

Thirsting For God

Psalm 42:1–5

Central Thought:

The deepest thirst of the human soul can only be satisfied by God Himself.

A. Introduction

1. This Psalm meets us where we are.
2. We all understand & have felt the urgency of thirst
3. We can live longer without food than without water
4. We all know the satisfaction of a drink of cold water when we're thirsty.
5. The greater the thirst, the greater the satisfaction.

B. The Soul Has A Thirst That Only God Can Satisfy Psalm

1. Physical thirst reminds us that something essential is missing.
2. The psalmist recognizes that his soul has a deeper need.
3. His thirst is not merely for God's blessings but for God Himself.
4. His soul had a thirst that only God could satisfy.
5. Spurgeon: *"Give David his God and he is as content as a thirsty deer which finally, after a long search, quenches his thirst and is perfectly happy."*
6. We often try to satisfy spiritual hunger with physical things:
7. But created things can never take the place of the Creator.
8. The question is not whether we are thirsty.
9. The question is: What are you drinking to satisfy your soul?

C. The Thirsty Soul Often Looks In The Wrong Places

1. The Samaritan woman is a wonderful illustration.
2. Her life had been marked by broken relationships and disappointment.
3. Jesus offered her living water. — John 4:13–14
4. The problem is not that we have desires.
5. The problem is that we often try to satisfy legitimate desires with the wrong things.
6. But the thirst returns.
7. Why? We are trying to satisfy a God-shaped need with something other than God.

D. The Thirsty Soul Needs To Turn To God.

1. The psalmist is hurting: — Psalm 42:3
2. He is discouraged, & lonely. He remembers better days.
3. Psalm 42:5 gives us a vital lesson:
4. Spiritual thirst does not always mean spiritual failure.
5. Sometimes a faithful believer can go through a season when God seems distant.
6. Sometimes we pray and do not immediately see an answer.
7. Sometimes the soul thirsts because circumstances have left us spiritually dry.
8. But notice what the psalmist does: he turns his thirst toward God.
9. He doesn't run away from God because he is hurting. He runs toward God.
10. That is the difference between spiritual thirst and spiritual emptiness.

E. Jesus Is God's Answer To The Thirsty Soul.

1. The Bible begins with humanity being separated from God because of sin.
2. But it ends with an invitation. (Rev 22:17)
3. Come. Not when you are worthy, cleaned up your life & understand everything.
4. The gospel is God's invitation to thirsty people. — John 7:37
5. He experienced physical thirst then died so that sinners could receive eternal life.
6. The invitation is not to admire the water & know it exists. We must drink.
7. The water of life is free. Salvation is God's gift. (See Eph 2:8-9)
8. At the cross, Jesus gave Himself for us, announcing forgiveness for sinners.
9. He experienced our suffering so that we might experience His salvation.

F. Conclusion — What Are You Drinking?

1. Psalm 42 *“My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.”*
2. You may have tried many earthly things to satisfy your soul.
3. Like relationships, possessions, success, pleasure, achievement, or recognition.
4. Despite having many of those things, the thirst remains.
5. Why? Because you were created for God.
6. Nothing in this world can take His place.
7. Jesus said: *“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.”* — John 7:37
8. Notice His invitation: Come.
9. Come with your failures.
10. Come with your disappointments.
11. Come with your questions.
12. Come with your burdens.
13. Come with your thirst.
14. Jesus does not say, *“Find another well.”*
15. He says, *“Come to Me.”*
16. The world offers temporary satisfaction. - Christ offers living water.
17. The world says, *“You need more.”* - Jesus says, *“I am enough.”*
18. The world says, *“Try something else.”* - Jesus says, *“Come to Me.”*
19. So the question this morning is not simply: *“Are you thirsty?”*
20. The deeper question is: *“What are you drinking?”*
21. What are you depending on to satisfy your soul?
22. What are you looking to for peace, meaning, security, and satisfaction?
23. If you are thirsty, don't keep drinking from broken wells.
24. Come to Christ. Drink deeply from the living water He offers.
25. And may the cry of the psalmist become the cry of our own hearts:
26. *“My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.”*
27. The One who cried, *“I thirst,”* offers you the water of life.
28. Come to Him—and never thirst again.