

#1



The Times of Refreshing

Isaiah 28:11-12 (NKJV) For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, To whom He said, "This is the rest *with which* You may cause the weary to rest," And, "***This is the refreshing***"; Yet they would not hear.

#2



Acts 3:19 NKJV "'Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that **times of refreshing may come** from the presence of the Lord,"

#3



Times of refreshing are coming from the presence of the Lord.

Do you know that you need refreshing?

There are many things that refresh you.

I remember walking down those long rows of cotton in West Texas.

Grandpa did not allow you to carry water with you.

You had to chop weeds all the way to the end of the row and then come back to where you started to get a drink of cool water.

It was so refreshing to get a drink of water on those hot July days.

There is a refreshing when you get in the water...

It is wonderful to get in the bath and wash the dirt and heat off.

There is a refreshing in the water.

There is refreshing when someone else gets in the water.

Have you ever wished someone else would?

You would furnish the soap if there was water.

#4



John 7:37-39 NKJV "On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "**If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.**"

#5

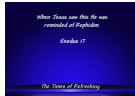


"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified."

What prompted Jesus to say this?

He had been to the feast in Jerusalem every year. It was the time of the feast of the Tabernacle, John 7:2 This was the time the Priest offered the Drink offering. The priest took a pitcher of water and poured it on the ground. They were remembering God's supply of water in the wilderness.

#6



When Jesus saw this He was reminded of Rephidim.

Exodus 17 tells us the entire congregation of Israel was coming out of the wilderness of Sin.

God commanded them to camp in Rephidim.

They all thirsted for water and murmured against Moses.

They felt like they were going to die of thirst.

The babies were crying.

Cattle were bawling.

Everyone was irritated.

They were ready to stone Moses.

That was when God told Moses to take the elders of Israel with him and take his rod that he smote the river with to a rock in Horeb.

#7



God told Moses, "I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. Exodus 17:6 (NIV)

#8



All of the people of Israel were very dry.

Their clothes were dry.

Their faces were dry.

Their throats were dry.

Their eyes were dry.

There was no water.

They were very dry.

All their water jugs were empty.

Moses' church had been through a long dry spell.

I've been in that Church.

It has been too long since they had any refreshing.

The Children were crying

The Beasts were bawling for water

The Old Men and Women were weary and tired.

#9



The people wanted Moses to do something about their dryness.

It is easier if someone else gives us a drink.

Have you ever asked someone else to bring you a drink?

Moses didn't know what to do, so he cried out to God!

God, I am tired of hearing them cry!

God, Can you do something?

Can God do anything about your dryness?

#10



In Numbers 20 the assembly of the people was in another time of dryness.

God told Moses to speak to a rock that was there in the wilderness and it will give water for the congregation.

Moses is just like a lot of us.

It seemed too easy to speak to the rock.

It was more logical to strike the rock than to speak to it.

That had worked in the past...

Moses struck the rock twice and rivers of water of refreshing gushed out.

The Children were satisfied

The Cattle were refreshed

The Old Men and Women drank until they were full

There was enough water to get wet in.

- *Where the rivers of the Holy Spirit flow, love abounds.*
- *Where the rivers of the Spirit flow, joy is increased.*
- *Weariness of the way ends when the River flows.*
- *The People are refreshed when the River of the Spirit flows.*
- *Hardness is healed when the waters flow.*

People want redemption from the weary way.

They are tired and dry.

They need refreshing.

In Judges 15, Sampson was in the battle for the Lord.

The Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him and he defeated the Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey.

What a battle!

There were a thousand dead Philistines killed with a jawbone.

Spiritual victories are not enough to give you refreshing.

It will not refresh you to defeat the devil.

After the battle, there were heaps upon heaps of Philistines around Samson.

Samson had given all he had.

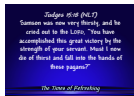
Now he said he was about to die of thirst.

Judges 15:18 (NLT) Samson was now very thirsty, and he cried out to the LORD, “You have accomplished this great victory by the strength of your servant. Must I now die of thirst and fall into the hands of these pagans?”

#11



#12



#13



There he was, the Warrior of the Lord.
He had defeated the Lord's enemies that day.
Now he was about to die of thirst.

