



**Sooke Baptist Church**  
**Sunday, April 10, 2022,**  
**10am, in-person**

also on Facebook Live Stream  
and YouTube

**Soul Thirst**  
**Revelation 21:6-7**



**03:00**

**Coffee/Question:**

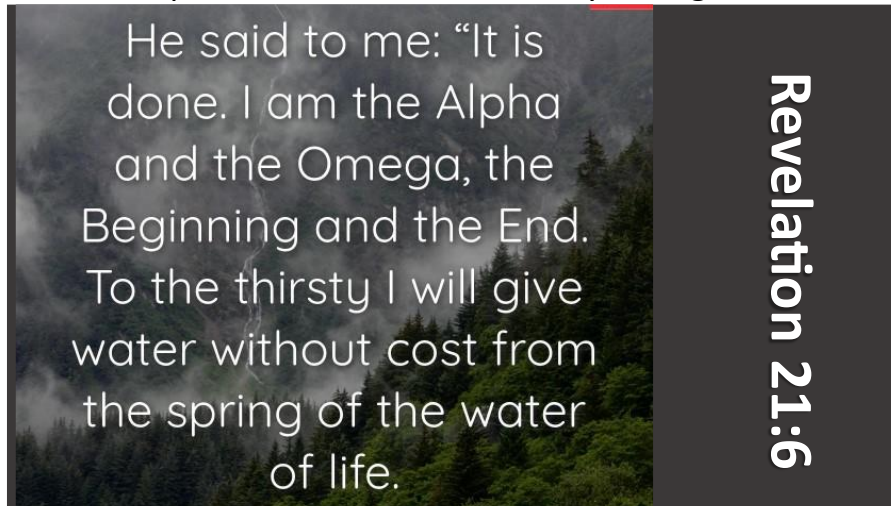
**Think of the things you have that  
came to you “without cost.”**

**Which one is the best?**



There are two things I want us to consider based on what God said to John.

God's first promise was.... to the thirsty I will give water.



The magnitude of this promise has everything to do with the One who makes it. The One speaking is the triune God... the One who will pronounce after the return of Jesus, "**I am making everything new,**" and then... "**It is done!**"... the One who identified himself... as "**the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.**"

But what about this thirst that God speaks of?

What is it?

It is a thirst we are all born with... a thirst for God that only God can satisfy.

Because of our first parents' decision to turn away from God and do what was right in their own eyes... this is what has happened...

Through the prophet Jeremiah God said...



This "soul thirst" ... for God... which exists in everyone... is what compels people... to "dig their own cisterns."

What does that mean?

Humanity in every generation, attempts in many different ways... to satisfy their thirst for God by constructs of their own doing.

But what does God say about these alternates?

He says... they cannot satisfy... because they cannot hold water.

And they cannot hold water... because... they are broken... leaving the thirst of those who try to drink from them... unquenched.

What is so amazing about the triune God is that he even uses our failed attempts to find an alternate for him, to draw us to himself.

Jesus once had a conversation with a Samaritan woman, a woman who had tried to satisfy her soul thirst through five different marriages, and who, when she met Jesus... was living with a sixth man.

As he spoke with her, Jesus offered to her “living water.”



Living water that Jesus said... would become in her... **“a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”** See John 4:10, 14

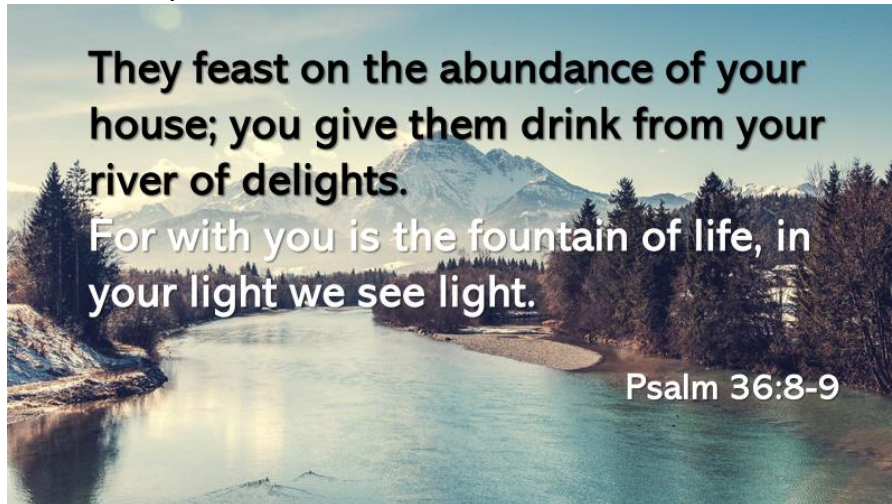
The living water Jesus offered to this woman was himself.

