

A close-up photograph of a hand holding an open book. The book is held vertically, and the pages are slightly fanned out. A bright, golden light source is positioned behind the book, creating a dramatic lens flare effect with several rays of light extending upwards and outwards. The background is dark, making the light and the book stand out. The overall mood is one of reverence and enlightenment.

BOOK *of* JOHN

YOU CAN'T MAKE THEM DRINK

JOHN 7:37-53

The old axiom states: *“You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink.”*

- In our passage, we see how differently people can respond to the amazing message of grace.
- When offered living water and life in the Spirit, the power of the living God, they choose the bitter water of life apart from God.

LESSONS FROM THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

FOR SEVEN DAYS the priests would march from the temple down to the pool of Siloam. Heralded by trumpet players, they would draw water and then go back to the temple through the water gate.

- When they approached the temple, three trumpet blasts would sound and the priests would shout: *“With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation!”* **Isaiah 12:3**
- Then they did exactly what Jesus did at the wedding of Cana in Galilee: they turned water to wine.

SO MUCH SYMBOLISM

- The last day of Tabernacles the priests would march seven times around the altar chanting, *“Save now.”*
Psalm 118:25
- As they were pouring out the water, symbolic of the water Moses drew from the rock **Exodus 17:1-7;**
Haggai 2:1-9; Hebrews 12:26-29
- *IT WAS AT THIS TIME* Jesus stood and shouted His great invitation to thirsty sinners, *“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.”*

WATER BETTER THAN EVIAN

THAT WATER WAS A PICTURE OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD.

- Water for drinking is one of the symbols of the Holy Spirit in the Bible.
- Water for washing is a symbol of the Word of God.
- Jesus offered them living water and eternal satisfaction by grace through faith in Him.
- If they had honestly examined the evidence, they would have discovered that He was the Christ.

WHAT STOPPED THEM?

- 1.** They were hung up on meaningless details.
- 2.** They refused to believe the Word of God.
- 3.** They thought they were too intelligent to believe by faith.
- 4.** They resorted to ancient debate tricks: when you cannot answer the argument, attack the speaker.
- 5.** They asked Him to show His degrees, but dismissed the plain evidence for the truth out of hand!

OUR INCOMPARABLE SAVIOR IS THE LIVING WATER

Isa. 9:6 is the finest single verse of the majesty of Jesus.

- No other person could have names such as these and no one could belong to the same category as He.
- Most of the people even spoke of Jesus' greatness.
- But they refused to believe His message.

*People today commit the same blunder and permit their prejudices and superficial evaluations to blind them to the truth. **DON'T LET THAT BE YOU!***