

Exposé 247

Bucket Ministry Series 25

Title: Obey Your Thirst

As the Word go forth today there is going to be a rattling sound, so the bones will join to bone and life will come in. So for a dying and dead tree at the scent of water today as the Word come forth, it is going to be life again. As we already know the trademark of Jesus—the life given Spirit as we see in John Chapter 4, he was not offering the whole same... again and telling you, you can only live on Jacob's water, what he has to offer. But in exchange he has a better substitute which is the life giving water.

And so we encourage you today to participate and engage in this life giving water in what goes forth today, because it is a life giving Spirit. He says the Word that I speak, they are Spirit and they are life.

So encourage with the life of the Word today as we continue in this John Chapter 4 verse 12 now. We are in verse 12, and this verse 12 is very stimulating. It took us to Colossians, to Galatians and Matthew 6 as well in our last transmission.

Are we done with verse 12?

Well, I will say almost. But again we don't want to be in a rush so that we don't miss out what the Spirit of Christ is passing to the church.

On that note, I welcome you again today viewers on this new episode of Bucket Ministry Series.

As she has said, we are currently on the 12th verse of the 4th Chapter of the book of John. So we can go back to that verse where we stopped in our last transmission.

Can you read that again, the 12th verse of the 4th Chapter of the book of John?

Actually, if you are joining us for the very first time, or you'll be with us, you will notice that we've been looking at the implication of the gospel for us in Christ Jesus using the discuss between the Samaritan woman and Jesus as the frame work to actually actualize this.

So as you join us we trust that the Lord will unveil to you the reality of what you know or the reality of what you have received or the reality of what you have believed. Don't forget that the Word of God is written to believers so they can know what they have.

And it is on that note that we are going to continue with the 12th verse of the 4th Chapter of the book of John.

Can you go on please?

John 4

12. Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and he used to drink from it himself and his sons and his cattle also

Good! You can go on to the 13th verse please

13. And Jesus answered her, everyone who drink this water will be thirsty again.

14. But whoever drinks the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again but the water that I give him will become in him a spring of water.

Now thank you for reading those two verses.

A spring of water in Amplified Version has a lot to amplify...

Go on please,

A spring of water satisfying his thirst for God welling up, continually flowing, bubbling within him to eternal life.

Thank you for that.

If you notice we normally have a custom and a tradition on Bucket Ministry Series or in our series where we read verse by verse. But in this particular case, we have to read the two verses of verse 13 and 14 at the same time so that we can tie them in and draw out the implication for us.

Now, reading those two verses even on the surface, you will notice that Jesus seem to be indicating that we don't have a choice about thirst, because if you notice verse 13 says if you drink of this water, you will be thirsty again and verse 14 says if you drink of the water I am going to give to you...

It will mean that in conclusion humanity doesn't have a choice whether they drink or not, everyone would have to drink. Everyone has to drink. Jesus did not say I will tell you something or I will do something or I'm offering something that will stop the need for you to have a drink. That is not what he said.

He only said I am going to give you something different to drink from. He said if you drink from the one that you've been dealing with, Samaritan woman, you will thirst again. But what I am offering, if you drink from that one...

Can you see?

That means everybody has a need to have a drink. It's not something you decide, can I drink or not?

So Jesus is simply saying everybody needs to drink something. There is an innate need in humanity to have a drink. And so what Christ present is I will give you something else to drink from.

So you don't choose if you want to drink or not. Everybody drinks. That is the point.

And that is why we might want to say like some of these adverts or some of these companies that sell drinks, they will say obey your thirst.

So what Jesus is simply saying is, you don't have a choice, everyone will have to obey their thirst. The only choice that people have is where do they drink from? What kind of choice of drink? So humanity has to obey his thirst. That is what is innate to humanity.

Now, before we continue to look at the 13th verse and the 14th verse, if you notice in our last transmission, we began to actually lay the foundation for what the treasures is and all that. And there is something that we did talk about which is the moth, the rust and the thieves where they actually break in and steal.

And Jesus is simply saying that if you drink from the wrong source or if you drink from a source other than the grace of God, it means you know the word drinking there talks about the fact that there has to be a source of water and then somebody is thirsty and they go to the source of water to satisfy their thirsty.

So you don't drink from something unless that thing is producing water and then you go there to satisfy a thirst. Now, that is in the same correlation where you can put treasure in.

First, we have to have something that humanity considers to be the thing that defines who they are. We have to have something that will consider as ultimate value in life. Then we go to that thing and ask that thing to satisfy us, ask that thing to fulfill the thirst or the demand or the void that is within us.

So don't forget, you don't drink until you identify the fact that there is a source of water. And then we go to that source of water. So when Jesus was telling this woman that if you drink from this or if you drink from that, you will thirst again. That cannot be disconnected from the issue of identity.

Identity has to be something that is already we agreed that this is what satisfy. That we agree that this is what fulfills the condition of my satisfaction, my completeness and then I go to that thing to derive meaning from that thing.

And Jesus said there is a problem, whatever you look to, anything you look to, to fulfill that need or satisfy that need, Matthew 6 tells us in our last transmission that whatever it is, it is open to moth, to rust and to thieves.