Jesus knew that unless he was at the center of her life... she would always be incomplete... and man number six would probably be replaced by man number seven or something else.

Her story is the story of all of us.

We try to fill the vacuum within us, that is there because of the absence of God... we try to fill it with things that are never enough.

I love what the Spirit of God revealed to the psalmist. He described what it is like for those who've been found by God... who are in relationship with God... and who receive from God... eternal life.



For those who receive and believe in Jesus, and who walk with him ... in the here and now... they experience a profound satisfaction of soul. This is the point being made by these verses!

Look again at our passage – Revelation 21:6.

When the One who is on the throne said, **“To the thirsty, I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life,”** the context of this chapter... informs us that this present age in which you and I now live, this age will have ended... and the new age will have begun.

At this point in the vision shown to John, all things will have been made new, including the people of God who will have been resurrected and transformed.

The intimacy and fellowship to be experienced in this time by the people of God... with God... is likened to that of a marriage between a husband and wife.

The two who are different, the triune God and the redeemed, will have been married, eternally bound to each other, with a covenant that cannot and never will be broken or annulled.

And yet... in this time... based on what God says from the throne... as the resurrected redeemed we will still thirst for God... ...and God will never cease to satisfy us.

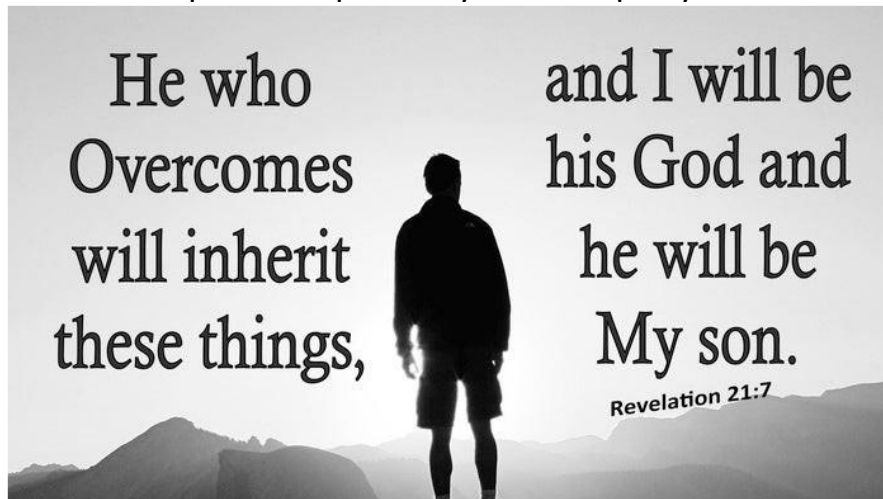
There's something else here.

A husband and wife in this present time, do not present bills to each other for services rendered – cooking, cleaning, companionship, sexual intimacy.

So, it will be with God... he will be the spring of living water, the source of life that will sustain and nourish the redeemed... and what he gives to us, himself, he will give... without cost.

This is amazing grace!

The second promise spoken by God is equally breath-taking!



Our salvation is all of God.

We do not contribute anything.

Greg Morse says, **“Just as we cannot cause ourselves to be physically born, so we cannot cause our spiritual birth.”**

This is what we mean when we say, **“by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.”**

This is the message of the Scripture.



But that doesn't mean that in response to what God has done, we do nothing. Rather, God's word calls us to be "overcomers."

The Greek word often translated "overcomer" stems from the word "nike" which, according to Strong's Concordance, means "to carry off the victory." The verb implies a battle.

The Bible teaches the followers of Jesus to recognize that...



... the world is a battleground, not a playground.

That said, God does not leave us defenseless.

Ephesians 6:11–17 describes the armor of God which is available to all believers.

The Lord also encourages his people in Romans 8:37 which says, **"In all these things we are more than conquerors (overcomers) through him who loved us."**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-overcomer.html>

This is not the first time the Revelation has spoken to the followers of Jesus, challenging them to be... overcomers.

The seven letters to the seven churches spoke of this and promised reward to those who overcome.

**The church in Ephesus, 2:7**

To the one who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

**The church in Smyrna, 2:11**

The one who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.

**The church in Pergamum, 2:17**

To the one who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

**The church in Thyatira, 2:26-28**

To the one who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations... just as I have received authority from my Father. I will also give them the morning star.

The church in Philadelphia, 3:12

The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God.

Never again will they leave it.

I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name.

The church in Sardis, 3:5

The one who overcomes... will be dressed in white. I will never blot out their name from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels.

