



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Drinking from Christ ... By Billy

READ JOHN 7: 37-39

- As we journey together into a New Year I am reminded that the truths of scripture are timeless truths.
- To put it another way, these teachings of Christ are for all times and seasons; for all generations and nationalities.
- There are two indications of this reality in the passage before us.
- **THE FEAST:** The feast of tabernacles was to be a solemn assembly of 7 days that was to remind the people of Israel of their true identity. ()
- They were on a journey to the land of promise and everything about this pilgrim journey was marked by a sense of the temporary- even the houses in which they lived.
- I have no doubt that the people enjoyed much of what this feast offered, for example, the rest, the sense of celebrating together and the nourishment.
- Those who benefited most were looking at this feast not as an end in itself (as one would view a portrait) but as a window that provided a vista of something spectacular.
- Jesus Christ is the fulfilment of what they hoped for and His words are as meaningful to us today as they when he first uttered them.
- Each passing year leaves us with a strong sense of the temporary: changing governments, shifting values, uncertain outcomes.
- Jesus speaks His eternal truth into the changing circumstances of our experience of life:
- The other indication that His words are timeless may be found in the expression, the last day. Every feast must draw to a close and a sense of normality returns.
- The best that we can experience in this life is merely fleeting, even our precious relationships as we know them here will be severed in death.
- This sense of finality is meant to guide us to more substantial realities
“ ...”
- These are timeless truths because their significance then has in no way diminished since.





WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Events /Notices

- ▶ **Normal meetings** resume this week, prayer at 10.00am Sunday, prayer meeting Wed 7pm and Bible study group Fri 7pm
- ▶ **Week of prayer** will commence with time of prayer/fasting on Sunday January 21st and will continue each evening from Monday to Thursday of the same week.(More details to follow)
- ▶ **Michaela and Jemima will display** craft items this Sunday and all proceeds will be distributed to Christian missionary work.

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3 - 7 year olds in the Crèche (as arranged).

▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11).

▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. (*Hebrews 13:2*).