But the one I want to actually focus on today is... you know you could actually spend time to look at the differences. Jesus could have just said if you lay for yourself treasures on the earth it is subject to being destroy, but he made a distinction between the factors. He said there is the moth factor, there is a rust factor and there is the thief's factor.

But you see, there is one that stands out there. We could spend time to look at each of them, but the one that applies to this 13th verse is the rust factor. The fact that it doesn't matter what that thing is, as long as it is on this side of eternity, it will decay and the law of diminishing return will set in.

So he says, if you drink from that, if you take your satisfaction from that thing, he said don't worry, if you do that it is a matter of time, if you notice he says you will thirst again. Diminishing return will set in and that is what Christ is pointing out here.

Now, for some of you, if you have watched one of our earlier series that we did which is "the Prodigal Father Series." You know we talked about a younger brother who came to a conclusion about how to satisfy his need for relevance and to satisfy his need for importance, his need for recognition. And he went about to satisfy that need and he asked his father for the part of the inheritance that falls unto him. And he went out to do his thing.

But there is a word, the commentary that was given in that particular parable where the Bible said after he began to spend everything that he had, the scriptures says he began to be in want. That is it! He began to be in want.

It means whatever he thought was going to fulfill that quota for him, he came to a point where he began to be in want. It doesn't matter what again is that you consider on this side of eternity. You can look around your life. You can look at what people consider as the ultimate for their life. The scriptures says men will always begin to be in want if they continue to live on in their life.

You could say for some of us who are still very young, you might say No! It doesn't matter. I don't think is true. There is something that ultimately makes life worth living. You might say that. But if you continue to live life, the scriptures say it doesn't matter what you think it is. You will begin to be in want. And a major evidence for that is what we saw in the younger brother.

Come with us as we look at most scriptures today to drive home the point that what Jesus said about the fact that if you drink from this water, you will thirst again. It will not continue to sustain no matter what.

Let's look at John, as an example there, Chapter 6.

I want you to read verse 12.

We look at verse 12 and verse 26.

John 6

12. When they were filled he said unto the disciples, gather up the fragment that remain that nothing be lost.

The summary of this John Chapter 6 verse 12 is the fact that the people were looking for Jesus and they began to follow Jesus and for days, they were with Jesus. And Jesus later found out that they were in need, they needed to be provided for in the wilderness. And then Jesus performed a miracle and satisfied their natural need for food.

Now, this is amazing because for some people who preach the gospel where they say that all you need to do is to believe on the Lord Jesus for eternal life and to believe that he died for your sins, and your sins are forgiven. That Jesus really doesn't really care too much or the gospel of the Lord Jesus is not that relevant to your daily needs. Just believe in Jesus and be saved and go out there and work out and slave out your life to provide for your needs.

We then see, that is not the fullness of the complete reality of the gospel. You could argue and we do agree with that, that the gospel is not about food and drink. The scriptures says the kingdom of God is not meat and drink. It is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. That is true. That is completely true.

What is not true is to simply say that people cannot believe God to provide for their daily needs. That is not true. Provision for your daily need is not the core of the gospel. It's not the foundation of the gospel. But the capacity you have to trust God to meet your daily needs, is a fruit of the gospel.

Can you see?

It's a free benefit of the gospel. It is a fruit. I understand it is a fruit of the gospel, is not the core of the gospel.

So the scriptures tell us that Jesus is the same, Watch that! the same yesterday, Jesus the same today and Jesus the same for ever more. (Hebrews 13)

So if Jesus was concerned in the flesh about the physical needs of people. It means I will say he's still concern about the physical needs of his children, if he is the same yesterday, today and evermore.

So please let us not out of zeal and passion to make things know to people about the fact that some people have merchandized the gospel of the Lord Jesus. Some people have relegated the gospel of the Lord Jesus just to meet their need or to come stomach

infrastructure. We should not because of that then say that we serve a God who is not concern about our daily needs. That will not be complete scriptural.

So we saw Jesus, even though he was preaching the gospel, he was concern about their daily natural needs. So we saw Jesus do something about the physical situation where he provided food them in the wilderness.

And if you notice one thing, he didn't just provide food, he provided more than enough. That is the God that we serve. That when you are asking and you believe the Lord for anything, the book of Ephesians tells us that God is able to do exceedingly abundantly above...

Can you see that?

The Greek word for that is *hullabaloo*. What that means is when you go beyond the expectation, when you exceed the expectation. The God we serve will do exceedingly above all that we could ask or think according to the power that works in us.

So all they wanted was a meal, all they wanted was to be satisfied in the wilderness, but the Lord went beyond whatever they wanted. He actually provided for them with excess. That is the God that we serve.

If you trust the Lord, if you believe the Lord as you are listening to this. I don't know whatever you are trusting the Lord for, I don't know whatever needs, am talking about material needs now not just spiritual. Whatever physical needs you are trusting the Lord for, God is able to do beyond your expectation. In fact God can beat your imagination according to Ephesians 3. That is what we see in the Word of God.

So that's what happened here. They had twelve baskets.

Can you see?

The God who does more than enough. That is why he's called the El-Shaddai.

Can you see that?

So that is the background of the 12th verse of the book of John Chapter 6. That is what we see there.

