

# Meeting God's Heart Need 3 of 8

## *Satisfying Jesus' Thirst*

#0230

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—April 27, 1972

"The woman saith unto him, Sir, Thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep" John 4:11.

Jesus was seated there at the well before the woman came. He was hungry. He was thirsty. His disciples had gone into the village to buy some food. And as He sat there by Himself, weary (for He had been walking since early morning), hungry, and thirsty, His thirst was increased by the thought of the cool water there in the well. It was near and yet inaccessible to Him. He who made the great ocean and the springs of water sat there thirsty.

And then when this woman came and He asked her for a drink, the conversation followed which led to her accepting the living water that He had come to give. But I would like to have us note something that concerns our relationship to our God.

The woman spoke truer than she knew:

"Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep"  
John 4:11.

The well that I would like to have you think of is your heart and mine. The living water that He longs for is our love, our sympathy, our understanding, our fellowship.

You mean there are some things that God can't get unless we give them to Him? That's right.

Some years back, I saw an ad around Christmas time. I have forgotten what it was advertising, but the wording stuck in my mind: "A gift for the man who has everything." Do you get the picture? You are going over your Christmas list, and here is Uncle George. What are you going to give him? Well, he is a multimillionaire. Anything you could give him, he could buy. He already has it. Give him a tie? He has 40 already. A picture? The walls are just full of pictures. And so you go on up and down the list. If you were so rich you wanted to give him an automobile; maybe he has six already. What will you give Uncle George, anyway? A present for the man who has everything.

Well, what will you give Jesus? He has 10 million, million times more than Uncle George. He owns the universe. Any money you would give Him is such a tiny bit. He paves His streets with gold. What can you give Him? Well, there is one thing you can give Him, friends, and He would rather have it than all the gold, all the

silver. It is your love. That is this water. And as cold water is to a thirsty soul, so love is to the thirsty heart.

I want to read you a Spirit of Prophecy statement in this chapter on this encounter at Jacob's well. You will find it in *Desire of Ages*:

“Our Redeemer thirsts for recognition” *Desire of Ages*, page 191.

He thirsts for what? Recognition.

“He hungers for the sympathy and love of those whom He has purchased with His own blood” *Ibid*.

Can Jesus be hungry? Oh, yes. He is hungry. Can He be thirsty? Yes. He thirsts.

“He hungers for the sympathy and love of those whom He has purchased with His own blood” *Ibid*.

Do you mean that you and I have something that would satisfy His hunger? Indeed. That is what this is all about. Jesus is hungry, and you can feed Him. Jesus is thirsty, and you can give him a drink. But He can't get it unless you give it to Him. He has nothing to draw with, and the well is deep, deep down in your heart. And if He ever gets that water, it will be because you give it to Him.

Will you do it? Will you give Him your love, your sympathy, your understanding? You see, so many people think of coming to Jesus as satisfying *their* hunger and thirst. And indeed it does. It should. God wants it that way. He says:

“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely”  
Revelation 22:17.

“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters”  
Isaiah 55:1.

Yes, friend, coming to Jesus certainly satisfies *our* hunger and thirst. But that is not my subject tonight. I am talking about satisfying *His* hunger and thirst. And would you agree with me that that is more important? Isn't it? Isn't it more important to satisfy His hungry heart than just to make *you* feel good? Oh, He deserves everything, and we deserve nothing.

But the beauty of it is that when you feed Him, He feeds you. When you give Him to drink, He satisfies your thirsty heart. Not that it's just a bargain—you do this for me, and I will do this for you—that isn't the point. This is the only thing that can satisfy, really satisfy, your hunger—to feed *Him*.

As I indicated last night, we have in our hearts the need to be needed. God made us that way because He needs us—not to run errands for Him, but to love Him, to understand Him, to have fellowship with Him, to talk to Him and listen while He talks, to counsel with Him, to comment on what He does. He likes to know how we like it. And when we tell Him we love Him, oh, that makes Him so happy. You see, He has given us so many experiences in this world, to try to help us to understand that.

You, parents, aren't you glad when your children tell you they love you? Aren't you? Why, sure. Yes. Of course, you could put it on a tape recorder and play it over. Every time you feel hungry for some of that, you could just turn on the tape recorder and hear somebody say, "I love you," and that would take care of it, wouldn't it? No, it just wouldn't be quite the same, would it? No. It wouldn't be the same at all.

