

The Living Water

Lesson # 31: (Ex. 17:1-8; Num. 20:8-11; Jn. 4:10, 13-14; 7:37-39; DA 183-195; 448-454)

Since time immemorial people have unsuccessfully searched for the fountain of eternal youth. In this lesson we will study two Old Testament and two New Testament episodes which depict Jesus as that fountain from whom all blessings flow. The first Old Testament passage is in Exodus 17:1-8 and the second is found in Numbers 20:8-11. The first New Testament passage is in John 4 and the second is in John 7:37-39. Let's begin with the two Old Testament passages.

Old Testament Rock Passages

The Rock

1. According to Moses, who is represented by the rock? “_____ is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of _____ and without iniquity, just and right is he.” (Deut. 32:4)
2. How does the apostle Paul corroborate the words of Moses? “And did all drink the same _____ drink: for they drank of that spiritual _____ that followed them: and that Rock was _____.” (I Cor. 10:4)

The Rod

1. What is represented by the rod? “If they [David's house] break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; Then will I visit their transgression with the _____, and their iniquity with _____.” (Ps. 89:32)
2. What should parents use the rod for? “He that spareth his _____ hateth his son: but he that loveth him _____ him betimes. . . . Withhold not _____ from the child: for if thou _____ him with the rod, he shall not die.” (Prov. 13:24; 23:13-14)
3. What solemn words were spoken by Job when he felt forsaken of God? “Let him take his _____ away from me, and let not his fear _____ me.” (Job. 9:34)

Note: Every time Moses raised his rod, God's judgment fell upon the Egyptians. The rod represents God's punishment or judgment (see also, Isaiah 11:4).

Striking the Rock

1. Who was standing upon the Rock in Horeb when Moses struck it? “Behold, _____ will stand before thee there _____ the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt _____ the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink.” (Ex. 17:6)

2. Upon whom should the rod of God's judgment have fallen? "And the _____ thirsted there for water; and the _____ murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?" (Ex. 17:3)
3. What is represented by the rod striking the rock? "Surely he [Jesus] hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him _____, _____ of God and afflicted. But he was _____ for our transgressions, he was _____ for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his _____ we are healed." (Isa. 53:4-5; see also, Zachariah 13:7)

The Living Water

1. Of what did the prophet Jeremiah accuse Israel before the Babylonian captivity? "For my people have committed two _____; they have forsaken the _____ of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, _____ cisterns, that can hold no water." (Jer. 2:13)
2. What is symbolized by the water which gushed from the rock? "For by one _____ are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to _____ into one _____." (I Cor. 12:13)
3. What does Ellen White say about the meaning of the water? "Christ combines the two _____. He is the _____. He is the _____ water." (PP 413)
4. Does the Old Testament use water in this metaphorical sense? "As the hart panteth after the _____ brooks, _____ panteth my _____ after thee, O God." (Ps. 42:1)
5. Is there any real discrepancy between Paul's declaration in I Corinthians 12:13 and Ellen White's statement in PP 413? "It is through the Spirit that Christ _____ in us; and the Spirit of God, received into the _____ by faith, is the beginning of the _____ eternal." (DA 388; see also, John 6:63)

Striking the Rock Twice

1. Why was the rock to be smitten only once? Why was Moses' sin so grievous? "Our Savior was not to be sacrificed a _____ time. . . . By his rash act Moses took away the force of the _____ that God purposed to teach. The rock, being a _____ of Christ, had been once smitten, as Christ was to be once offered." (PP 411, 418)

Note: Hebrews 7:27; 9:25-28 clearly underlines the fact that Jesus only needed to die once. In the light of these verses, the sacrifice of the mass is just as blasphemous as Moses striking the rock the second time.

2. Why did God command Moses to speak to the rock the second time? “. . . it is only necessary for those who seek the blessings of His grace to _____ in the name of Jesus, pouring forth the heart’s desire in penitential prayer. Such a prayer will bring before the Lord of hosts the _____ of Jesus, and then will _____ forth afresh the life-giving blood, symbolized by the flowing of the living water for Israel.” (PP 411)
3. **Thought Question:** What would have happened to Israel if God had not miraculously given them water from the rock? _____ How does this apply to us today as we cross the desert of life? _____

New Testament Rock Episodes:

Encounter with the Woman of Samaria

1. Where was Jesus when He encountered the Samaritan woman? He was at Jacob’s _____ near the town of _____. (Jn. 4:5-6)
2. At what hour of the day did Jesus meet the Samaritan woman? “It was about the _____ hour.” (Jn. 4:6)

Note: The Jews measured the light portion of the day in twelve equal segments (Jn. 11:9). This means that the sixth hour was high noon when the sun was beating down at its highest intensity.

