

Names of God from the Bible

29 – Source of living water

All God's Names are eternal names – so He is still the Source of living water for us today.

Reading: Jeremiah 2:1-19

We will never be able to satisfy our spiritual needs with physical or temporal answers, and yet that is exactly what we have tried to do throughout history.

We have been made in the image of God, with an eternal living soul. Consequently, we will never be able to satisfy our inner spiritual hunger with anything other than a relationship with God as our Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Every person living on this planet is looking for three basic needs to be met.

We all need security, self-worth and significance.

- Security – we need to be unconditionally loved, so no matter what we say or do, we can relax in knowing someone really cares for us and loves us, despite our mistakes.
- Self-worth – we need to know that we have value and we are special – not some lump of slime that 'eventually' turned into a person.
- Significance – we need to know that our lives amount to something worthwhile; we are not just wasting our time on earth, for there must be some point to it.

We see ourselves engaging in all manner of activity and search in order to gain or achieve these three basic needs.

We seek security in work, wealth, investments and friendships, only to find that riches are no more than an illusion. They bring neither security nor lasting happiness. No longer are jobs secure. We live in a day of constant re-structuring and redundancy. Even if we work until we retire, our sense of security in retirement is only short-lived. This is because our security was in the job, and now that it is gone, we have nothing to live for.

We long for self-worth. We seek to find that in others too, only to find they are just as desperate as we are to have their own needs met through us. We both become increasingly selfish. They need constant affirmation but the best we can give is temporary, and in the end, it seems terribly shallow and condescending. Since that need is not adequately met, they become more and more demanding. In the end, we get turned off completely and even cease to offer what we have been giving.

In pain, people turn to alcohol, drugs and sex for temporary respite, which ends in crippling addiction or suicide.

For significance, we strive for status, power, achievement or the acquisition of more and more 'things'. The only problem is that, as soon as the 'thing' is bought, it loses its lustre. As soon as the 'achievement' is secured, it becomes worthless. Any recognition is shallow and temporary, and never satisfies. That dissatisfaction leads to frustration and anger. The drive for more eventually breeds insensitivity and turns us into workaholics.

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The Jews had the same problem. They thought like we do – that independence would give them freedom. They thought their ‘man-made *cisterns*’ would satisfy their needs, but these were broken, leaking and, therefore, only temporarily satisfying.

However, there is an antidote. Jesus Christ provides the “*living water*” that satisfies our deepest needs. The three ‘S’s, as we call them, can be satisfied only through Him and Him alone. He alone is the Way, the Truth and the Life. *He loves us unconditionally*, providing all the security we shall ever need.

God accepts us as His children. There can be no greater source of self-worth than knowing that the Creator God loves us so much He sent His Son to die for us – *that’s how much He values us.* We are, and you are, *a prince or princess of the King of kings.*

What more significance could we need than to know that *we can live in and fulfil the destiny our Creator has planned for us?*

Give up your broken cisterns today. Come back and drink freely from the only source of living water – Jesus Christ the Lord – and find in Him unconditional love, unending joy, unshakeable peace, true and lasting fulfilment – and total satisfaction.

God is the eternal source of living water.

What does that name mean for us today

We will never be satisfied in life outside of a relationship with God. Being in a relationship with God brings satisfaction now and eternal life for evermore.

Prayer

Father, thank You that I have found You as the source of living water. I pray that all those reading this passage will find You as their source of living water, too. Amen.

Additional Readings

- Ezekiel 47:1-12
- John 4:7-15
- John 7:37-44

Questions

1. What does living water signify?
2. What temporal things do we try and quench our spiritual thirst with?
3. How thirsty for Jesus are you?