So that means you can get double for the price of one. More than double because even the Psalmist was talking about so many benefits of the price of his death and resurrection. You can have as many as you want. So as you get spiritual nourish today, you can lash on physical blessing, whatsoever you want. Healing are children's bread. That is it.

So he is concern, he is much more concern about our daily needs.

So we saw there that Jesus was preaching the gospel but meeting physical needs.

So that is the background of the 12th verse.

So can you read the 12th verse of John Chapter 6?

11. And Jesus took the loaves and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

Don't forget our 1 Timothy 6 **“tell them that are rich in in this world not to trust in uncertain rich but in the living God who gives us all things richly to enjoy.”**

That is the God we serve, more than enough. As much as you would today.

It is available today as much as they would.

Eat all you can.

That is it!

That is the God that we serve.

12. When they were filled

Now watch that word!

when they were filled.

Can you see?

Don't be afraid to trust God for abundance. Don't be scared. Don't allow some teachings or some kind of popular opinion, doctrine to simply say that any time you trust the Lord for abundance, it means you are going to greed or you are going to caution or you become materialistic. Some people even say that it means you'll be getting materialistic when you are trusting the Lord to be filled.

Well, again materialism is got nothing to do with that. I will encourage to look for our past episode where we shown by the Word of God that treasures is got nothing to do with things, but it got everything to do with where is your heart?

Can you see that?

Please don't let people then teach you a minimalistic gospel. We are not simply saying become exuberance, the scriptures says everything must be done in moderation but the reality is your being greedy or your being somebody materialistic is not about the things in themselves, it's about where is your heart?

And that is the reason why Jesus has diversity of disciples. He had Joseph Arimathea who the Bible says he was a rich disciple. He didn't say he was a rich person who wanted to know Jesus. The scriptures qualifies him as the disciples of the Lord Jesus.

Being a disciples of the Lord Jesus is not a joke because Jesus said if you continue in my Word, then you are my disciples indeed and you will know the truth and it will make you free. It means to be a disciple indeed, there are prerequisites. The requirement is to continue in the Word of the Lord Jesus.

So we can say by the Holy Ghost that Joseph Arimathea was continuing in the Words of the Lord Jesus to be a disciples of the Lord Jesus yet he was a rich disciple. But with Jesus are disciples also who didn't have much of physical things in the world.

So please let us not compartmentalize and constrain the gospel to people's circumstances. The fact we are making is God is not scare if you are filled with abundance of the things you ask from him even if they are material things as we see in the Word of God.

So that means some people might be here and they cut themselves off from the bandwidth of God's provision because they don't want to take much.

Because they are scare.

Some will take twos, some will take five. It depends on your capacity for abundance. So are you scare to be blessed?

That is it!

You don't have to be because you want to sound as if I don't want to become materialistic.

No! that is not what the issue is. The issue is where your heart is. You can have nothing but your heart can be in things. It's your heart.

Jesus said wherever your treasure is that is where your heart is. So your heart is the one you guard with all diligence not in things.

Can you see that?

when they were filled, he said unto the disciples gather up the fragment that remain that nothing be lost.

You might say this is unnecessary excess. That is why the God you serve is the God of the unnecessary. He doesn't care blessing you more beyond what your expectations are. Blessed be God for that!

The book of popular Psalm 23 says “he will prepare a table before you in the presence of your enemy. He will anoint your head with oil that your cup overflows. Can you see the run over?

The God of excess. More than enough.

This is an evidence to show us that Jesus in the flesh was able to bless them beyond their expectations and don't forget he is the same yesterday, today and forever more. That is it!

Now, the reason I say she should read them is because we are going somewhere today. Don't forget we are on the 13th and on the 14th verse of John Chapter 4 looking at this Samaritan woman.

You've read verse 12. Now can you read verse 26 so that we can save time?

John 6

26. Jesus answered them and said

Now again, let me explain the gap between verse 12 and verse 25. The reason we are doing this again is because we don't want to lose focus of John Chapter 4 where we came from.

You can read this. Please read this yourself. Be like the Berean Christians who checked if those things were so that Paul was preaching and teaching.

So to summarize, when they had their filled and there was excess, basket taken up and all that. Now the next day again, they had to come up all the way to look for Jesus. In fact, it wasn't easy. They couldn't find Jesus where they left him the day before.

The scriptures say they had to go on to the other side, they had to take boat. They had to go to an extra length. They had to in a way go through inconvenience and discomfort so that they could locate Jesus the next day. That was the gap between verse 12 and 25.

Now, verse 26, what does it says?

26. When they found him, Jesus answered them and said verily, verily I say to you, Ye seek me not because you saw the miracle but because ye did eat of the loaves and were filled.

27. Labour not for the meat

Now, don't use all your energy or you can say don't try to drink...

Now go on please

for the meat which perishes.

The one that will make you thirsty again or the one that rust.

You know perish there mean rust will set in. It means the law of diminishing return will always set in. It will over time begin to lose value so you would have to need it again.

So, he said don't put all your energy, don't put all your effort. All!

Let's put it this way, don't put your heart.

That's again... you could see the consistency of the Word of God. Let not your heart be into anything that will perish. Into anything that will make you thirsty again, into anything that will make you have a need again, into anything that will not continually sustain your sense of identity, of relevance, of importance.

