 Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his rod twice; and abundant water came forth, and the assembly and their livestock drank.

John 19:34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water.

II. God's good pleasure, the desire of His heart, is to be the fountain of living waters to dispense Himself into His chosen people so that they would become His increase as His fullness for His expression—Jer. 2:13; Eph. 1:4-5, 9, 22-23; 3:16-19:

- Jer 2:13 For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew out for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns, Which hold no water.
- Eph 1:4 Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love,
- Eph 1:5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
- Eph 1:9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,
- Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all things to the church,
- Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.
- Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
- Eph 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,
- Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are
- Eph 3:19 And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.

A. God's intention was to dispense Himself into man as man's enjoyment and satisfaction for God's corporate expression, but man became unfaithful and forsook God for idols—Jer. 2:13.

Jer 2:13 For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew out for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns, Which hold no water.

B. Israel should have drunk of God as the fountain of living waters so that they might become His expression, but Israel fell by forsaking God as the fountain of living waters and turning to a source other than God, signified by the cisterns, which Israel labored to hew out for themselves—v. 13.

Jer 2:13 For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew out for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns, Which hold no water.

C. Apart from God as the fountain of living waters, nothing can quench our thirst and satisfy us—John 4:14; 6:35; 7:37-38; Rev. 22:17.

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.

John 6:35 Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger, and he who believes into Me shall by no means ever thirst.

John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.

D. Nothing apart from God Himself as the fountain of living waters can make us His increase for His corporate expression—Rom. 8:2, 10-11; 12:4-5.

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

Rom 8:10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness.

Rom 8:11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.

Rom 12:4 For just as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function,

Rom 12:5 So we who are many are one Body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

III. In the book of Isaiah, God considers that He is our salvation as living waters—12:3; 55:1-2:

Isa 12:3 Therefore you will draw water with rejoicing From the springs of salvation,

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

Isa 55:2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And the result of your labor for what does not satisfy? Hear Me attentively, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in fatness.

- A. Both the Old Testament and the New Testament show that God's practical salvation is the processed Triune God Himself as the living water—Isa. 12:2-3; 55:1; Rev. 7:10, 14, 17; 21:6; 22:1, 17.

Isa 12:2 God is now my salvation; I will trust and not dread; For Jah Jehovah is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.

Isa 12:3 Therefore you will draw water with rejoicing From the springs of salvation,

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

Rev 7:10 And they cry with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb.

Rev 7:14 And I said to him, My lord, you know. And he said to me, These are those who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Rev 7:17 For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and guide them to springs of waters of life; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Rev 21:6 And He said to me, They have come to pass. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give to him who thirsts from the spring of the water of life freely.

Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.

- B. To be our salvation, the Triune God was processed to become the life-giving Spirit as the living water, the water of life—1 Cor. 15:45b; John 7:37-39:

1 Cor 15:45b... the last Adam *became* a life-giving Spirit.

John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for *the* Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

1. The waters in Isaiah 55:1 and Revelation 22:17 are the redeeming God, the very God who accomplished redemption for us through His incarnation, human living, crucifixion, and resurrection.

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.

2. In totality, what Christ is and has accomplished is just the divine water, which is the consummated Spirit as the consummation of the Triune God for us to drink and enjoy—Isa. 55:1; John 7:37-39; 1 Cor. 12:13.

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for *the* Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

1 Cor 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

IV. We need to enjoy our God as living water, even as the waters—Isa. 55:1:

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

- A. In Isaiah 55 the most striking word is *waters*; this word reveals that we may enjoy God not only in one aspect but in many aspects—v. 1.

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

- B. The thought here is similar to that in John 7:38, which speaks of rivers of living water flowing out of the innermost being of the one who believes into the Lord Jesus; these rivers are the many flows of the different aspects of the divine life.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

- C. In order to enjoy God as the waters by continually drinking of Him, we, who are sinners, need redemption:

1. This redemption is revealed in Isaiah 53, a chapter that reveals more of God's dynamic redemption than any other chapter of the Bible.

Isa 53:1 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of Jehovah been revealed?

Isa 53:2 For He grew up like a tender plant before Him, And like a root out of dry ground. He has no attracting form nor majesty that we should look upon Him, Nor beautiful appearance that we should desire Him.

Isa 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised; and we did not esteem Him.

Isa 53:4 Surely He has borne our sicknesses, And carried our sorrows; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God and afflicted.

Isa 53:5 But He was wounded because of our transgressions; He was crushed because of our iniquities; The chastening for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we have been healed.

Isa 53:6 We all like sheep have gone astray; Each of us has turned to his own way, And Jehovah has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.

Isa 53:7 He was oppressed, and it was He who was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter And like a sheep that is dumb before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth.

Isa 53:8 By oppression and by judgment He was taken away; And as for His generation, who among them had the thought That He was cut off out of the land of the living For the transgression of my people to whom the stroke was due?

