

1. We'll meet all of June, skip July & August, & resume 9/12.
2. Our LifeLine for 6/13 will *probably* be John 17:3.

LifeLines 6/6/22

Today's Scripture: 1 Verse

Psalm 87:7

Singers & dancers alike say, "All my springs are in You."

WHY WE'RE HERE

2 Timothy 3:16-17, All scripture is inspired by God & is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, & for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

CONTEXT

This psalm, a Psalm or Song of Zion, was written by the sons of Korah - Levites, from the family of Kohath. We believe they served in the musical aspect of the temple worship. Hebrews not only boasted of their own birth in Zion, they boasted on behalf of future generations. They exulted in addressing the sacred city as the cradle of their family. This psalm rejoices in God & the city of God, & looks to the future, heavenly Jerusalem.

All of God's people have cause for rejoicing! We're His children & joint heirs with Christ. In our psalm, they even rejoice anticipating the day when all people will be converted & added to the list of believers in The Church. Previous verses list locations from which some of the past & future believers have & will come: Philistia, Tyre, Ethiopia.

(Verse 87:3 inspired John Newton to write the hymn, "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken.")

DIFFERENT VERSIONS

NIV

As they make music they will sing, "All my fountains are in You."

NKJV

Both the singers & players on instruments say, “All my springs are in You.”

NLT

The people will play flutes & sing, “The source of my life springs from Jerusalem!”

TLB

And in the festivals they’ll sing, “All my heart is in Jerusalem.”

TLV (Tree of Life Version)

Then singing & dancing – all my fountains of joy are in You!

AMP

The singers as well as the players on instruments shall say, All my springs (my sources of life & joy) are in you (city of our God).

MSG

Singers & dancers give credit to Zion: “All my springs are in you!”

SELAH

BREAKING DOWN THE VERSE

Singers & dancers alike say... There is great rejoicing & praise of God with vocal & instrumental music. Singing, dancing & music are exuberant expressions of the heart in many cultures. They reflect feelings, thoughts passions & worship. God Himself gave us these powerful expressions to experience & proclaim His glory as well as the glory we experience because we’re able to communicate with Him.

All my springs are in you... Springs are self-sustaining sources of water. They bubble up out of dry earth & burst forth! This means all our fountains, joys, divine blessings are found in the Lord. In this psalm, some see Zion as the source of the streams of blessings. Others see the Lord God as the Source of all joy & blessing. “You” can refer to Zion as a place or to God Himself.

Most commentaries see it as a reference to God. His blessings are appropriated to us individually & personally, by faith.

Springs are a place of refreshment & life-giving sustenance – places where we go to drink deeply in order to be satisfied. There's physical thirst, of course, but we're speaking of spiritual/emotional thirst. Throughout the Bible, the Presence of God is described as just such a spring or fountain of living water. In this psalm, God is declared as the Source & joy of our life. Without Him, we would surely die.

At times, many people, perhaps even we ourselves, have looked to other people or things seeking joy, fulfillment, life & pleasure to satisfy our souls. Such things lead to disappointment, emptiness, brokenness, even death. *God alone is the only true Source of life, & the life He promises is abundant!* Where God is, there is Joy!

Again, without water, there is no life. Where is *our* source of water, life, refreshment? Where do we turn for Encouragement? Purpose? Meaning? Comfort? Guidance? Wisdom? Truth? What, or who, is our source of life? God pleads with us, "Find your Source & all your springs in Me!" God considers any other source idolatry (**Exodus 20:3**)!

How privileged we are that God opens His fountains of living water to those of us who wait on Him, His ordinances, His timing & purposes. All other fountains are muddy, turbulent & of questionable content. His are clear as crystal, refreshing, satisfying & full of delight.

A goal of every believer should be to declare, "*All my springs are in You!*" As believers & disciples of Jesus, as saints in the church, leaders in our churches, we should focus on what fountains we & others are drawing from for our life's source. If our Source, our Center, is not Christ, then *everything* we do as believers & churches will miss the mark. There is no other Source of genuine blessing. From Him come peace, comfort, joy, contentment, happiness, strength, victory & so much more...when we *wait on the Lord*.

Every Christ follower must make it our responsibility to connect with & stay connected to the Living Water, daily. We say daily, because even believers face challenges, disappointments, discouragement, sorrow, embarrassment, confusion, despondency, helplessness. Those of us who have faith are a giant leap ahead of those without faith, but this doesn't mean we don't struggle. We tie a knot & hang on to our faith. We accept Jesus' offer to take His yoke upon us (**Matthew 11:29-30**) because it's easier than bearing our burdens alone. We pray. We request trusted intercessors to pray with &

for us. We remember God's goodness & provision in the past. We recite Bible verses like this LifeLine, & we sit still in the Great Silence, calm our spirit, meditate & wait on the Lord.