Now, go on please

but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life.

You can put it this way. We can actually superimpose John Chapter 12 verse 27 unto John Chapter 4 verse 13 & 14.

Now, do you know what really amazes me here? This is where it's something that should amaze you as well, that anytime we talk about people putting their heart into things, anytime you put your heart into anything on this earth. Not because you want to use those things to meet your needs, but because you want to use those things as a means of sustaining your identity, your value, who are you?

Don't forget the Samaritan woman, she said to Jesus, I being a Samaritan woman.

You know things are not just things anymore but our heart has gone into things. So we are then trying to say unless I achieve that, unless I get to that point, unless I have that thing then who am I? Am nothing.

It means your laboring or your effort now is that you are laboring for things that will not eventually continually provide what they are promising you.

And then what is amazing there... I was saying the other time is because this people are going to use Jesus, can you see?

That is why when we talked about these things, a lot of people who are in the church they might say well, it doesn't matter, I go to church, I go to Bible study, I listen to the Word of God and I believe that Jesus died and resurrected because of my sins and because of that, this doesn't apply to me. This apply to people who are chasing things in this world, without believing in Jesus for their life.

But listen to this, this people in this case, did not leave Jesus to go out there to labour for meat that perishes. This people did not leave Jesus to go to their place of work to labour

for meat that perishes. They did not leave Jesus to focus on their status in the society. They did not leave Jesus to focus on stomach infrastructure. They did not leave Jesus to derive their meaning from anything else. But they were going to use Jesus as a means.

So every time they actually were going to come to Jesus, they were coming to Jesus so that they can use him as a means to achieve the very things they believed gives them relevance. And that is where it is a bit scary.

Just because somebody is calling on the name of Jesus is not enough reason to believe that behind that functionally they have something else that they believe is more real to them, something else they believe gives them relevance, something else behind that, that is more ultimate to them than the very name of Jesus they are calling upon.

That is why the Apostle John wrote to his listeners, he said 'little children keep yourself from idols. He was talking to those people who are ready children of God.

Can you see that?

That is what we see in the word of God.

So just simply we are going to use Jesus as a means that were something else.

So today that is what we see today that possibly could it be that some people who are Christian, who are born again today are only merely could be using that particular status or that particular thing, the new birth in Christ, the something else.

Some people they say well, if I give my life to Jesus, it means I have a tool by which I can solve my life's problem. You know some say I have some enemies that are chasing me, I have some people that don't want me to succeed in life, and somebody told me that If I believe in Jesus, I will have power to destroy my enemies. You know what that means?

What that means is, your believing in Jesus in your own psyche is a means for you to achieve something else which is more important to you than the very life of Christ.

So it means Jesus was just a tool that you can use and that is why for some of them, every time they come into Christ, if that particular thing wasn't solved or that enemy wasn't destroyed as they expected, somebody could lose heart because actually that was the main thing.

So what we are trying to do today by the grace of God is to show you that this thing about this people might look very far fetch but in reality, it abounds in most places today even in the body of Christ.

So please just because we are calling on the name of Jesus, what we want to know today is, what is more important to you? What was the means to an end that Jesus was for you

when you give your life to Jesus Christ? That will be functionally what you are trying to drink from. What Jesus is simply saying is, if that is what you are drinking from, you will always thirst again. That is what we see there.

I will like to refer our audience to one of our past transmission on 'worldliness in the place of prayer' because people might be just looking for spectacle to get worldliness in the life of people that are outside the church, that people don't frequent church program, who doesn't come regularly for church program.

Some people today, we can see that the way the prayer points are structure, and even the services that people are doing, the zeal that people are putting to those services was actually to get credit points. Like walking in the Old Testament mentality, you can see the zeal. You consider my work then I should be this favoured of you or this or I should get this.

So all these activities are geared towards getting point, so that you can use it to blackmail God. So people can be in the church and still be laboring for meat around Jesus, laboring for meat that perishes.

Thank you for that.

Now, in conclusion then before we go on, we could then say that people could use their salvation or could use the fact that they believe in Jesus as a tool, as something as a means for something else, as a means of control like in this case we talk about.

This then reminds me, we've talked about this before. Please just to get a deeper insight into the things we are sharing today, you might be able to understand things better if you listen to our 'Prodigal father series' where we saw the elder brother right there, all his obedience, all his sacrifice because by his own admission, he said he was all out in the field. He was in the farm everyday slaving himself out and laboring. And he said he was doing all that yet the father did not consider killing a kid for him ever. And now the other younger son has come back home and after he has wasted all the father's resources, the father killed a fatted cow for him.

Now the reason we made that statement is, for him everything he was doing, all the obedience, all the morality that he was displaying, all the services that he was doing, it was not about the father, it was about him. He wanted to use that to gain a control, a leverage on the father. And when he did not get that leverage, he became angry and disappointed.

That is how you know for those people who are laboring for meat that perishes using the name of Jesus, like this people in verse 26.

When there is a delay in the miracle, you see them they acting... because it was not all about Christ. It was not all about the Father. It was just that I will use him to gain something else.

