

# *Broken Cisterns*



**VS**



## *Fountain of Living Water*



*“My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.”*

***Jeremiah 2:13***

***New International Version (NIV)***





*"For my people have  
committed two evils; they  
have forsaken me the fountain  
of living waters, and hewed  
them out cisterns, broken  
cisterns, that can hold no  
water."*

***Jeremiah 2:13  
(King James Version)***





*“For My people have committed two evils: They have abandoned (rejected) Me, The fountain of living water, And they have carved out their own cisterns, Broken cisterns That cannot hold water.”*

**Jeremiah 2:13**  
**(Amplified Bible)**





*“Stand in shock, heavens, at what you see! Throw up your hands in disbelief—this can’t be!’ God’s Decree. ‘My people have committed a compound sin: they’ve walked out on me, the fountain Of fresh flowing water, and **then dug cisterns—cisterns that leak, cisterns that** are no better than sieves.’”*

**Jeremiah 2:13**

**(The Message)**







# *The great contrast*

- *The fountain is freely offered by God.*
- *The cistern, or well, has to be dug out by us using a pick.*
- *The fountain never dries up. (It is of divine origin)*
- *The well is imperfect and dries up. (It is of human origin)*





# *The great contrast*

- *The fountain is of living water.*
- *The well has stagnant water.*
- *The water from the fountain gives life.*
- *The stagnant water from the well leads to destruction.*





# *Two evils*

*The two evils could be defined as follows:*

- ***The rejection of what is real and true.***
- ***The preference for what is fictitious and false.***
- ***The first condition usually leads to the second.***







***“To Me they left Me”  
(They left me)***

***In Hebrew, the redundant  
expression of the  
pronoun (“To Me... Me”)  
makes the declaration  
forceful and emphatic.***





# *Broken cisterns*

- *Water has always been scarce in the Middle East.*
- *Anyone who owned a fountain of living waters, would be foolish to barter it for a broken cistern filled with stagnant water.*





# ***Broken cisterns for a Pastor***





1- *“Overconfidence  
upon experience”*





*“Ministers of age and experience should feel it their duty, as God’s hired servants, to go forward, progressing every day, continually becoming more efficient in their work, and constantly gathering fresh matter to set before the people.”*

**4T 270**







*“Our ministers who have reached the age of **forty or fifty years** should not feel that their labor is less efficient than formerly. Men of years and experience are just the ones to put forth strong and well-directed efforts.”*

**Ev 661**





## 2- *“Overconfidence in talents”*





*“The higher the position a man occupies, the greater the responsibility that he has to bear, the wider will be the influence that he exerts and the greater his need of dependence on God.”*

*ChL 13*





# 3- *“Seeking human glory”*





*“You love praise and excitement and to bring yourself to the front. You care far more for the approbation and praise of men than for the approval of God.”*

*Lt3-1882 (April 1, 1882) par. 9*







## 4- *“Inappropriate use of technology”*





- *How much time do you spend on the internet?*
- *How much time do you spend in chat rooms?*
- *What kind of material do you watch on the internet?*
- *What type of relationships do you foster on the internet?*





- *Do you glorify God when you are on the internet?*
- *Since it is so easy to record lectures, seminars and other material, how much time do you set aside for the preparation of the material that you will use to empower your church and feed the sheep?*





# 5- *“Friendships or forbidden relationships”*





## 6- *“The blind and irrational pursuit of comfort”*







*“An inheritance  
claimed too soon  
will not be blessed  
at the end.”*

***Proverbs 20:21, NIV***





*“An inheritance  
gained hastily at the  
beginning Will not be  
blessed at the end.”*

***(New King James Version)***





*“An inheritance may  
be gotten hastily at the  
beginning; But the end  
thereof shall not be  
blessed.”*

***(American Standard Version)***





*“A bonanza at the beginning is no guarantee of blessing at the end.”*

***(The Message)***





***“Fountains of  
living waters for  
a Pastor”***







# *1- The personal study of the Bible*

*“Until I come, devote yourself  
to the public reading of  
Scripture, to preaching and  
to teaching.”*

*1 Timothy 4:13*





*“It is a sin for those who attempt to teach the Word to others to be themselves neglectful of its study... Of all men upon the face of the earth, those who are proclaiming the message for this time should understand their Bible, and be thoroughly acquainted with the evidences of their faith.”*

**PaM 22**





## *2- Prayer*

*“Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.”*

*Jeremiah 33:3*





*“My message to ministers, young and old, is this: Guard jealously your hours for prayer, Bible study, and self-examination. Set aside a portion of each day for a Study of the Scriptures and communion with God.”*

*PaM 21*





## *3- Family worship*

*“On that day tell your son,  
‘I do this because of what  
the Lord did for me when I  
came out of Egypt.’”*

*Exodus 13:8*





## *4- The study of the Spirit of Prophecy*







# *5- To know the Church Manual and the Minister's Manual*





# Conclusion

*“Lord, you are the hope of Israel;  
all who forsake you will be put to  
shame. Those who turn away  
from you will be written in the  
dust because they have forsaken  
the Lord, the spring of living  
water.”*

***Jeremiah 17:13, NIV***

