

Stay Hydrated!

Ponder: Water of Life

Scripture: "Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely" (Rev. 22:17b, NKJV).

Where I live, the temperature is supposed to reach 100+ today. Yours too? Let's be thankful for air conditioning, and please be sure to drink plenty of water, especially if you have to be outside! Dehydration causes problems all its own as well as aggravating any other conditions you might have.

When Jesus encountered the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well (John 4), He told her of a different kind of water than what she had come to draw from the well. "Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst" (4:14). The woman didn't understand and almost mockingly said, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw!" (v. 15). Of course, what she needed wasn't H₂O, but forgiveness of sin and fellowship with God. She needed not physical water but the water of life!

In Rev. 22:1 John saw in heaven "a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb." The next verse tells of the tree of life yielding its fruit. Earlier, in 21:6, when John had seen a new heaven and new earth, He heard the voice of God saying, "I will give the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts." Beyond any doubt, then, in heaven we will enjoy perfect fellowship with God. We will have no unmet needs.

Fortunately, we don't have to wait until we get to heaven to access the water of life. Rev. 22:17 reads: "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." Even now God's Spirit invites people through the inspired word; the bride (church) extends that same invitation.

The God we serve is kind and generous. He doesn't begrudge His blessings or dispense them with an eyedropper. Receiving this veritable flood of blessings begins with obeying the gospel but continues throughout our lives as we keep on trusting and obeying. Drink deeply! Stay hydrated!

Hymn: "In The Desert Of Sorrow And Sin"

Prayer: Father, thank You for the water of life. May we always stay hydrated with it! In Jesus' name, Amen.