Some can even go threatening, am going to leave this service, am going to leave this work. That is the point!

For some people they use it to threaten other people under them. Some, they can't even access God and then they try to use people and people want to feel like I want to see the face of ... we don't allow this. It's just blackmailing. That is it!

There are some people that if they don't... that is why we are simply saying today that you need to guard your heart with all diligence for out of it flows the issues of life. Jesus is simply saying in John 4:13 &14 that where are you drinking from?

And that word drink is a metaphor. It simply means what is the thing that gives you meaning? What is the thing that drives your sense of value and significance? Where do you get your sense of worth from? Where do you get your sense of significance from?

He says if that thing is anything else other than Christ, what will happen is, you will always need that thing to continually supply. You will thirst again. It will not permanently satisfy. It will put you in a situation of addiction where you will always need it again and again.

And that is why you will notice some people in the church, if they decide to become leaders of people in the church or if they are in a church or they are born again and there is something they are aiming for and as soon as they don't have it, watch their reaction!

For you yourself, if you are struggling today to see what am I drinking from? Am I actually drinking from Christ? Or am I drinking from anything else that will make thirsty again? The way you can know is any time you don't achieve those goals, anytime somebody blocks your way from getting to those things or there is a delay in getting those things. Watch you reactions.

If you become frustrated, if you become angry and you become unnecessarily depress because of it, disappointed, dejected. We are not saying you wouldn't feel bad, it is okay to feel bad about things when you don't achieve your goal. But if that thing completely devastate you and makes you feel completely worthless and you feel as if you are empty inside. Could it be that you have been drinking or you have been seeking meaning from those things?

Look at this John Chapter 12 in this 26th verse. If you have the time because we don't want to be distracted on today's transmission. If you read 27, 28 all the way down, you will notice that those people got angry and they left Jesus.

Anger and disappointment is always the hall mark for this, because eventually they left! They walked away. They said what's your problem? They even told them, he is asking us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. What is he talking about? They just left him.

And the reason for that because they thought they could climb on him and used him as a tool. And when they were not getting that, they just became disappointed. They got angry. And that is the same thing.

The principle is consistent with the younger brother as well. It is a consistent principle that you see. Anytime people get angry, any time people get touchy, any time they fight tooth and nail because you are touching something about their life, it could mean that is where they are drinking from.

And Jesus is inviting us to simply say, if you are not born again, because you might be wondering how does this apply to you that John Chapter 4 for you as a believer in Christ Jesus? You have already drank from Christ. You are a new creation in Christ Jesus. You can argue and say well, John Chapter 4 verse 13, 14 doesn't apply to me as a believer.

But let us say this in a nutshell, to simply say an unbeliever has a false identity but a believer in Christ Jesus as long as you are on this side of eternity, you will always be contending and struggling with false identity.

Can you see the difference?

Those are two different statement.

An unbeliever doesn't have a choice and his fate is already sealed. His life is the old man. He lives by the principle of the old man. He lives by the law of sin and death. That is for somebody who actually has not received Christ but for you, if you are born again and if you have received Christ Jesus into your life. You ought to understand that the scriptures says that sin shall have no dominion over you for you are no more under law but under grace. That was not written to unbelievers that was written to believers so that you can know what you have.

So when you know what you have, you can use that as a resource to deal with what you are facing. Can you see that?

That is why believers and unbelievers will face similar challenges, the only difference is for an unbeliever that is his life, but from you as a believer, you have a different life and that is the life of Christ. You have to then draw upon that life and look at false identity in the face, that is not who I am.

So we are talking to both parties today and that is why this applies to you as well for you to know that as a believer in Christ Jesus, you cannot continue to look at anything else for your meaning. You cannot drink from any other source. Christ is your life. Christ is your

meaning. Whatever Christ says about you is who you are. Let nothing else label you. Let nothing else name you. Let nothing else satisfy you except Christ Jesus that is what we see there.

As we examine ourselves then we should examine the atmosphere of people that have influence over us. We should not be carried away when we look at verse 22 of this John Chapter 6. It was telling about the great length people went to hear Jesus. They had to make an investment in the boat whether they hire it or something, they had to make some journey to cross the end of the sea, from one part of the world to another part of the earth again to get Jesus.

So we see so many of the passion, we see the display of energy here. And so we might have found ourselves in a place where a captive audience for people like this, who are holding us in hostage by all these sacrifices, all their personal history and story of what they had done for God or what they had done in the past and blackmailing us with this.

Because they could use those tools for Jesus, where have you been? Don't you see? We have to move from this point to the other side of the sea. Don't you see we went for the boat to see we are so serious, is not just we are not just going to take like that lightly? We have to invest into this and put our days and days into it just to blackmail.

And so if we are not doing this ourselves, if we look at our life through this word and is not like that, we just have to be careful for those people that will have influence over us under the atmosphere we are, that we don't allow anybody to blackmail us with all these display of passion, with all these stories and sacrifices and know and be able to separate what bread it is. What bread is the one they are displaying? Is it the one that perishes? What is the ultimate focus here? Are we seeking Christ? Is it the knowledge of Christ is that the ultimate, or is it that we are going to use as a means?

Thank you for bringing out that insight to this discussion.