The response of a loving heart that does not *have* to respond, the love of a human soul that can choose whether or not it will give love, that, friends, is the priceless gift. This is of such value to God, that life to Him is not worth it unless He has that. This is the meaning of Calvary. He will risk His life rather than lose your love forever. He will give His life that He may not only pay your debt, cancel your sins, but win back your love.

Oh yes, friends, He has nothing to draw with, in your heart. He can't make you love Him. Love can't be forced. Only by love is love awakened. And as He sits there by the well of your heart, thirsty, will you give Him to drink? Will you tell Him, "Oh, yes Lord, I do love you. If this is what You want, to come all the way from Heaven to Sychar's well, yes, Jesus, here is some water. Here is some love. Here is some sympathy. Here is some appreciation. Here is some understanding. Here is some fellowship. If this is what you want, Lord, here is all I have."

Let's take another picture of it. Revelation 3:20. You remember that in Revelation 2 and 3, there are seven messages to the seven churches. The last one is for Laodicea. That is you and me, the remnant church. Now, let's see what His message is to you and me, down here in the last generation:

"Behold, I stand at the door, and..."

What?

"... knock" Revelation 3:20.

Who is it? Jesus. Where is He? At the door. What does He want? Well, what do you want when you knock at a door? You want to come in, don't you? That's what He wants.

"Why doesn't He come on in? Isn't He strong enough?"

Oh, yes. But that isn't what He wants.

"If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me"  
Revelation 3:20.

How easy it is to look out the window and see Jesus there at the door, and say, "I wonder what He has for me, anyway. I wonder if it is worthwhile having Him come in. I am afraid if He came in, He might want to make some changes, and I am not sure that I want Him too. What is in it for me, anyway?"

But friends, tonight, let's put all that aside, and let's see what He is coming for. He is coming for supper. Isn't that what He says?

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will..."

What?

"... sup with him" Revelation 3:20.

What does sup mean? Well, it means to drink, to eat. In other words, we are going to have a meal.

If I were to come to your house and you decided to invite me in for supper, who would furnish the supper? Would I furnish it, or would *you* furnish it? Would you feed me? I believe you would, friends.

And Jesus has come to Laodicea. He has come to your heart, and He is hungry. He knocks at the door. He says, "Would you open the door and let Me come in, and let's have supper together?" Have you enough to feed Him, friends, or is it all you can do to take care of your own problems? Have you enough love to give Him any, or are you using it all up just on yourself?

You remember that widow who the Lord sent Elijah to. The water had run dry over there in the brook Cherith in Gilead. And the dear Lord said, "Elijah, I have another plan to take care of you now. The ravens have been feeding you, but I am going to send you over to Zarephath. There is a widow over there with her son. They are going to take care of you."

He got over there and found the woman out there by the city gate, hunting for a few sticks of wood to build a fire. And she had just enough meal and oil left to do what? Make one cake, just one little pancake. And who was going to eat that? She and her son. And then she said what was going to happen next? They were going to die.

I want to tell you something. If you take all your love and use it just for yourself, you will die, too. You will starve to death. There isn't enough. There isn't enough to keep you alive. And there is many a starving heart that is thinking, "Poor me. Oh, I wish I had somebody to love me. Poor me, poor me. I wish I had

somebody to love me. Just enough to feed myself, and then I am going to starve and die.”

And what did Elijah say? “In the name of the God of Israel, I am telling you something. Go ahead and make the cake, but make me one first.”

You know, some people wouldn’t understand that at all. They would say, “That selfish preacher. There he is, taking the very bread out of a widow’s mouth.” But Elijah knew what he was doing, for God had told him to do it. And God knew what He was doing. He was seeking to teach this great lesson that our first job is not to take care of ourselves. It is to take care of *Him*. That is what we were created for.

And friends, don't worry. If we take care of His problems, He will take care of our problems. But if we insist on taking care of our problems, all God can do is let us do it. We always do a botch job of it, don't we? There isn't enough to go around, whatever it is.