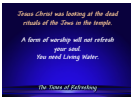
Judges 15:19 (NLT) So God caused water to gush out of a hollow in the ground at Lehi, and Samson was revived as he drank. Then he named that place "The Spring of the One Who Cried Out," and it is still in Lehi to this day.

Samson had defeated his enemies at Lehi.
When he was about to die, of thirst; God created a spring.
God opened up a spring and Samson drank until he was satisfied.

God is still able to do the miraculous.

You may have given all you have in the battle.
You feel exhausted and dehydrated.
God is ready to give you a refreshing.

#14

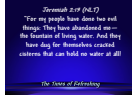


Jesus Christ was looking at the dead rituals of the Jews in the temple.

He was observing their sacrifices on the altar.
He was watching them fill the picture with water and pour it out on the dry ground.
Their religion had become meaningless and dull.
They came to church thirsty and they went home thirsty.
They knew the forms, the rites, and rituals.
But they were thirsty.
They needed refreshing.

***A form of worship will not refresh your soul.
You need Living Water.***

#15



Jeremiah 2:13 (NLT) “For my people have done two evil things: They have abandoned me—the fountain of living water. And they have dug for themselves cracked cisterns that can hold no water at all!

A cistern is a collection tank.

When it rains, there may be water in the cistern.

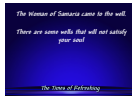
Did you know a cistern looks like a well?

Jesus said their cistern was broken and could not hold water.

Their religion was faulty.

They needed to dig a little deeper and hit a river.

#16



The Woman of Samaria came to the well.

When she came, she needed a drink.

She was thirsty.

She could fill up her water jug at the well, but her soul was not satisfied.

There are some wells that will not satisfy your soul.

She was dry in the soul.

She needed water that only Jesus can give.

When she met Jesus, her thirst was satisfied.

Jesus had water to drink that she did not know of...

He told her that if she knew the gift of God and who it was that was speaking to her, she would ask for living water.

#17



On the day of Pentecost there were 120 people that needed refreshing.

In the First Chapter of Acts, they were told to wait until the Holy Spirit came upon them from on high.

They were not just waiting.

You can do a lot of things while you are waiting for someone to come.

When you are waiting for the Holy Spirit you have to get down to business.

You have to dig deep when you wait around the altar. Acts 2 tells us they were filled to overflowing.

They were so refreshed that thousands knew it.

In Acts 3 they were out witnessing and working

In Acts 4 they were plunged into persecution

#18



Acts 4:31 (NKJV) And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

They received more than boldness.

They were refreshed in the Holy Spirit.

#19



Abraham was a well digger.

He needed refreshing in the wilderness.

Abraham dug many wells.

Abraham dug wells so deep that he ran into deep rivers.

He knew how to dig a well.

Some people dig until the ground gets damp.

He dug down until he found living water.

When Isaac came along, he wanted to the same refreshing his Father had.

Genesis 26 tells us he re-dug all of the wells Abraham had dug.

He came to the same place where his father dug wells.

The enemy had filled all of his father's wells with dirt.

His enemy had been busy working.

But, Isaac had another problem.
Every well he dug the Philistines filled with dirt.
But, Isaac was very determined.

Isaac dug one well and a spring of water flowed out of it into the valley.

The herdsmen of Gerar argued with him about it, so Isaac moved from there and dug another well.

When he finished they argued about that one also.

Your enemy will stop your wells it hatred, contention, arguments, doubts, dryness, and formalism.

So Isaac moved and dug another well.

He was not going to stop digging wells.

Finally he dug a well and no one argued about it.

So he called its name Rehoboth, because he said, “For now the Lord has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.”

We need to get down in the altars until we hit a flowing stream of the Holy Ghost.

The enemy had stopped all of Abraham's wells after he died.

There is a good lesson here for you.

What your mom and pop got is not enough for you.

God has some rivers of refreshing available for you if you will do a little digging.

Satan will attempt to stop you.

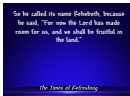
He will stop your well if he can.

He will fill your well with all kinds of trash.

Isaac kept digging until he found enough.

When he got enough the arguments stopped.

#20



#21



God will refresh you now.

You cannot survive in this wilderness without a river.

We need refreshing.

We must have renewing

We must tap in to where the flow is.

We need the refreshing of the Holy Spirit now.