It is really amazing that people will slave out, they will sacrifice, they will pay the price, they will gather together in the name of Jesus.

Can you see that?

They were gathering unto Jesus, they were looking for Jesus. They were seeking Jesus. And they made such a great effort, but yet ultimately behind the seeking of Jesus was meant to use him to get bread that perishes.

Can you see that?

So I think today we shouldn't be carried away by the fact that people are going to the mountains and going to the valleys and gathering, fasting and all that. Because if you are not careful, if you ask the real question why are we doing this? Are we doing this so that

we can come to an understanding of the knowledge of the truth of Christ? Or are all these efforts engineered towards using the name of Jesus to actually go for what is really important to us? That is what we have to find out.

We have to really exercise ourselves to maturity because this same bread, it was Jesus that provided it the day before. That is the thing. So we have to know when to give up on the understanding of how we relate with bread. So we don't get confuse.

Thank you for this.

Because sometimes it might be so difficult to actually blame some and say all these miracles and they now begin to walk practically over and become consumed by, were just the product of happening, just in that place of worship before it now consume, everybody is now pursuing that outside the experience of Christ.

So this bread was actually, it was God's provision.

Thank you from that.

Now, the reason why am quite happy that you raise that point. Thank you for bringing this dimension to the discussion.

You know as people, as men or women, we think we are smart in a way we deal with excesses as humans. You know people can argue for example, if God knew that the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was going to be a danger, a trap to Adam and Eve, why did he put that in the Garden of Eden?

For some of us, we think well, the only way to have done in the garden was to completely eradicate any possibility for them to fall into the temptation of that. And using that as a reasoning, you could then argue that if God knows that if we have things in this world or we have excess or abundance of resources in this world, that people's hearts can be in things and they can made those things treasures.

Maybe poverty will be a best approach God could use for people and make sure that believers in Christ in Jesus are deprived of the good things of this world, you are deprived of having resources and having enough money to live the kind of life that you want to live.

Having enough resources for you to live in the kind of place you want to live in, or having enough resources to pursue the academic qualification you want to pursue or having the kind of family that you wanted to have, the kind of relationship that you are looking for. And they say well, God should have deprived us of all those things so that there will be no need for our hearts to be in those things.

But God never does that. The Bible calls him in James Chapter 1, “every good gift and perfect gift comes down from the Father of light in whom there is no shadow of turning.” And if this good and perfect gift is coming down from him, he knows that there is a tendency where those who are not drinking from Christ, who are not being sustained by the life of Christ, those who are not getting their meaning from the revelation of Christ, those people will have a tendency of putting their heart into things. But yet, God is not scare to bless us with those things.

People are going to get trap anyway.

That is why some people today just because they want to campaign against people who have merchandized the gospel, against people who have become materialistic with the gospel. Some people will say you know what? Jesus is not interested in you saying Father bless me with resources, No! No! Some people preach that gospel.

You see, you cannot be holier than God. You cannot be more concern than God. You cannot be much more understandable in this matter than God. The very Lord Jesus who said we shouldn't labour for meat that perishes is the same Lord Jesus who blessed them with so much excess that they even had to have 12 baskets full.

Let us preach the full gospel!

You see, this really reminds me when we were doing this teaching on giving. You know today, some people are very scare to teach about graceful giving because they think that people have merchandized giving, people have manipulated people and they put so much pressure on people and they're actually taking their lamps and houses all in the name of giving for the sake of the gospel. So some people well, because of that, we will never teach about giving so that people don't think...

Well, you cannot be understandable in this matter beyond God.

Can you see?

God is not afraid to ensure that we are blessed beyond our imagination. The scriptures says about him I think one place in the book of Psalms, he says “the God who delights in the prosperity of his servants.” It doesn't matter whether you think is spiritual prosperity or physical prosperity. God delights in our wellbeing.

Can you see?

1John tells us, I wish above all things that you will being in health. You mean that is spiritual health? No! You will be in health and prosper even as your soul prosper.

Can you see?

It means the soul prosperity wasn't the health and wellbeing he was talking about in previous statement.

Can you see?

Prosperity that cuts across the border of soul, and spirit.

He said God is not bother about mesmerizing us with his daily benefits. But at the same time, he wants us to come to a point, where we know that none of those things can be our treasure. Our heart can never be in there.

So don't compartmentalize and then say, well, the only way to avoid people from laboring for meat that perishes is to deprive them of the meat or just to give them tiny meat, so it won't be in excess. That is it! God never does that. Neither should we in the presentation of the gospel to people.

And that is what we see there that Jesus in verse 12 was happy to bless them with abundance, but also in verse 26 he was also ensuring that even though they were blessed with abundance that people will never put their heart into any of the abundance that they has.

So we are saying today that you must walk the narrow the path when it comes to the gospel, that you must trust the Lord for supernatural provision. You must trust the Lord for resources beyond what your mind can encapsulate. You must trust the Lord for breaking forth beyond what human ability can make available for you. You must trust the Lord to receive beyond your imagination.

But at the same time, you must trust the Lord that you will be so enchanted with the reality of Christ that only he can define you and none of those things can define you. That is the balance of the gospel that we saw Jesus manifest in John Chapter 6 verse 12 and verse 26.

