

Date: June 17, 2012

Subject: No Money - Isaiah 55:1

"Ho, every one that thirsts, come ye to the waters, and he that has no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

- Isaiah 55:1

I. "Ho" - A startling phrase used to capture the attention of all within earshot. The Lord God Almighty has something very important to say, & it's a message right from His very own ^{Mouth}. Millions of people just wandering through life, neglecting the "so great salvation" found in Jesus Christ, fretting about life's most trivial issues, and yet flocking to every new deal or bargain to be had. The same products in different packaging, different ~~colours~~ ^{sizes}, different colours; and ~~but~~ O how much time is spent in the study of just a few pennies! "Ho," are you listening? "Ho," are you awake? "Ho," put down those coupons and catalogues and turn off that television, for God Himself offers ~~you~~ something for you to buy. What He offers is far greater than anything you will ever find in this world: ~~because~~ it will never rot, never crack, never rust, never break, unlike anything you find here in this world which, "passeth away" (1 John 2:17).

This message is intended for you, for your family, for your friends and neighbours, even for each and every precious soul under the sun who is yet alive; and there is but only one exception, for this glorious invitation is only to...

II. "every one that thirsts" - In the fourth chapter of John, Jesus asks a Samaritan woman for a drink of water. The woman was astonished that a Jew would ask her for anything, let alone a drink of water. This woman was completely oblivious to what was happening; to her it was just another day for her to draw water from the well to drink. This was her regular routine, no doubt, and she wasn't looking for anything else, she was perfectly happy with her water and she didn't thirst for anything ~~more~~ different.

Maybe you are like this Samaritan woman; in the same way, you're just living your life from day to day, content with the "water" you already have. Suppose also that, you, like this Samaritan woman, didn't know of a better "water"; that is, a "living water."

"Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and Who it is that saith to thee, Give Me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water."

-John 4:10

The woman didn't understand what Jesus was talking about and still thinks physical water is in view, but Jesus tells her plainly.

"Whosoever drinks of this water shall thirst again: but whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." (John 4:13-14)

Suddenly the woman recognizes her dependence on water that can never ^{truly} satisfy. She wasn't thirsty for the living water before; but now, it's as though she must have it, and would not live without it.

"The woman saith unto Him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw." (vs. 15).

Afterwards, Jesus shows her the sinful life-style she has been living as an adultress; amazed, she perceives Him to be a prophet, and ^{says} how she knew that the promised Messiah should come, the Christ of God. Finally, Jesus reveals Himself to this Samaritan woman, as the very Christ Himself,

"I that speak unto thee am He."

(John 4:26)

In Matthew chapter 9 Jesus said,

"They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick."

And again,

"I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." (vss. 12, 13)

Every man, woman, and child is "sick" and needs the Physician; we have all sinned (Rom. 3:23) and need Christ as our Saviour, so how can any be said to "need not a physician"? How can anybody be classified as "righteous", when the Bible

says, "There is none righteous, no, not one:" (Rom. 3:10)? We are all sick, we are all sinners, there is nobody who is righteous in and of themselves, so why does Jesus say that He is not "come to call the righteous," but sinners to repentance", when we are all sinners? Should He not call us all...?

Ah! While it is true that we are all sinners, but not everybody thinks himself a sinner. While it is true that we are all sick, but some think themselves to be whole; and if a man thinks himself to be whole, why would he go see a physician? Just like the Samaritan woman at the well, she had water, but desired the "living water" once she learned of it; then, she thirsted for the "living water." Do you thirst for that living water dear soul? Do you see yourself hopeless without Christ; and yet with Him, to have everything? Listen to this, for what was presented to the woman, is now presented to you - the Gospel of Jesus Christ,

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink. He that believes on Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." John 7:37-38

To quench thirst for the body, you can drink water from a well; but the only way to quench the thirst in our soul, is to believe in Jesus Christ. Are you thirsty, O beloved soul? Drink, drink deeply, drink now, and forever and ever,

"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that comes to Me shall never hunger; and he that believes on Me shall never thirst." John 6:35

III. "come ye to the waters," - In Jerusalem there was a pool of water called, "Bethesda" and whenever an angel went down and troubled the water, whoever was first in the pool was made whole of whatever disease he had (John 5:1 ff.).