Isa 53:9 And they assigned His grave with the wicked, But with a rich man in His death, Although He had done no violence, Nor was there any deceit in His mouth.

Isa 53:10 But Jehovah was pleased to crush Him, to afflict Him with grief. When He makes Himself an offering for sin, He will see a seed, He will extend His days, And the pleasure of Jehovah will prosper in His hand.

Isa 53:11 He will see the fruit of the travail of His soul, And He will be satisfied; By the knowledge of Him, the righteous One, My Servant, will make the many righteous, And He will bear their iniquities.

Isa 53:12 Therefore I will divide to Him a portion with the Great, And He will divide the spoil with the Strong; Because He poured out His life unto death And was numbered with the transgressors, Yet He alone bore the sin of many And interceded for the transgressors.

2. The record concerning this accomplished redemption in chapter 53 is followed in chapter 55 by the invitation to the thirsty ones to come to the waters and drink—v. 1.

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

- D. The call in Isaiah 55:1 is like that in Revelation 22:17, where the Spirit and the bride yearn that the thirsty sinner will come to take the water of life for his satisfaction.

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.

V. The waters are both the eternal covenant and the sure mercies shown to David—Isa. 55:1, 3-4:

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

Isa 55:3 Incline your ear and come to Me; Hear, so that your soul may live; And I will make an eternal covenant with you, Even the sure mercies shown to David.

Isa 55:4 Indeed, I have given Him as a Witness to the peoples, A Leader and a Commander to the peoples.

- A. As the embodiment of the Triune God as the living waters (John 4:10, 14; 7:37-38), Christ is an eternal covenant to Israel (Isa. 42:6; 49:8; 54:10; 61:8b), even the sure mercies shown to David—55:1-3.

John 4:10 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.

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.

John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

Isa 42:6 I am Jehovah; I have called You in righteousness; I have held You by the hand; I have kept You and I have given You As a covenant for the people, as a light for the nations;

Isa 49:8 Thus says Jehovah, In an acceptable time I have answered You, And in a day of salvation I have helped You; And I will preserve You and give You for a covenant of the people, To restore the land, to apportion the desolate inheritances,

Isa 54:10 For the mountains may depart, And the hills may shake, But My lovingkindness will not depart from you, And My covenant of peace will not shake, Says Jehovah who has compassion on you.

Isa 61:8b ... And I will faithfully give them their recompense, And I will make an eternal covenant with them.

Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, And you who have no money; Come, buy and eat; Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

Isa 55:2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And the result of your labor for what does not satisfy? Hear Me attentively, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in fatness.

Isa 55:3 Incline your ear and come to Me; Hear, so that your soul may live; And I will make an eternal covenant with you, Even the sure mercies shown to David.

- B. Christ is both the sure mercies and the eternal covenant that guarantees these mercies—vv. 3-4:

Isa 55:3 Incline your ear and come to Me; Hear, so that your soul may live; And I will make an eternal covenant with you, Even the sure mercies shown to David.

Isa 55:4 Indeed, I have given Him as a Witness to the peoples, A Leader and a Commander to the peoples.

1. Because our situation was miserable and we could not match God's grace, Christ, the embodiment of God's grace (John 1:14, 17), became the sure mercies, and through these mercies we are now in the proper position to match God and receive Him as grace (Eph. 2:4).

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and reality came through Jesus Christ.

Eph 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

2. In Christ as the sure mercies, God reaches us in His grace to be our enjoyment—John 1:1, 4, 14, 16.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

John 1:16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

VI. In eternity Christ the Lamb as our Shepherd will guide us to springs of waters of life—Rev. 7:17:

Rev 7:17 For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and guide them to springs of waters of life; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

- A. *Springs of waters of life* refers to many different springs as waters of life, and, as in John 7:38 and Revelation 22:1, it refers to the unique water of life in different aspects; this indicates that there will be a unique river of water of life that issues in many rivers for our enjoyment.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.

Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.

- B. As the Lamb shepherds and guides us to springs of waters of life, He brings us into God Himself, and we gain the supply of living water, which is God Himself—7:17.
 Rev 7:17 For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and guide them to springs of waters of life; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
- C. We need to praise the Lord for bringing us to the church, where there is a fountain that is God Himself, the source of living water—Psa. 36:8-9:
 Psa 36:8 They are saturated with the fatness of Your house, And You cause them to drink of the river of Your pleasures.
 Psa 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.
1. This living water flows unceasingly so that it fills us to the point of overflowing—John 4:14; 7:38.
 John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water gushing up into eternal life.
 John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.
 2. When we are full of this thirst-quenching water, we can overcome whatever comes across our path; by the living water out of the springs, we can overcome all things—Rev. 7:17; 3:21.
 Rev 7:17 For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and guide them to springs of waters of life; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
 Rev 3:21 He who overcomes, to him I will give to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne.