



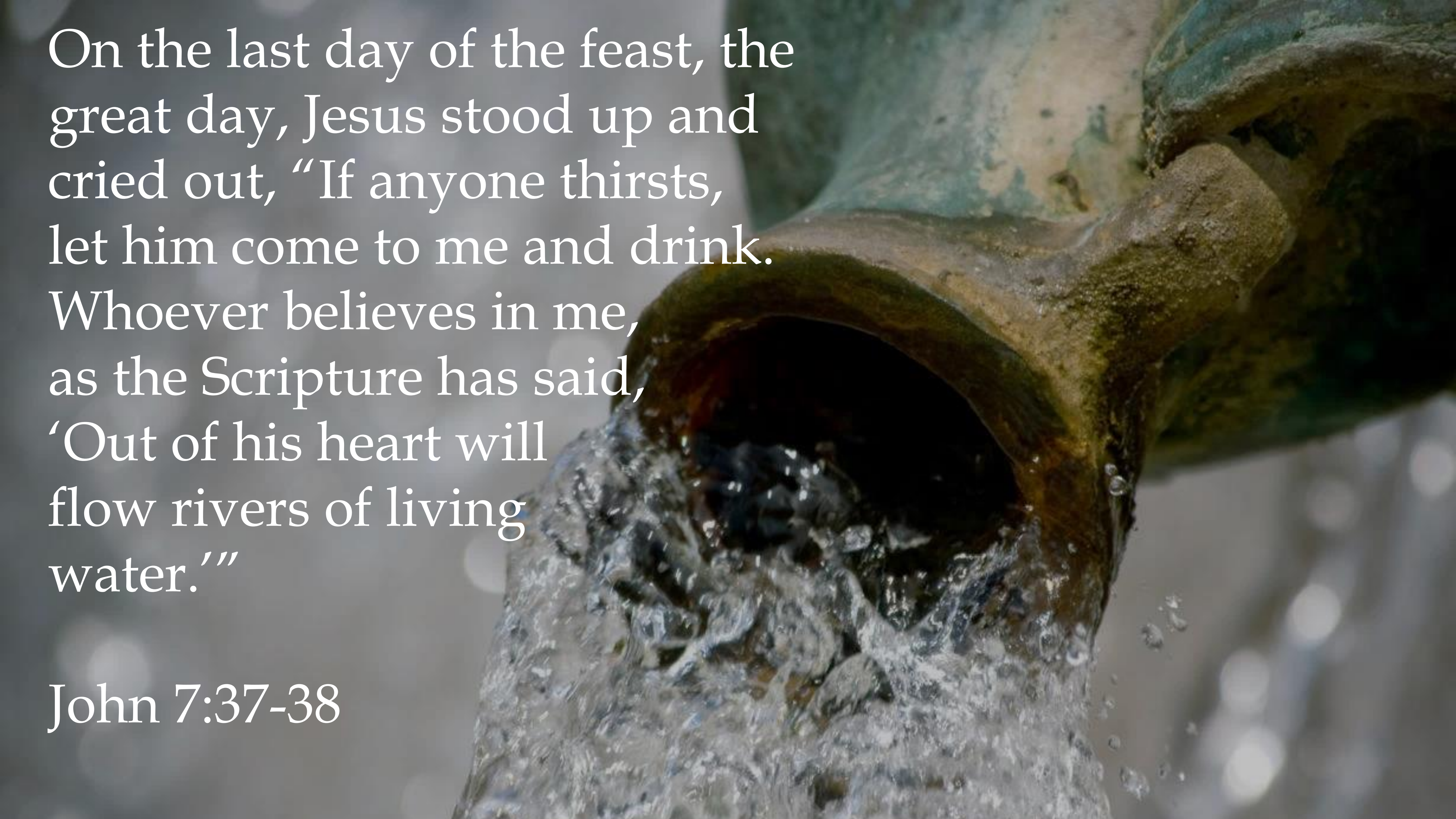
J. C. RYLE

HOLINESS



CHAPTER 17

THIRST RELIEVED



On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”

John 7:37-38

WHERE, WHY, WHEN?

▶ PLACE:

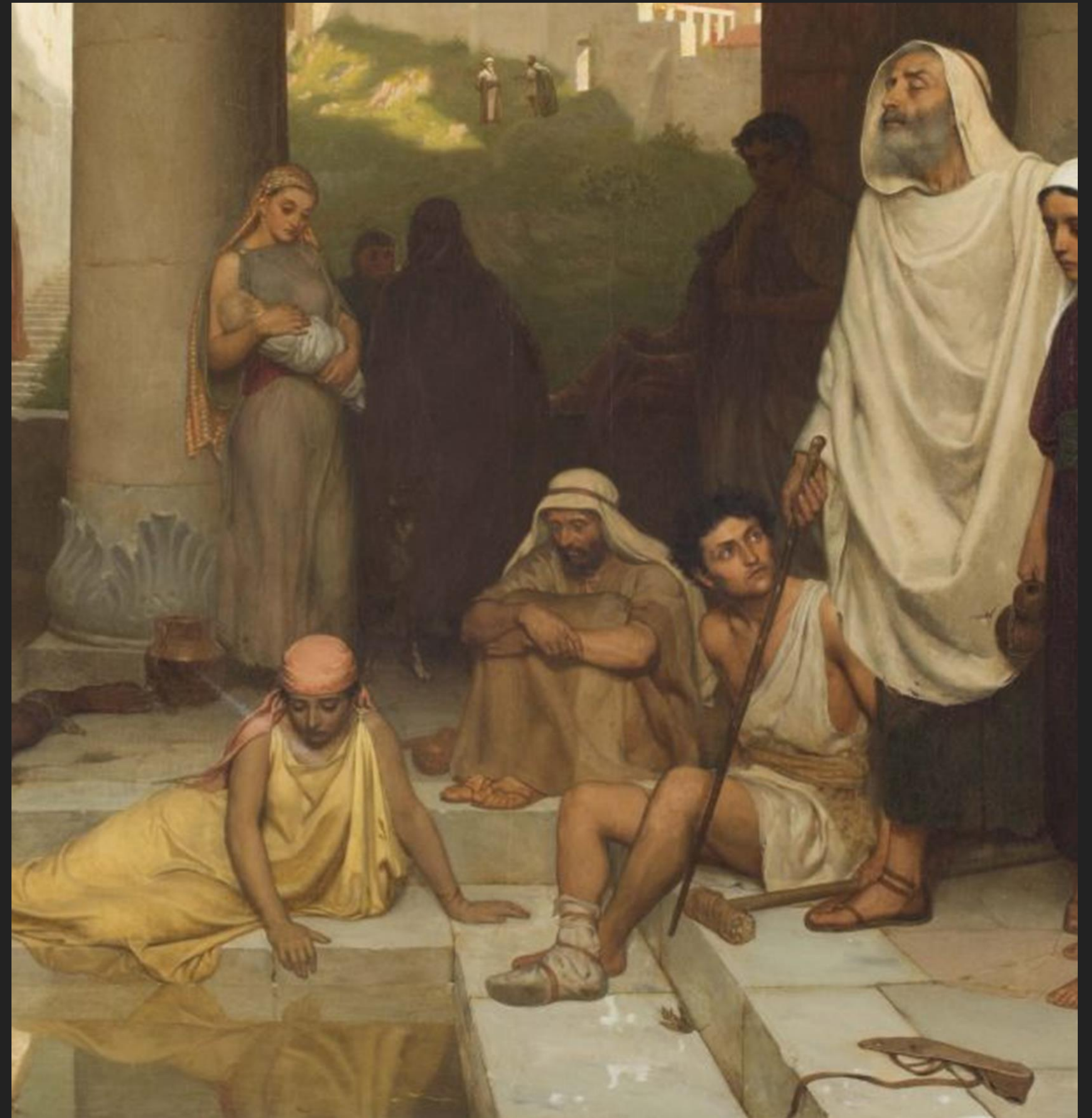
- ▶ Jerusalem

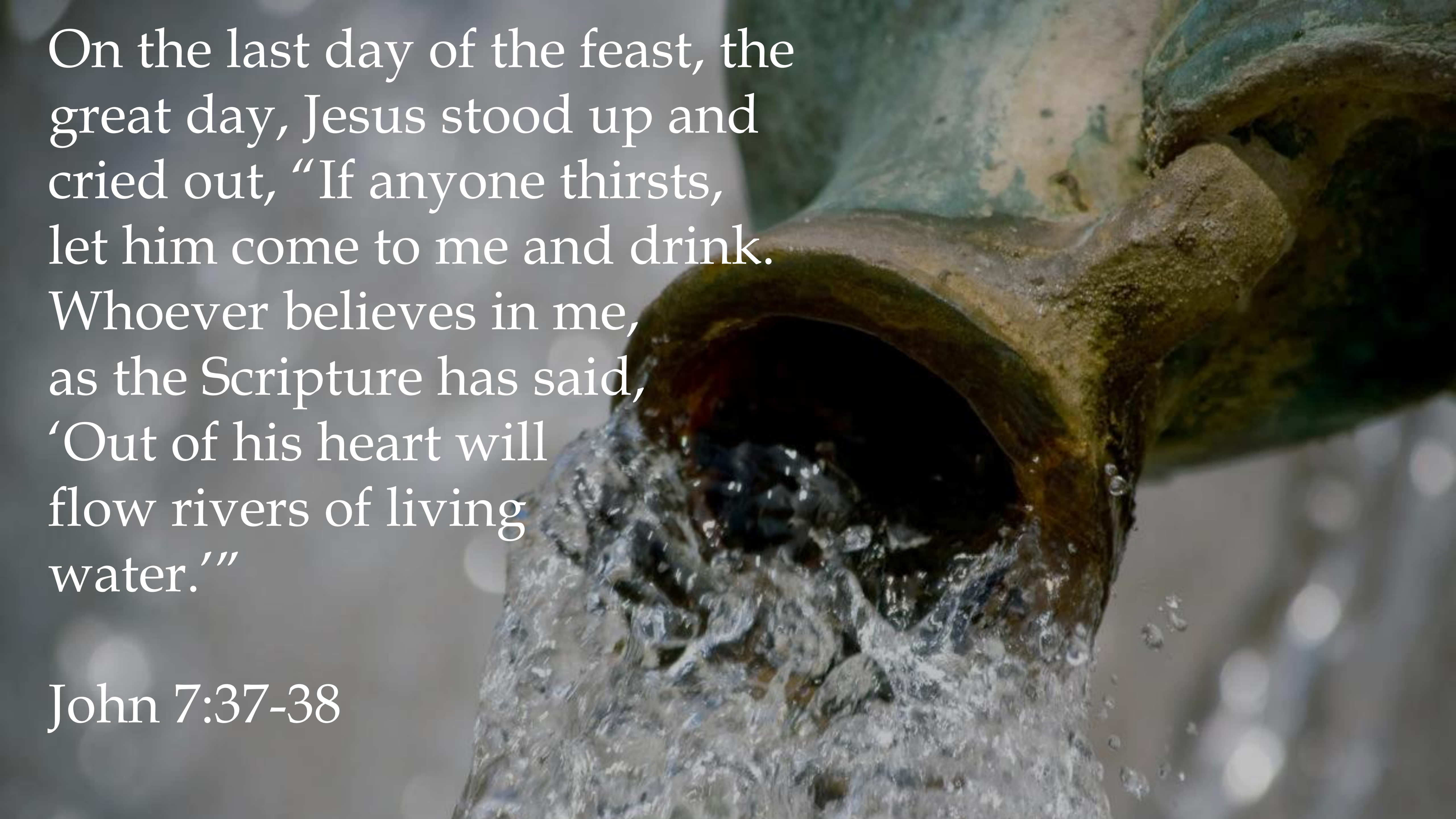
▶ OCCASION:

- ▶ Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot)

▶ TIME:

- ▶ The last day of the feast; the water libation.





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John 7:37-38

OUTLINE

- ▶ *A Case Supposed*: “If anyone thirsts”
- ▶ *A Remedy Proposed*: “let him come to me and drink”
- ▶ *A Promise Held Out*: “Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”

THIRST RELIEVED

A CASE SUPPOSED:
“IF ANYONE THIRSTS”

A CASE SUPPOSED: "IF ANYONE THIRSTS"

- ▶ What spiritual thirst is?
 - ▶ To see your soul for what it truly is.
 - ▶ To know your guilt & wickedness.
 - ▶ To have the weight of conscience.
 - ▶ To feel unforgiveness.
 - ▶ To know that you are dying.
 - ▶ To see your eternal ruin.

A CASE SUPPOSED: "IF ANYONE THIRSTS"

- ▶ What spiritual thirst is not?
 - ▶ Not knowing where to find pardon.
 - ▶ Not knowing whom to ask for forgiveness.
 - ▶ Not knowing what will bring you satisfaction.
 - ▶ Not knowing where to find true peace for your soul.
 - ▶ Not knowing whom can effectually give absolution.

“I have erred and strayed like a lost sheep – there is no health in me – I am a miserable offender.”

A sense of sin, guilt, and poverty of soul, is the first stone laid by the Holy Ghost when he builds a spiritual temple. He convinces of sin.”

J. C. Ryle

“A serious attempt to repent and really to know one's own sins is in the long run a lightening and relieving process.”

C. S. Lewis

THIRST RELIEVED

A REMEDY PROPOSED:

“LET HIM COME TO ME AND DRINK”

A REMEDY PROPOSED: "LET HIM COME TO ME AND DRINK"

- ▶ I am the bread of life – *come* – never hunger.
- ▶ I am the light of the world – *follow* – be saved
- ▶ I am the door – *enter* – be saved
- ▶ I am the way, truth, life – *come* – access the Father
- ▶ Heavy laden – *come* – find rest
- ▶ *Come* – I will not cast you out



“I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and
live.”

I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream.
My thirst was quenched, my
soul revived,
and now I live in him.

Horatius Bonar

A REMEDY PROPOSED: "LET HIM COME TO ME AND DRINK"

▶ Three Precautions:

1. You must come to Christ himself (John 4:13). Don't come to the church, to religion; come directly to him.
2. You must actually come. It's not enough to desire to come; it's not a wish! The prodigal son didn't say, "I hope to go home someday."
3. You must come in faith. Many will want to bring something of their own, but this is all of Christ.



“Faith is the only hand that can carry the living water to our lips.”

“Faith is the hinge on which all turns in the matter of our justification.”

J.C. Ryle

THIRST RELIEVED

A PROMISE HELD OUT:

“WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME, AS THE SCRIPTURE HAS SAID, ‘OUT OF HIS HEART WILL FLOW RIVERS OF LIVING WATER.’”

A PROMISE HELD OUT: “OUT OF HIS HEART WILL FLOW RIVERS OF LIVING WATER.”

- ▶ We all use promises in our daily life. e.g. pay for labor
- ▶ People believe promises and we expect to be believed ourselves.
- ▶ Few know the brevity of the promises in Scripture. (2 Peter 1)
- ▶ Promises of God are much different than those of men
 - ▶ Man's are not sure; God's are “yes,” and we say, “amen.”
 - ▶ God is almighty, yet he cannot do one thing – lie. (Heb. 6:18)

A PROMISE HELD OUT: “OUT OF HIS HEART WILL FLOW RIVERS OF LIVING WATER.”

- ▶ This is a distinctly different promise than many others – It’s a promise to many, through one.
1. To the one who comes, God will supply abundantly everything that he can desire for the relief of his own soul’s wants.
 - ▶ This is that pardon, forgiveness, satisfaction, peace, and absolution like a well spring which never runs dry.

A PROMISE HELD OUT: “OUT OF HIS HEART WILL FLOW RIVERS OF LIVING WATER.”