Well, there was an impotent man that could never make it in the pool on time, but was always beat by another and so he was never made whole, but when Jesus came, He healed him right on the spot; well there are no such hinderances to the cure of our souls today, all around the world from ~~every~~ "all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues" (Rev. 7:9) all are invited, "come ye to the waters." Come dearly

beloved soul. Don't just stand there looking at the water, drink, and drink now before it's too late. What are you waiting for? If you are thirsty, come; just come as you are, and don't wait a second longer.

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that hears say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Revelation 22:17

IV. "and he that has no money:" - If you don't have any money... you're poor. Now we have all heard the "proverbs" of this world about money, "Money makes the world go round" and "If you got the money, you got the power," and so on and so on. Well flashing a hundred dollar bill may impress your friends, but it definitely won't impress God.

"The poor uses intreaties; but the rich answers roughly." Proverbs 18:23

Have you ever seen how some rich people order around sales clerks, and how rude and obnoxious is their behaviour? Well we can't come to God that way.

In the book of Ecclesiastes we read that, "money is a defence:" (7:12) or a "shadow," a place of comfort and protection, so to come to God with "no money" is to forsake all trust in ourselves and make ourselves poor before Him,

"There is that makes himself rich [i.e. rich in "good" works, rich in their own "goodness", rich in their own "money"], yet has nothing [i.e. has no grace of God unto salvation]: there is that makes himself poor [i.e. forsakes all trust in himself and believes wholly upon Christ], yet has great riches [i.e. true salvation which is a gift of God. see Eph. 2:8-9]."
- Proverbs 13:7

Have you cast your "money" aside and come to Christ empty of yourself? We read in Psalm 10:14 "the poor commits himself unto Thee;" therefore before we can ever truly commit ourselves to God, we must first become poor, and cast all our "money" away.

IV. "come ye, buy, and eat:" - How are we to "buy" if we have "no money"? How do you buy something without paying for it? You believe...

You believe it as truth and ~~you believe~~ ~~that~~ ~~it's~~ ~~yours~~. This is genuine and this is mine... by faith.

"Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding." Prov. 23:23

Have you bought the Truth (John 14:6)? or are you wondering in unbelief as Pilate, "What is truth?" From cover to cover, the Bible testifies to the salvation found in Jesus Christ... do you believe it? Do you believe it's genuine? Do you believe, it's yours?

"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this Book: but these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His Name." John 20:30-31

In Isaiah 55:1 (our text), we read of "the waters... wine and milk" but it doesn't say, "come ye, buy, and drink"; rather, we read, "come ye, buy, and eat;" Are we said to "eat" of Jesus Christ? Yes! By believing Him,

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believes on Me has everlasting life. I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is My flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." John 6:47-51

VI. "yea, come, buy wine and milk" — Wine is typified as the wrath of God (John 18:11 i.e. What is inside the "cup"), so when Christ says to His bride in parabolic language,

"... I have drunk My wine with My milk: ..." Song of Songs 5:1

He is referring to the judgment He bore to free His bride from the guilt of sin; so He goes on to say,

"... I have drunk My wine with My milk :
eat, O friends; drink, yea, drink abundantly,
O beloved."

Christ drank of that cup for us, therefore
we drink of that cup through Him; just as we are
baptized into His death, and are buried with Him,

"Know ye not, that so many of us as
were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized
into His death? Therefore we are buried with
Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ
was raised up from the dead by the glory
of the Father, even so we also should walk
in newness of life." Romans 6:3-4

We "drink abundantly" through Him Who died for
us, by believing in Him through the "milk" of the
Word (2 Peter 2:2). Do the words, "drink abundantly, O beloved"
bring you comfort and joy and peace in believing? See Romans 15:13

VII. "without money and without price." - Every-
thing costs something, and there are some ~~things~~ things
which cost everything; but there is only one thing that
costs nothing, and is worth everything... the free gift

of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ,

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

This free gift is "without price" because it truly is "priceless." There is no value we could ever assign to so great a gift to such unworthy people; and all He asks is for us to come to Him with "no money" of our own, and to satisfy our thirst by believing in Him... do so now my beloved friend, and He promises to guide you by "the springs of water," and so will never leave you nor forsake you,

"That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Show yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places. They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for He that has mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall He guide them." Isaiah 49:9-10

Your servant for Jesus' sake,
 Ned A. Allen  - 2 Cor. 4:1-5

Jesus, Lover of My Soul - by J. Wesley 1740

Jesus, Lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the heaven guide; O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
leave, O leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed, all my help from Thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head with the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want; More than all in Thee I find.
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name, I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am, Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plebeous grace with Thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound, make me, keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.