**Living Water**

***7****A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”****8****(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.)****9****The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)****10****Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”****11****The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?****12****Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.”****13****Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,****14****but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again.[*[*b*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+4&version=ESV#fen-ESV-26160b)*] The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”****15****The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.” (John 4:7-15)*

 Jesus Christ is our Living Water – and there is no other that can satisfy.

 Greetings dear brothers and sisters in the name of Christ as we speak about an important truth today. We’re talking about being satisfied, since whether we know it or not, we always need to satisfy our true needs. We will be talking today about the value of Jesus, whom John the Baptist presents to us within this Scripture passage. Notice: The Lord calls *Himself* “Living Water”. For us, that idiom will become clearer as we stop for a moment and understand the deeper meaning of this expression. Again, it is Jesus Christ that is our Living Water – and there is no other that can satisfy. Let’s take a look at how that is…

 Only Jesus can satisfy our lifelong spiritual thirst. The background of this meeting between the woman at the well and Jesus needs some background clarification. A water well was a social center for everyday life. All the towns and cities that had wells had women specifically, as well as people in general coming and gathering there to discuss their daily issues. Not only that, but this well at which Jesus sat down to take a break was considered an indispensable source of life. The expression “living water” or “life-giving water” (in Armenian) shows us the importance of water in general to people in that part of the world. Thus, Jesus, in His love, shows God’s love to all – second, His conversation with the woman shakes and erases the picture and biases of that day that many men upheld. Yes, it was indeed forbidden for a man to speak with a woman in public, even if she was his wife! Unfortunately, men *were* allowed to speak with immoral women in public as an exception. But Jesus, upending and opposing those wrong traditions, not only speaks to a woman, not only speaks to a half-Jew (since Samaritans were considered impure because of their mixed heritage), but He also presents Himself as the True Living Water, which satisfied the one who sought Him permanently. Yes, life-giving waters (of water wells) were necessary – but they did not satisfy a human being forever. Jesus, however, was saying that He was beyond that – that only through Him could a person be satisfied.

 They say that water is the best thirst-quencher. When someone drinks seltzer water or soda or a fruit juice, he or she does not get the same effect as when water is drunk. If the latter is true, then when we need to satisfy our thirst, we need to drink the genuine thirst-quencher.

 Today, many of us are drinking many unsatisfying “spiritual” sodas, beers, and other unhealthy realities. Whether by reason of forgetfulness or ignorance, or just plain old habit, we sometimes are accepting into our soul some negative/evil spiritual influences. Whatever the reasons, the Lord has come through today’s message to tell us, “You want and are drinking a “water” that will not quench your thirst…” Rather, He says to us today that we need the Eternal Living Water instead of the temporary thirst-quenchers.

 Jesus is both the Life-Giving Water and the Giver of Himself. Other sources will leave our souls dry and empty. Other “drinks” will put us to spiritual sleep and even poison us against Jesus.

 Therefore, let us examine the spiritual sources of sustenance that we have. If we have Jesus Christ as our “Water of Life”, then let us continue to receive from Him and to share that life with others. If, however, we have been fooled by this world’s temporary “waters” and pleasures, may today’s Bible passage and message wake us up to Jesus’ identity and importance. Without Jesus, we remain thirsty, and eventually we die in all aspects. However, when we do have Jesus, our thirst is quenched both now and in eternity. Only Jesus can satisfy our lifelong spiritual thirst. Jesus Christ is our Living Water – and there is no other that can satisfy. The Lord bless you all, Amen.