Oh friends, I am so glad the widow did what the prophet said. Yes, she fed the man of God first. And every day there was enough for her and her son and for the man of God. They kept eating out of that barrel and out of that cruse.

“A miracle!” you say.

Yes, it was a miracle. The greatest miracle is love. And if you will take what little love you have and give it to Jesus, He and you and your house will eat many days, oh, until He comes again. But if you insist on taking your love and just bestowing it on yourself and on those around you, and leave Jesus out, ah, friends, you will starve to death in the famine. Oh, yes. There is not enough. There is only one way to have enough. And that is to feed Jesus first.

All right, we are back to our text:

“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him and he with me” Revelation 3:20.

Let’s invite Him in to supper. What do you say? Even if it takes all we have in the house to put on His plate, let’s do it.

“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength” Mark 12:30.

Let’s give Him everything we have. Let’s feed Him. Nothing less can satisfy. Nothing less can fill the vacancy in His heart that you were made on purpose to fill.

And remember, as I took time last night to explain to you and to prove to you: there is nobody like you. You are the only one that can fill the need. If everybody in this chapel tonight feeds Jesus, and you don’t, there is a hunger in His heart that nothing that the rest do can satisfy. You, and you, and you, and you, and you, can

satisfy a hunger in the heart of Jesus, but He has another hunger. There is a boy over here who is the only one who can satisfy that hunger.

It's true. It was worthwhile for Christ to go to the cross to get you. He loves you. He wants your love. He wants you to feed His hungry heart.

You remember in Isaiah 58, we are told to deal our bread to the hungry. Do you remember that?

Somebody says, "Sure, that is Dorcas and welfare work." Yes, it is. That is good. That means to take care of those millions that are facing famine over in that new country, above India. Yes, that is right.

But I want to tell you, friends, the hungriest soul in this world is not in India or China. The hungriest heart in this world is the heart of Jesus. He is longing for something that will satisfy the hunger of His heart. I think I ought to read you that again because it is such a stupendous statement. I wouldn't want you to think that you have to take my word for any of this. Just let me read it again:

"Our Redeemer thirsts for recognition" *Desire of Ages*,  
page 191.

Oh, how good it is when you knock at somebody's door, to have them come and open wide the door and say, "Why, come in. I am so glad you came." Isn't it? That is recognition.

If you have ever done any colporteur work, you know what it is to get the opposite. People that will just open the door a little crack and close it again as soon as they can. Or maybe they look out the window and won't even come to the door. Let's not treat Jesus that way. What do you say?

"Our Redeemer thirsts for recognition. He hungers for the sympathy and love of those whom He has purchased with His own blood" *Ibid*.

You know, friends, when He began to get hungry? I will tell you. You go back to the first three chapters of the Bible. In the first chapter, we see God creating this world. Oh, what a beautiful planet it was. Finally, when He had everything all ready, the Father and the Son talked it over and said, "Now, let's make man in Our image. Let's make somebody just like Us who can talk to Us and who We can talk to, who can love Us and We can love; somebody who We can counsel with and who will counsel with Us; somebody who We can visit with who will visit with Us. Let's make somebody who will think and reason and choose and love." So God made man.

What a story there in Genesis 1 and 2. Think of it, friends, as described there in Genesis 2, He took the clay, the earth, and He formed it in His own image. The great Creator made something that looked like Him. Then He breathed into the nostrils the breath of life. And that hitherto lifeless form became a living soul. The eyes opened and saw. The ears began to hear. The heart was beating, the lungs breathing, the mind was thinking. And oh, friends, there was not only intelligence,

there was love. There was response. How the heart of God must have thrilled as that being He had made began to appreciate Him and to love Him, and to give Him the heart's adoration. Oh friends, how happy He was.

Then He made Eve likewise, and Heaven rejoiced in that fellowship between Adam and Eve, and between earth and Heaven. And from day to day, do you know that the dear Lord came down and visited that garden home? Think of it. Yes. He would come down and walk with Adam and Eve in the garden. Why? Well, He loved them, and He was hungry for their love. And they always fed Him, too. They told Him they loved Him. And they were continually showing Him some new, wonderful thing they had found in the garden.