Let us learn to repeat over & over, "*All my springs are in You! All my springs are in You! All my springs are in You!*" **until we feel buoyed up** by His Springs of Living Water.

SELAH

RELATED VERSES

Psalm 27:14, Wait for the Lord; be strong, & let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! (Why is this verse related?)

Psalm 36:8-9, They feast on the abundance of Your house, & You give them drink from the river of Your delights. For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light.

Psalm 42:1-2a, As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

Psalm 68:26, "Bless God in the great congregation, the Lord, O you who are of Israel's fountain."

Isaiah 40:31, But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run & not be weary, they shall walk & not faint. (Why is this verse related?)

Isaiah 43:19, I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness & rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 55:1, Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; & you that have no money, come, buy & eat! Come, buy wine & milk without money & without price.

Jeremiah 2:12-13, Be appalled, O heavens at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for My people have committed two evils: they have

forsaken Me, the fountain of living water, & dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water. (Cistern: a tank for storing water, including rainwater or refuse, frequently containing contaminants. It differs from a well. It holds captured water, as opposed to tapping into a living underground source.)

Ezekiel 47:1 & 9a (You're encouraged to read verses **1-12!**), Then He brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there, water was flowing from below the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east); & the water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar... Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, & there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; & everything will live where the river goes.

Zechariah 14:8, On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea & half of them to the western sea; it shall continue in summer as in winter.

Luke 14:26, "Whoever comes to Me & does not hate father & mother, wife & children, brothers & sisters, yes, & even life itself, cannot be My disciple."
(Why is this verse related?)

John 4:14, But those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.

John 7:37-38, On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, He cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to Me, & let the one who believes in Me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'"

Revelation 22:1-2, Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God & the Lamb, through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river, is the tree of life with its 12 kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; & the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

CONCLUSION

1. Demonstrate praying the second part of this verse as a prayer of: Praise, Rejoicing, Petition, Plea, Lament, Despair, Thanksgiving, Wonder, Personal Assurance, Recipient of His Grace.
2. Seriously consider a decision to recite this verse often as a reminder & acknowledgment of your Source.

SUMMARY

To know God is to be *connected* to the Source of all life. We get to drink the living water now as well as in eternity. We receive the blessing of life through the living water. He is more than one river! He is multiple rivers of water, as many as we need. He is enough to satisfy all people, all needs.

We are each in our own, unique stage of spiritual growth. Many of us have developed fine disciplines & habits that assist in that growth. Even good habits can become stagnant ruts if we don't keep our growing stages fresh with living water: experimenting with new techniques, disciplines or habits; a different venue or space for quiet, devotional time; a new twist to the normal Bible Study or devotional routine. After all, if we've been doing the exact same things for several years, we can easily lose enthusiasm (*meaning, "God within"*) for what we're doing.

Remember, His mercies are new every morning (**Lamentations 3:22-23**)! Maybe our entry into His Presence should be freshened up from time to time, too. Maybe God would like to see us mix up our routine a little! Let's keep joy, wonder, excitement, anticipation, worship, reverence, trust, love & expectation alive when we greet God & as we spend every moment in His Presence. He's waiting. He's willing. He's there. He's here! *He's always here! Wait on the Lord! All our springs are in Him!*

ACTIVITIES TO CONSIDER

- How would your walk with God improve if you spent 20 minutes every day in communion with Christ through devotional Bible reading, prayer or sitting quietly listening for Him to speak to you? If you already do this (we know many spend more than 20 minutes), consider adding more

time or something extra to your current program. Twenty minutes isn't necessarily a goal to shoot for, but it might be a fine start for some folks.

- What would it look like if you consciously invited Jesus into every situation in your life & asked, "Does this please You?"
- Ask yourself, "Is Christ the *priority* in my life?" If so, what evidence can you provide as proof?
- Ask yourself if there is anything or anyone you love more than you love God. Are all your springs in that object or person? How do you think God feels about that?
- Are there activities you don't pray about because you know you're going to do them whether God likes it or not?

"Everything will live where the river goes!" Ezekiel 47:9

Is your life as alive as it can be?

Are ALL your springs in Him?

Have you told Him? Have you told others?

Do you proclaim it with joy?

Should you?

Will you?

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel..." Romans 1:16a

"All my springs are in You!" Psalm 87:7b

Add This Verse to Your LifeLines!

***ALL* SCRIPTURE IS OUR –**

LifeLine!

References: biblehub.com; thedancingkey.wordpress.com; inkoutloud.wordpress.com; enduringword.com; www.studylight.org; thelittleduckwife.com; gbcurbana.com; biblegateway.com; Upper Room Disciplines, May 21, 2022; www.gov.mb.ca>pubs>water;