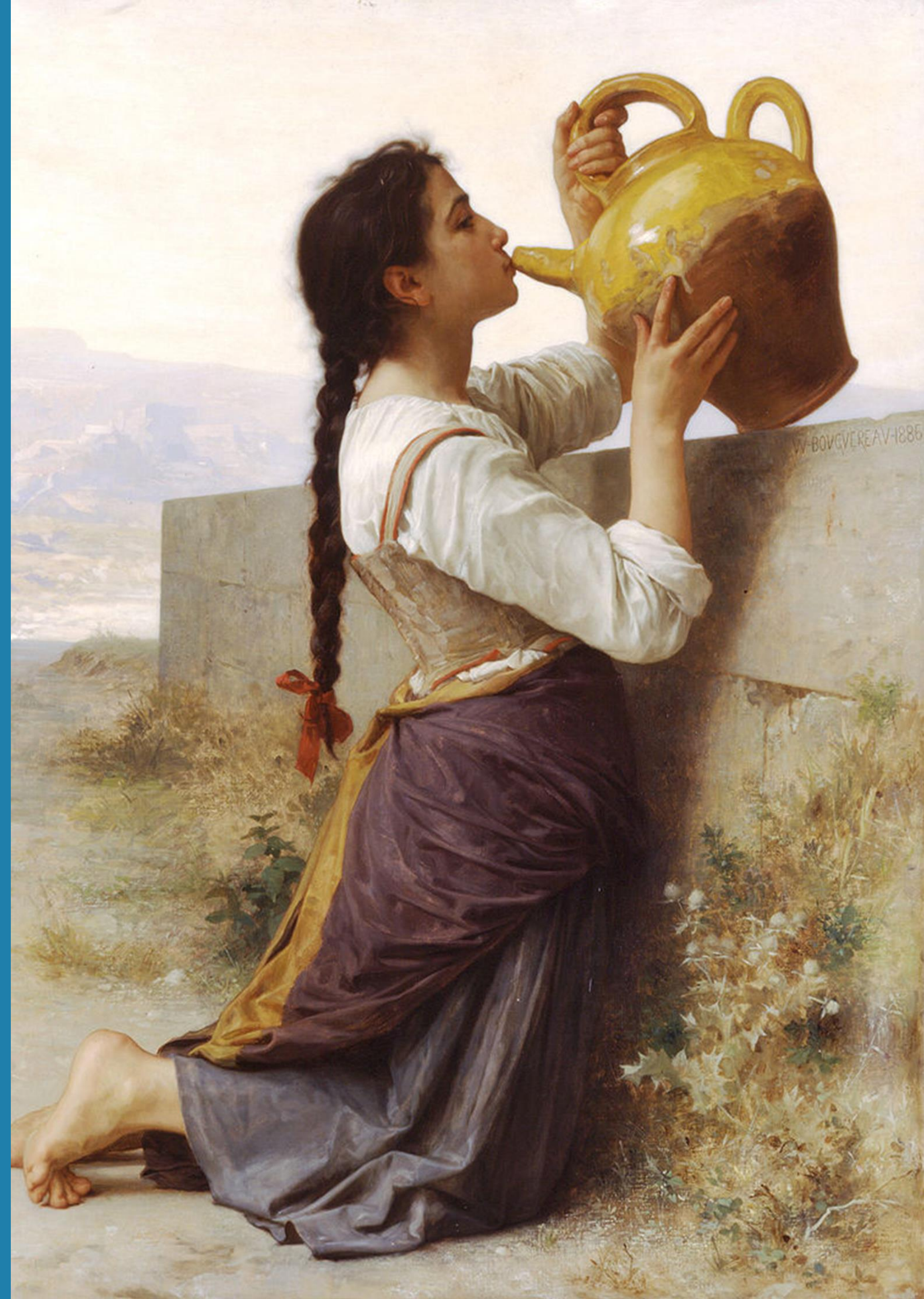
2. God will use this man as a source of blessing to the souls of others. Romans 14:7 says, “No man lives to himself”
 - a. Some are this blessing while they are alive
 - b. Some are this blessing when they die
 - c. Some are this blessing long after they die
 - d. Some are this blessing in their daily conduct & behavior
- Who are the ones who have influenced you and your life?

THIRST RELIEVED

CONCLUSION

**“Do you know anything of
spiritual thirst?**

Have you ever felt anything of genuine deep concern about your soul? I fear that many know nothing about it. I have learned that people may go on for years attending God's house and yet never feel their sins, or desire to be saved. The cares of this world, the love of pleasure, the ‘lust of other things,’ choke the good seed every Sunday, and make it unfruitful. They come to church with hearts as cold as the stone pavement on which they walk. “





True holiness does not consist merely of believing and feeling, but of doing and bearing and a practical exhibition of active and passive grace with our tongues, our tempers, our natural passions, and inclinations our conduct as parents and children, masters and servants, husband and wives, rulers and subjects, our dress, our employment of time, our behavior in business, our demeanor in sickness and health, in riches and in poverty.



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