

DO YOU KNOW HIM?
"The Invitation is Open"
John 7:37-39

INTRODUCTION:

1. Some Statistics:

- a) 2 billion people in the world woke up this morning with no electricity.
- b) Tonight 1/3 of the world will go to bed hungry.
- c) 1.3 billion people in this world exist on less than \$1 a day.

2. If you are a whiner...Satan loves you.

- a) *Philippians 2:14-15*
- b) *Galatians 5:22-23*

3. The #1 reason people whine and bellyache is because they are not satisfied.

4. VERY IMPORTANT: You cannot worship and whine at the same time!!! WOW!!!

5. Chapter 7 is a chapter of "whiners."

- a) The Jews (Religious leaders) are complaining about Jesus healing on the Sabbath.
1) Vs 14-15
- b) Jesus' brothers are whining about Jesus to show his power @ the Celebration.
1) Vs 2-5
- c) And much of the crowd was complaining about Jesus.
1) Vs 20, 25-27

6. Vs 32-36

7. Vs 37

- a) "Jesus stood up and cried out, 'If any man thirst, let him come to me'"

8. Vs 1-2

- a) It is the Feast of Booths.
1) It lasted for 8 days.
2) *Leviticus 23:33-44*

9. John Phillips on this passage:

- a) The last day of the Feast was a Special Day.
- b) It was to be a holy convocation ... a solemn assembly.
- c) At this feast the people thanked God for the harvest.

- d) Very Important: The Jews had added another ritual.
- 1) This added part acknowledged their dependence on God for the rain.
 - 2) Because without rain there would be no harvest.
 - 3) Here it is:
 - a. For each of the first 7 days of the feast, @ early dawn, the priests and the people joined in joyful procession and made their way with a golden pitcher to get water from the Pool of Siloam.
 - b. They would then pour out the water @ the west end of the altar as the temple choir burst into the great Hallel - Psalm 113-118
- e) Every day of the feast - @ a certain time of the day all the people would bring a piece of fruit while having a branch in their other hand.

I. THE INVITATION JESUS EXTENDS - Vs 37 (3 words)

A. THIRST

1. Vs 37a
 - a) "If anyone **thirsts**..."
2. Have you ever been thirsty?

B. COME

1. Vs 37b
 - a) "let him **come** to me and drink"
2. 4:10-15

C. DRINK

1. Vs 37
 - a) "and **drink**"
2. It is possible for you to be in church and Christ not be in you?
3. John 6:53-54
 - a) To "**drink**" is to appropriate Jesus into your life.
 - 1) Means to take to oneself.

4. THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA by C.S. Lewis

a) "The Silver Chair"

"Are you not thirsty?" said the Lion.

"I am dying of thirst," said Jill.

"Then drink," said the Lion.

"May I — could I — would you mind going away while I do?" said Jill.

The Lion answered this only by a look and a very low growl. And as Jill gazed at its motionless bulk, she realized that she might as well have asked the whole mountain to move aside for her convenience.

The delicious rippling noise of the stream was driving her nearly frantic.

"Will you promise not to — do anything to me, if I do come?" said Jill.

"I make no promise," said the Lion.

Jill was so thirsty now that, without noticing it, she had come a step nearer.

"Do you eat girls?" she said.

"I have swallowed up girls and boys, women and men, kings and emperors, cities and realms," said the Lion. It didn't say this as if it were boasting, nor as if it were sorry, nor as if it were angry. It just said it.

"I daren't come and drink," said Jill.

"Then you will die of thirst," said the Lion.

"Oh dear!" said Jill, coming another step nearer. "I suppose I must go and look for another stream then."

"There is no other stream," said the Lion."

II. THE BLESSINGS JESUS INTENDS

1. Vs 38

2. Psalm 34:8

a) "Taste and see that the Lord is good"

3. Davis College Pastor's Conference:

a) "Your spiritual growth is directly linked to your pain threshold!"

4. Vs 38

a) Jesus is not just focused on you....Jesus is focused on what He wants you to do!

1) "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water"

CONCLUSION:

Make Me a Blessing

Out in the high-ways and by-ways of life,
Many are weary and sad;
Carry the sunshine where darkness is rife,
Making the sorrowing glad.

CHORUS:

Make me a blessing, Make me a blessing --
Out of my life May Jesus shine;
Make me a blessing, O Savior, I pray,
Make me a blessing to someone today.

Tell the sweet story of Christ and His love,
Tell of His power to forgive;
Others will trust Him if only you prove
True, every moment you live.

Give as 'twas given to you in your need,
Love as the Master loved you;
Be to the helpless a helper indeed,
Unto your mission be true.