3. What made it impossible for Jesus to satisfy His thirst? “The woman saith unto Him, ‘Sir, thou hast nothing to _____ with, and the well is _____; from whence then hast thou that living water?’” (Jn. 4:11)

Note: Significant here is the fact that Jesus possessed the power to perform a miracle to satisfy His thirst. But none of the miracles of Jesus were performed to satisfy His own needs. Ellen White remarks: “He who made the ocean, who controls the waters of the great deep, who opened the springs and channels of the earth, rested from His weariness at Jacob’s well, and was dependent upon a stranger’s kindness for even the gift of a drink of water.” (DA 184) Does this have a lesson for us today?

4. Where were the disciples when Jesus met the woman of Samaria? “For His disciples were gone away unto the _____ to buy _____.” (Jn. 4:8)
5. How did Jesus find the key to this woman’s heart? “The hatred between Jews and Samaritans prevented the woman from offering a _____ to Jesus; but the Saviour was seeking to find the _____ to this heart, and with the _____ born of divine love, He asked, not offered, a _____. The offer of a kindness might have been rejected; but _____ awakens trust.” (DA 184)

6. In what way does Jesus contrast with the cisterns of the earth? “Whosoever drinketh of this water [at Jacob’s well] shall _____ again; but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall _____ thirst. . . .” (Jn. 4:13-14)

Note: Ellen White explains: “The cisterns will be _____, the pools become _____; but our Redeemer is an _____ fountain. We may drink, and drink again, and ever find a _____ supply.” (DA 187)

7. What did the woman need to recognize before Jesus could help her? “Before this soul could receive the _____ He longed to bestow, she must be brought to recognize her _____ and her Savior.” (DA 187)

8. What tactful method did Jesus employ to convict her of sin? “Jesus said unto her, ‘Go, call thy _____, and come hither.’ The woman answered and said, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said unto her, ‘Thou hast well said, I have no husband; for thou hast had _____ husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.’” (Jn. 4:16-18)

Note: Jesus could have immediately denounced her sin but this would have closed her heart to His influence. Jesus simply made a statement of fact: “You have had five husbands and the one you presently live with is not your husband.” “While the very purity of His presence condemned her sin, He had spoken no work of denunciation, but had told her of His grace, that could renew the soul.” (DA 189)

9. What thoughts came to the woman’s mind when her sin was pointed out? “There came thoughts of _____, of the future _____, when all that is now hidden shall be _____. In its light, _____ was awakened.” (DA 188; see also, Jn. 16:8)

10. What did the woman do to quiet the voice of her conscience? “Then, hoping to silence _____, she turned to points of _____ controversy.” (DA 188)

11. How did Jesus turn the subject of religious controversy between the Jews and the Samaritans to His advantage? “Woman, believe me, the hour cometh when ye shall _____ in this mountain, nor yet at _____, worship the Father. . . . But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true _____ shall worship the Father in _____ and in _____ for the Father seeketh such to worship Him.” (Jn. 4:21, 23)

12. **Thought Questions:** What did Jesus mean when He said that “salvation is of the Jews?” To what was Jesus referring when He said that people would no longer be required to worship at holy shrines? How did Jesus’ remarks in verses 22-24 tear down the barrier between Jew and Samaritan? _____

13. What did Jesus mean when He said we must worship God in spirit and in truth? “The religion that _____ from God is the only religion that will lead to God. In order to serve Him aright, we must be _____ of the divine Spirit. This will _____ the heart and renew the _____, giving us a new capacity for _____ and loving God. It will give us a _____ obedience to all His requirements. This is true worship. It is the _____ of the working of the Holy Spirit.” (DA 189)
14. What is represented by the water which Jesus offered the woman of Samaria? “The water of life, the _____ life which Christ gives to every _____ soul, had begun to spring up in her heart. The _____ of the Lord was working with her.” (DA 190)
15. What progression can be seen in the woman’s consciousness of Jesus’ identity? First she saw Jesus as a _____. Then she discerned that he was a _____. Finally, she accepted him as the _____. (Jn. 4:9, 19, 28-29)

The Disciples Return from the City

1. What did Jesus tell His disciples when they offered Him the food they had purchased in the city? “My meat is to do the _____ of Him that sent Me, and to _____ His work.” (Jn. 4:34)
2. What did Jesus mean by the words of John 4:34? “He saw her drinking of the water of life, and His own hunger and thirst were _____. . . . To minister to a soul hungering and thirsting for the _____ was more grateful to Him than eating or _____. It was a comfort, a _____ to Him. _____ was the life of His soul.” (DA 190, 191)
3. What does Jesus hunger and thirst for today? “Our Redeemer thirsts for _____. He hungers for the _____ and love of those whom He has purchased with His own blood. . . . As the _____ watches for the smile of recognition from her little _____ which tells of the dawning of intelligence, so does Christ watch for the expression of grateful love, which shows that spiritual life is _____ in the soul.” (DA 191)

The Woman Returns to the City

1. What did the woman leave at the well which showed that the message of Jesus hit home? “The woman then _____ her waterpot, and went her way into the city.” (Jn. 4:28).