Did any of you ever go on an Easter egg hunt? Let me see. Isn't it a thrill to find those colored eggs? But do you know why you find them? Somebody put them there. Don't forget it. Somebody took the time and the pain to get the eggs and fix them all up, and then hide them just where you would find them.

So it was with Adam and Eve. Every day they were discovering something wonderful there in the garden—some new object to call forth praise and adoration. And when God came, they were ready to run to meet Him and say, "Oh, look what I found today!" And of course, God knew they would find it. That's why He put it there. It made Him so happy!

And then one day He came, and they weren't there at the gate to meet Him. [long pause] He walked on into the garden. Nobody in sight. And He began to call, "Oh, Adam, Adam where art thou? Where are you, Adam?" What had happened? Sin had entered. And finally, Adam and Eve came out, trembling, ashamed.

Adam said, "I was afraid." Afraid of God? The One who had done everything precious and lovely and sweet for them? Afraid of Him? What had put that fear in their hearts, my friends? Sin had. And to this day, most of the people on this planet are afraid of God. They don't understand Him. They hide. They would do anything to get away. And oh, how that hurt God back then, and how it hurts Him today.

Ah friends, I am so glad that there is a way to end that separation, and restore the joy of fellowship between man and God:

"God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten  
Son" John 3:16.

And there, that afternoon as the first lamb was slain, God Himself explained to Adam and Eve the plan of salvation, the plan to get man and God back together again. And something of the fearful cost of it all was made plain to them, as for the first time they saw life taken, as for the first time they saw something die. As they saw the blood flow and the lamb expire, they began to get some idea of what a terrible thing had taken place when they broke God's law and broke His heart—when they chose to turn from Him and listen to His worst enemy and their worst enemy. Isn't it a shame, friends, to take the love which God put in hearts so they could love Him, and use it to love the Devil? Isn't that a shame?

But through Calvary, that can be reversed. As we behold the cross, we discern something of the love that will never let us go, that will seek us in our sins, in our disobedience, in our separation, that will breach the gulf and come where we are, and pick us up and take us home.

And you remember when Jesus was here on earth, He told a story. You can read it in Luke 15, and Matthew 18. He told a story to help you and me understand that this is for one person, and that is you, and that is me. You remember He told the story to a large number of people, among whom were shepherds. He said, "Which of you having an hundred sheep if you lose one will not leave the ninety and nine and go into the wilderness until he find him?" Oh, yes. The same God that was seeking Adam in Eden came to this world, in human form, that He might seek the lost sheep.

And what did Jesus say, as He told the story? "Oh," He says, "When the shepherd out there in the mountain, in the desert, finds that sheep, he puts it on his shoulder rejoicing." He doesn't drive it before him and say, "Now, look at all the trouble you have caused me. Now, get home. Get in the fold." Oh, no. He lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he gets home, he calls together the friends and neighbors and says, "Rejoice with me I have found my sheep which was lost."

How many sheep? One. And what is He telling us? Why, my friends, He is telling us that one is worth the trip. One is worth the price. One is worth the sacrifice. And that is you. And that is me.

It was not thought of any gold  
That hundredth sheep might bring  
That sent the Keeper of the fold  
Out into weariness and cold  
When home was beckoning

It was His love that could not think  
Of that poor, willful one  
Unmindful by the canyon's brink  
Or in despair about to sink  
With hope and courage gone.

It was not any grace of mine  
That drew my Lord to me  
In heaven spotless angels shine  
That vie to do His will divine  
And here was Calvary

It was His love that could not bear  
To think of my distress  
He knew the pride of life would wear  
Away and leave me bleating there  
In utter wretchedness

Oh, if He had not come for me



Forever I would roam  
Alone and lost in misery  
But up and over Calvary  
The Shepherd bears me home.

Oh friends, I love Him tonight! I love Him because I know it is all for me, and it is all for you—for each one. Let's feed Him. What do you say? Let's satisfy His thirsty heart. Let's give Him the one gift which nobody else can give Him, your personal life. He wants it so much that He would have come all the way just to get you. Will you give Him your love, friends? Will you? Oh, will you do it?

How many of us mean business about this, and will we? Would you like to raise your hand just now, friends? Will you do that? Thank the Lord. Oh, how happy He is! How thankful He is. This is what He wants. This is all He wants. When He has that, He is perfectly satisfied.

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