So verse 26 does not counter verse 12 and verse 12 does not counter verse 26. They can work together upon the same set of people. That is what we see there.

So thank you for brining that into that.

So that is what we see in the Word of God.

So what Jesus then in John Chapter 4 when he began to say that don't drink of that water because it will make you thirsty again. He was never saying, can you see? I don't want to have any dealing with any water apart from the one I'm going to give to you. He is only saying don't drink from it. The drinking there stands for satisfaction.

So it means you can have as many waters, don't drink from them. Don't get satisfy with them. So it's a statement of satisfaction of meaning. That is what John 4: 13 and 14 is all about. The meaning and the satisfaction that is what is important to God.

Now, the reason why that is important to God is that only Christ want to have that right in our life, of satisfaction, of meaning, only Christ wants to take that place. It doesn't... Christ is happy with whatever we have, whether he's happy or he is not threaten about anything in this world, he can provide for us with 12 baskets full, excess but what Christ will not have is if we are being define by those things.

And so please, you need to read verse 13 of the fourth Chapter of the book of John that the drinking of the water that Christ was talking about was about satisfaction, that is what that John 4:13 is all about.

And again, Christ was providing the reasons for it because he know that it is pointless. It is a never ending cycle of exercise, just come, you thirst again and come again and thirst again and thirst again. It doesn't make any sense. That is it!

It never satisfies. Isn't it?

So your life will not revolve around wells. We see people there life revolves around well, because they have to come again and again.

And the reason why Christ did say it doesn't satisfy is, it's very practicable, is something you can look at in your life, or you can consider in a moment. If you notice, there are some levels of some satisfaction that you are getting from some things at the moment before but you will notice that after some time, it doesn't give you that same kick anymore. Even for your job, you get a new promotion in your job or there is a new opportunity that comes into you, it become exciting. You feel great about yourself, but after some time you will notice it doesn't provide the same level of satisfaction it was providing before.

It could be a new relationship that you've entered into, and you say oh! that person am with at the moment, oh! They deeply satisfy me. This is what I have been looking for all my life. People have written a lot songs out there talking about the fact that you complete me. You make my life beautiful. You make my life worth living and because of the new friendship, a new relationship. But you see what happens after some times, it doesn't just provide the same level of satisfaction it provided at the beginning.

The words of Jesus is practical, it's what we see. Some people they want to say if I achieve some level of prosperity or achieve some money, if it comes to my bank account, oh! how wonderful life will be. And you see, for some people, it does happen, and when it happens, you will notice it's a matter of time, it doesn't continue to provide the same satisfaction it provided at the beginning.

The words of Jesus are all around us. You can see.

You will need to break through to another level of challenge to keep up with them. That is why he said you will thirst again. It's not easy. It's very stressful. That is the point.

Even for those people who are addicted to drugs or to anything else, you see they will take a dosage at the moment and it seems oh! they have fix the kick or something they had they think is fixed, that is why they say they want to go for a fix. Can you see? They think is fix.

But you know what? What happens is, they found out that the diminishing return set in and the next time, the same level of dosage that provided the fixing before might not in most cases meet the level of satisfaction they want. So they have to increase the dosage, so they can achieve the same level of satisfaction. It's very frustrating.

And Jesus said, this is how humanity lives their life without the approval and the affirmation that comes from the gospel of the Lord Jesus. And the reason why people do that, is because they want to get things, they want to get approval from those things. They want to get affirmation from those things.

Can you see?

And when you get the approval today, you have to do more, that is why you see some people they live off ratings. They are satisfy when everybody is speaking great about them. It makes life worth living for them. For those people, human approval has become well we are drinking from.

Can you see?

So the word drinking in verse 13 is about satisfaction.

But you see when that happens, you will notice that it doesn't cut it anymore. You will need more people talking about you. You will need it. So you will go to all length to achieve that. Jesus said you will thirst again. It is not safe. It is not a safe place to be when it comes to life.

So Christ is saying what about you come to a point where I accept you not because of your performance, not because of the number of people around you, not because of your bank account, not because of your status, not because of your position, not because of your degree, not because of anything. I'm only going to accept you because of my sacrifice.

It means I will affirm you, I will confirm you, I will accept you not because of you, but because am offering this to you as a gift. This is what quietens our soul. That is why the Psalmist said in Psalm 23 when he says "he leads me beside still water."

Can you see?

He restores my soul.

This is what restore the soul of humanity, when you know... that satisfy, that quench the thirst for forever. He quenches the thirst, that inner murmur. That thing that is always saying am I enough? Am I good enough? Am I capable? Am I to be reckon with? Am I important? Am I somebody of substance? Am I somebody of value?

This is why there is a thirst going on now to try and squeeze it out of people, you are going to squeeze it out of people. You want to squeeze it out of family. You want to squeeze out of your wife. You want to squeeze it out of your husband. You want to squeeze it out of your children. You want to squeeze it out of your member of your church. You want to squeeze it out of your job to say am I good enough? Am I complete? Am I a great person? Am I useless? We are asking these question from things.