Note: No longer was literal water uppermost in this woman’s mind. She totally forgot the original reason for coming to the well. Now she needed to tell others about the marvelous water she had found!

2. What did the woman do immediately after drinking from the well of life eternal? “With heart overflowing with _____, she hastened on her way, to _____ to others the precious light she had received.” (DA 191; Jn. 4:28-29)

3. Why would anyone in the city have listened to such an immoral woman? “There was a new _____ on her face, a _____ in her whole appearance. They were interested to see _____.” (DA 191)

4. If there were still four months until the reaping season, how could the fields be white, ready for the harvest? “Then they [the inhabitants of the city] went out of the city and _____ unto Him.” (Jn. 4:30)

Note: The fields which Jesus pointed to served as a symbol for the people of the Sychar. The inhabitants of Sychar were ripe, ready to be harvested (see, Jn. 4:41)

5. What did Jesus mean when He said to His disciples: “And herein is that saying true, ‘One soweth, and another reapeth.’ I sent you to _____ that whereon ye bestowed no _____; other men labored, and ye are _____ into their labors?” (Jn. 4:37-38)

Note: “The Savior was here looking forward to the great _____ on the day of Pentecost. The disciples were not to regard this as the result of their own _____. They were entering into other men’s labors. . . . By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, _____ were to be converted in a day. This was the result of Christ’s sowing, the harvest of _____ work.” (DA 192)

6. How long did Jesus tarry in Samaria? “And when the Samaritans were _____ unto Him, they _____ Him that he should tarry with them; and he abode there _____ days.” (Jn. 4:40)

7. What evidence do we have that the woman was merely an instrument in God’s hands to reach the inhabitants of Samaria? “And many more believed because of his _____ word; and said unto the woman: ‘Now we _____, not because of _____ saying; for we have heard him _____, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.’” (Jn. 4:41-42)

8. How did Jesus gain the confidence of the Samaritans? “In face of their prejudices He accepted the _____ of this despised people. He _____ under their roofs, ate with them at their _____—partaking of the food prepared and served by their hands,—taught in their _____, and treated them with the utmost kindness and courtesy.” (DA 193)

9. How did the ministry of Jesus in Judea contrast with His ministry in Samaria? “When Jesus sat down to rest at Jacob’s well, He had come from _____, where His ministry had produced little _____. . . . He was faint and weary; yet He did not _____ the opportunity of speaking to one _____, though she was a _____, an alien from Israel, and living in _____ sin.” (DA 194)

10. How does the story of the woman of Samaria teach us a lesson about the far-reaching potential of a one soul audience? “The worker for Christ should not feel that he cannot speak with the same _____ to a few hearers as to a larger company. There may be only _____ to hear the message; but who can tell how far-reaching will be its influence?” (DA 194)
11. What contrast existed between the disciples and the Samaritan woman? “Their thoughts were fixed upon a great work to be done in the _____. They did not see that right around them was a _____ to be gathered. But through the woman whom they despised, a whole _____ were brought to hear the Savior. She carried the light at _____ to her countrymen.” (DA 195)
12. What will characterize every true disciple of Jesus? “Every true disciple is _____ into the kingdom of God as a _____. He who drinks of the living water becomes a _____ of life. The receiver becomes a _____. The grace of Christ in the soul is like a spring in the _____, welling up to refresh all, and making those who are ready to perish eager to drink of the water of life.” (DA 195)

At the Feast of Tabernacles

1. What awesome words did Jesus cry out on the final day of the Feast of Tabernacles? “If any man _____, let him come unto me, and _____.” (Jn. 7:37)
2. What condition were the people in when Jesus spoke these words? “The morning of this day found the people _____ from the long season of festivity. . . . The condition of the people made his appeal very _____.” (DA 453)
3. What had the priest celebrated that very morning? “The priest had that morning performed the ceremony which commemorated the smiting of the _____ in the wilderness. That rock was a symbol of Him who by His death would cause living streams of salvation to flow to all who are athirst. Christ’s _____ were the water of life.” (DA 454)
4. Of what did this impressive ceremony consist? “Here [next to the altar in the court] were two silver basins, with a priest standing at each one. The flagon of _____ was poured into one, and a flagon of _____ into the other; and the contents of both flowed into a pipe which communicated with the Kedron, and was conducted to the _____ Sea.” (DA 449)
5. According to the episodes in John 4 and John 7, what will characterize those who truly trust in Jesus? “But the water that I shall give him shall be in him a _____ of water springing into everlasting life. . . . He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his _____ shall flow _____ of living water.” (Jn. 4:14; 7:38)
6. What awesome invitation does Jesus make to those who are thirsty? “And let him that is athirst _____. And whosoever _____, let him take the water of life _____.” (Rev. 22:17)

