

WATER



Water is everywhere and we often take no notice of it. We have sinks in our homes and faucets outside for our yards. We have drinking fountains in nearly every park and store we go to and places all along our towns and highways where we can stop for a cool drink of water.

What happens when we go someplace where there is no water? We get thirsty and cannot find a

drink to comfort us. If we go too long without water we can become sick or even die.

If we did not have water to wash with, we would feel really dirty and begin to smell badly. If we get a cut or scrape we use water to clean out the wound and make it feel better. If we could not wash a cut we might get an infection.

Water is everywhere and we do not think about it much but it is the most important need we have next to air to breathe!

What can we learn from God's creation of water?

We often take water for granted and, sadly, we often take our baptism for granted also. Without water our bodies would become sick and die. Without our baptism we would not have the forgiveness of sins and our souls would become sick and die eternally. Just as a cold glass of water makes us feel good on a hot day, our baptism should remind us of the wonderful love of God and make us feel good. The Bible teaches us in Titus 3:4-6, "When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared he saved us, not because of righteous

(good) things we had done but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life." Forgiveness of our sins and eternal life are a gift from God that we did not deserve!

Sins are like cuts and scrapes on our souls. If we did not have a way to wash our souls clean, we would die eternally from the infection of our sins. The water of our baptism washes our souls clean of our sins and makes our souls healthy. The Bible teaches us in Ezekiel 36:25, "I (God) will sprinkle clean water on you and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities." God himself washes our souls clean and heals them from the disease of sin.

When we have gotten dirty or when we are hot and sweaty it feels good to wash with cool water. We feel much better. When our sins are washed away, we are once again clean before God the Father. This is why Jesus came to earth - to cleanse us of our sins.

Psalms 51:7 tells us, "Cleanse me with hyssop and I will be clean. Wash me and I will be whiter than snow."

How can we be sure that our sins are washed away? The Bible tells us that Jesus lived and died so that this could happen. If Jesus did not love us so much, we could never hope to have eternal life in heaven. Jesus made that possible for everyone who believes in Him as their Savior. In 1st John 2:1-2 we learn, "If anybody does sin we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense - Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world." No one is turned away from the love of Jesus no matter who they are. Jesus can defend us before God the Father because, as the Bible tells us in 1st Peter 2:24, "He (Jesus) himself bore our sins in his body on the tree (cross) so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed."

Jesus uses water to teach us about faith. Jesus compares water to the joy of salvation we have through Him. When we hunger and thirst for goodness in the eyes of God, God Himself gives us that goodness

through Jesus. We learn this in John 4:13, "Everyone who drinks this water (from the well) will be thirsty again but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." When we think that we are good we are just fooling ourselves. We will always be hungry and thirsty for goodness. But, when we have been given goodness through Jesus, we have goodness that never goes away. We are so full of joy that it flows from us like a fountain. We could never have this without Jesus, our Savior!



Thanks to Jesus we are washed clean and are full of joy!