The church in Laodicea, 3:21

To the one who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

The blessings detailed in the Revelation, the promises made by God to those who overcome, to those who persevere to the end, to those who don't abandon their faith... all of these promises fulfill, in the words of GK Beale, "a prophetic promise given to King David about the One who would come from his house." p.472.



2 Samuel 7:12-14

When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom.

He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

**I will be his father, and he will be my son.**

Through the Spirit of God the psalmist also spoke a prophetic promise given regarding this One to come.

Psalm 2:6-9

“I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.”

I will proclaim the LORD’s decree:

He said to me, **“You are my son; today I have**

**become your father.** Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. You will break them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”

In these two passages... 2 Samuel 7 and Psalm 2... God was speaking of his Messiah.

But the promises given in the time of the OT went even further and are more stunning than anyone could have imagined.

Again I quote from GK Beale...

These promises are applied according to  
**the concept of corporate representation**  
by which Christ represents his people...

Since the followers of Jesus are in Christ, they will  
inherit what Christ inherits.

GK Beale, Revelation, p.472

Let me say it again – **those who are in Christ, will inherit what Christ inherits.**  
In order to see this crystal clear... we need to put the promise made in Psalm 2  
alongside the promise spoken by Jesus in Revelation 2 to the church at Thyatira.

Psalm 2:6-9

"You are my son; today I have become your father. Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. **You will break them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.**"

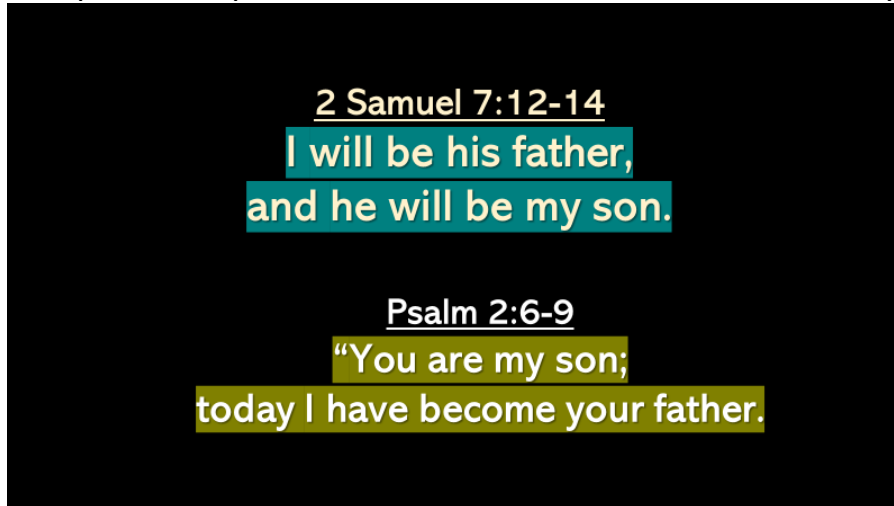
Revelation 2:26-28

To the one who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations – **that one will rule them with an iron scepter and will dash them to pieces like pottery** – just as I have received authority from my Father.

God announces from the throne in Revelation 21... that those who overcome will have a new status.... **"I will be his God and he will be my son."**

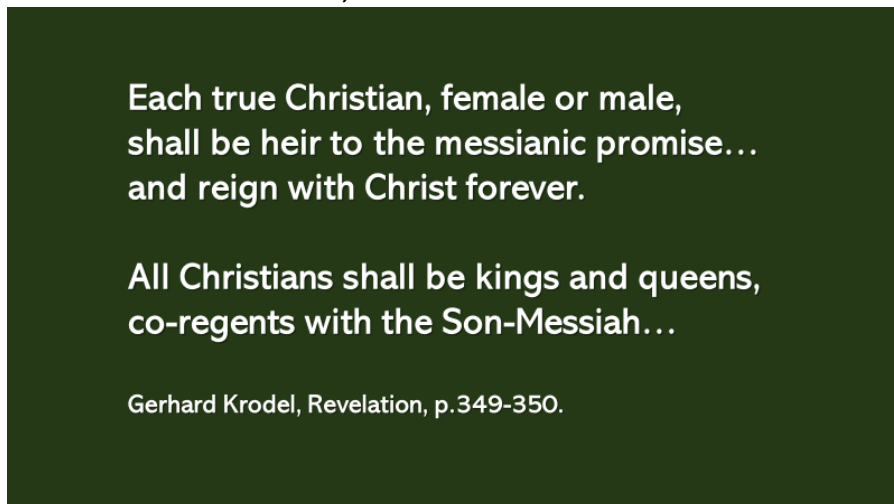
You may be thinking, "I thought we were already God's children; I thought God already was my God?"

