

## WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR WATER?

### Jeremiah 2:1-13

Introduction: Salmonella scare due to tomatoes and jalapenos. Some of these vegetables were raised in areas where sanitation is suspect. The water supplies are tainted.

#### I. GOD HAS PROVIDED A CRYSTAL CLEAR FOUNTAIN.

- A. God provides what is best. He is not a god of the mediocre. He is not a god of the almost, but not quite. He is not a god of compromise. He is a God who gives what is best. In verses 6 and 7, he reminded Israel of his provision when he led them out of Egypt. *<sup>6</sup>“They did not say, ‘Where is the Lord Who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, Who led us through the wilderness, Through a land of deserts and of pits, Through a land of drought and of deep darkness, Through a land that no one crossed And where no man dwelt?’ <sup>7</sup>”I brought you into the fruitful land To eat its fruit and its good things. But you came and defiled My land, And My inheritance you made an abomination. In John 4, Jesus described this fountain of spiritual water to the Samaritan woman. <sup>13</sup>Jesus answered and said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; <sup>14</sup>but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.” (John 4:13-14 NASB95)*
1. Recount story of Daddy Colvin’s deep well.
- B. Because we are broken by sin, we need to drink deeply from God’s fountain of life. Because we have been deceived by Satan, the father of lies, we need to drink deeply from the fountain of life. Because we live in a world that questions God and assaults our faith, we need to drink deeply from the fountain of life. God in

Christ has provided for us the fountain of living water. However, . . .

## II. OUR BEST EFFORTS ARE NOTHING BUT POLLUTED CISTERNS.

- A. Jeremiah communicated God's indictment. <sup>12</sup>*"Be appalled, O heavens, at this, And shudder, be very desolate," declares the Lord. <sup>13</sup>"For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns That can hold no water.* Israel was guilty of two crimes before God. They had forsaken the fountain of living water. They had turned their back on the God who had delivered them. They had turned their back on the God who had protected them. They had turned their back on the God who had provided for them. They had turned their back on the one who had given them their identity. But that wasn't bad enough. They crafted a crude substitute for God. They dug spiritual cisterns that would not hold water. They had begun to worship the false gods of their day. They sacrificed at their altars. They joined in the revelry. They bowed in worship at their idols. They fashioned a replacement for God. Their efforts were futile at best.
- B. We are as apt as they to dig our own cisterns. We are willing to accept poor substitutes for the life that is ours in Jesus Christ.
1. We want identity and worth so we accumulate possessions and boast about our accomplishments.
  2. We want to feel like we matter, so we fill our lives with activity and brag about our busyness.
  3. We want to feel, so we fill our lives with sensual pleasures and revel in the fleeting moments of happiness and pleasure.

- C. The harder we work at these substitutes, the worse we feel. The more we strive to replace God with something else, the more miserable we become.

### III. WE ARE IN A CONSTANT SEARCH FOR SATISFACTION.

- A. Jeremiah delivered a striking message from God. <sup>12</sup>*"Be appalled, O heavens, at this, And shudder, be very desolate," declares the Lord. <sup>13</sup>"For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns That can hold no water.*
- B. God made us to know him. Sin has broken that fellowship. Satan is the master liar and great deceiver. He is doing everything in his power to keep us from the blessing of God. When we are willing to embrace the truth, we will know that there is no substitute for knowing God. There is no substitute for walking with him. There is no substitute for filling our hearts and minds with the truth of his word. There is no substitute for our relationship with his bride, the church. There is no substitute for serving him.