Jesus said don't ask that question from things. If you ask from things, if things answer you the answer is temporary. You will thirst again. You will need more things to answer that question. But Jesus is saying through the gospel, I answered that question over your life into the gospel. I said you are that precious that I will pour out my blood for you. You are that very critical that I will go out of my way, I will become man, I will become poor- that is Jesus. I will take on poverty to get you.

Can you see?

I will drop my glory. I will take on the form of the servant to get you.

Can you see?

I will take on human flesh to look for you. That is why he said about the man who lost one sheep, he went all the way looking ... that is the kind of looking people are looking for, that am I that important that somebody is looking out for me everywhere? Am I that valuable? Jesus answered that question through the gospel. Through his death, his burial and resurrection. He answered that question.

And that is the only answer that will quieten your soul, that will restore your soul. So he warns us if you drink from anywhere else, if you look for satisfaction anywhere else, you thirst again.

Watch it!

It's a matter of time.

You know, for some people they are actually better off if the aspiration of their heart is not satisfied. You might be wondering what am I saying? Some of you probably, this happen to people that are probably younger because older people have become sarcastic

anyway, older people have gotten to a point where they become apathy. They will say, well, we've tried everything.

But for younger people who are just young and bustling... they can say oh yes! If only I can get that, if I get to that place, if I can travel to that country, if I can change my location and move to other place, if I can meet that man, if I can get to this level, am telling you, life has just started for me.

For some of you, the more you think about it, the more you feel this is going to make life become great, that is the best you can be because if you get at it, it might be worse because when you get at it and you notice that I think I need something else to get the same level of kick.

That is why that aspiration is what help some people to think, to stay safe because once you get it, Jesus is simply saying that thing will not answer the question you've be asking for.

So please the focus today is this, Jesus never said...I think maybe the next future if the Lord will help by his grace. I believe the Lord has helped us, we might be talking about things Jesus never said.

Now, Jesus never said don't deal with things. Jesus never said don't enjoy things in abundance as we saw in John 6 verse 12. Jesus never said I am not interested in you having more than enough. He never said that. What Jesus said is don't drink from those things. That is what he said. Let us not mix it up.

Don't drink means don't take satisfaction of life from them. That is not what they are supposed to do. You are supposed to use them. You are supposed to enjoy the benefits of the earth. The earth is the Lord and its fullness thereof. Enjoy as much as you can. Don't let anybody preach you out of the enjoyment of the abundance and the fatness of the earth. But Jesus say don't drink. And the word drink there is don't take satisfaction of your thirst from anything else because you will thirst again.

This is all the time we have today and I hope that it's presented to you to choose this day just like Joshua was saying. Jesus was saying to this woman, you still have the well of Jacob, you've been drinking, you've been coming over and over again to this well.

So Jesus need to just remind you, you will get thirst again. You might have another well which when you drink from this, thirst is completely satisfied, is quenched. You wouldn't need to make this trip and trip again.

And so today he's presented to you that you will be the smart one and make a choice for that living water so that it will quench your thirst forever, because if not you are going to push this thirst and frustration to other people around you. People are not safe and you

will not be safe if you don't get this thirst questions answer. If you don't have your thirst being quenched. You are going to push it on people. You push it on yourself and it spills over to everybody around you, spill over to your immediate relatives, even extended, to your church member, co-workers, spilling over to the society. That's the question of people not getting their thirst answer.

And so Jesus is calling us in this passage that yet, he is the living water, I want us to settle it that way. Settle this thirst. You can't do anything against the thirst, you just have to settle it. We settle it the right way with the living water.

Before you round up, you know before we finish up today, I just want to... just on this area so that we don't talk about this in our next transmission.

Now, how will it sound to you if somebody, I want to use a physical example... somebody has a cup of water and he drinks the cup of water and he then said maybe in a day and he was saying am surprise that after a day I still need to drink another cup of water? Nobody get surprise. Nobody get a bit say oh! Why do you need to drink again after all I drank? You don't say that because you expected that you are going to thirst again.

Now, that is an indication of how it is with things in this world. The only people that have a problem is those who didn't expect to be thirsty again. So that is why some people are saying today, if I get that, I think that is it.

See! You only get disappointed. You only get frustrated, if you didn't expect that there will be a level of thirst. It means that you have to obey your thirst in different way.

And so what Jesus is simply saying is, everybody will have to obey their thirst but the question is, from where are they going to drink from?

So when Christ begin to say, if you drink this, you will thirst again, it sounds to me like a redundant statement on the surface. Because I know I'm going to thirst again. But he is saying that to people who didn't expect to be thirsty again.

So but he said if you drink, if you take from me, if you receive life, if you meditate, if you think upon the reality of death, burial and resurrection of what I called you. You will be satisfied. And you will use things but not drinking from this. That is what we see there.

So you will just live with the liberty to enjoy and quench your thirst. Don't be ashamed of the thirst, just know that you just have to quench it the right way, get the right drink from it.

If this bless you we will like to receive comments from you, we want to receive word of encouragement, we want to see you living this word. We want to see you sharing this.

So we want to welcome you again and invite you for the next transmission as we see you on your page, on you newsfeed, on the youtube, on the website.

We want to say till we see you again, that is continuing with this John Chapter 4 from 13, 14 and up to verse 15.

We want to say as you have receive Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in him.

God bless you.

Obey your thirst!