This particular phrase – “I will be his God and he will be my son”...



...was taken from scripture that pertained to Jesus... and was fulfilled by Jesus. But now... the One on the throne announces... that... **those who overcome will inherit the inheritance of Jesus.**

Gerhard Krodel writes,



The apostle Paul under the influence of the Spirit wrote to pastor Timothy and in his second letter to him said, 2:11-13...

**2 Timothy 2:11-13**

Here is a trustworthy saying:

If we died with him, we will also live with him;  
**if we endure, we will also reign with him.**

if we disown him, he will also disown us;  
if we are faithless, he will remain faithful,  
for he cannot disown himself.

[lignonier.org/learn/devotionals/reigning-with-christ...](http://lignonier.org/learn/devotionals/reigning-with-christ...) unpacks the implications of this truth and its hope... if we endure we will also reign with him.

We may not often think of ourselves as kings and queens who will rule over creation, but this consequence of our redemption... flows directly from who the Lord made us to be... and what salvation accomplishes in repairing His broken image in those he saves.

God made us to have dominion over creation, to rule it for His glory.  
([Genesis 1:26–31](#)).

Humanity forfeited the ability to fulfill this responsibility and vocation in Adam, but Christ has succeeded in reigning over creation as the last Adam.

In Christ, the redeemed.... are now able once more to achieve our original purpose as righteous rulers of the world ([Romans 5:12–21](#); [Ephesians 2:1–7](#)).

The future aspects of our reign with Christ will involve us judging even the angels, as Paul wrote in [1 Corinthians 6:3](#).

While we look forward eagerly to this future certain hope, even now the people of God reign with Jesus in many ways.

Sin no longer has dominion over those who believe in Jesus Christ, for we live in the gracious era, the last days, in which we have been adopted as God's children.

In Christ we are free from the tyranny of a guilty conscience.  
As Romans 8:1 says, **“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...”**

No condemnation! We are set free.  
But free to do what?  
Peter answers that question.



1 Peter 2:16  
Live as free men,  
but do not use your freedom  
as a cover-up for evil;  
**live as servants of God.**

The truth that we are kings and queens in Christ is not some made up idea to boost our self-esteem.  
It is a present reality... that we will enjoy in all its fullness... at the resurrection of the dead.

**At that future moment, alongside our Savior ... we will enjoy by grace what is His by right.**

**Until then....** as those who have been given the righteousness of Jesus... and the power of the Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead...we reign over those habits of sin whose power has been cancelled.

We bring our minds, wills, and affections into submission to Jesus ... through His Word... and all for the glory of the One who saved us.

**Until then...** we live in this world as God’s representatives... speaking and acting as God would, in order to bless others in the name of Jesus, as we announce the good news that God reigns... and that he has provided in Christ a way home to him.

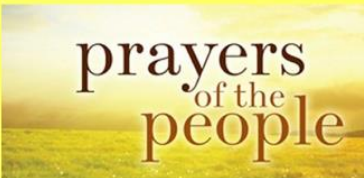


**Isaiah 55:1**

Come, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters.

**Prayer**

O Lord, in compassion you call us. By your mercy, open our ears to hear your voice. Please reveal yourself to us through the wonders of your word. Be our delight. Be our satisfaction. Glorious LORD, we are yours. Amen.



**Isaiah 55:3**

Give ear and come to me;  
listen, that you may live.

**Prayer**

O Lord, we pray for the Ukraine. May you turn for good what is intended for evil. May you bring peace to that nation, and may the people, come to you and find in you life that never ends. Amen.



**Isaiah 55:11**

...I will accomplish what I desire  
and achieve my purpose...

**Prayer**

We pray for Jenn Taylor and her team and the clients who were robbed. We ask that you, the God of peace, would comfort them and keep their hearts soft. We also pray for the resources needed to replace all that was lost. Amen.

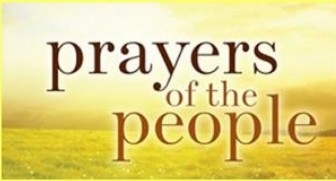


**Isaiah 55:12**

You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace... This will be for the Lord's renown.

**Prayer**

We pray for our sister church El Redil Caldas. We pray that you would provide for their need of a new meeting place. May you do so to spread the fame of your name. Amen



**Isaiah 55:7**

Let the wicked forsake their ways. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them...for he will freely pardon.

**Prayer**

O Lord, we pray for friends and family who don't yet know you. Please draw them to yourself and use us to speak the good news of Jesus to them. Amen.