

Dig Wells of Intimacy by Todd Bentley

By Todd Bentley

Dig Wells of Intimacy

"I remember you, the kindness of your youth, the love of your betrothal, when you went after Me in the wilderness, in a land not sown. Israel was holiness to the Lord, the firstfruits of His increase. All that devour hi will offend; disaster will come upon them," says the Lord." (Jer. 2:2, 3).

What was happening? God was saying to His children, to His church: "I remember you, the kindness of your youth, and the days you had passion. I remember when you loved me and you were lovesick for me. I remember your faithfulness and covenant loyalty. I remember when you walked in holiness." The Lord is speaking of the days when His people "went after [Him] in the wilderness" and they dug their own spiritual wells, even in desert places. They found their thirst satisfied in God.

Later in the chapter, the Lord describes the condition of His people since those early days of their youth: "For My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water" (Jer. 2:13). God's people had allowed themselves to become broken, leaky vessels though sin, and so were no longer a source, no longer the well. Their second evil is that they had forsaken Him.

How did they forsake the fountain of living waters? They lost their passion. They lost their fire. They lost the kindness of their youth. They lost their loyalty to God. They lost their faithfulness. God said, "I remember when you sent after Me. You went after Me even in the wilderness, in the dry places."

It's easy to go after God when you've got the fountain. It's easy to go after God when there is dew and rain. It's easy to go after God when the heavens are open and everything is going well in your life. But can you still go after God when you're in the wilderness? Can you still be faithful and love your God and be passionate and lovesick for Jesus in a drought?

He said, "Because you lost that passion, you lost that fire. Oh, people! That fire that was once inside of you! You went after Me in the wilderness. You chased Me down. But now you've forsaken the living waters. You lost that passion, you lost that loyalty, you lost that faithfulness, and you lost that fire. And now because of you sin, you're nothing but a broken vessel."

Throughout Israel, the people often dug cisterns, which were receptacles for water that was channeled to them from rainfall or an external spring. Cisterns were a necessity in Judea because of the scarcity of springs. In Jerusalem almost every private home had at least one cistern, usually excavated into rock. Sometimes cisterns would become cracked or broken, their contents would leak out, and they would become useless for holding water. [Dr. William Smith, Entry for Cistern, Smith, Entry for Cistern, Smith's Bible Dictionary, www.biblestudytools.net/Dictionaries/SmithsBibleDictionary.]

What happens if you've leaked and are no longer source? Now the supply is gone—it has spilled out of your life. You're a broken cistern. Now the waters of His Spirit are dried up. You've lost the fire. You've stopped the chase. You've lost your faithfulness. You've lost your kindness. You've lost that passion for God. And you've lost that deep, deep commitment to Him.

If you remain close to god you will be filled with passion. You'll live as a source, a fountain. You won't have broken cisterns. You'll be a well-on-the-go. And while everyone else is leaking, parched in the wilderness, you'll drink. You'll be revived. And you'll have plenty to share with a thirsty, lost, and dying world.

The patriarchs of Israel—Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and others—dug wells wherever they settled in the land of Israel. When the Israelites traveled throughout the land, they would see the ancient wells of their forefathers still standing as signs of the blessing and faithfulness of God. These wells were also reminders of past visitation of God to Israel and His leading of Israel to the Promised Land.

Do you know what? There are spiritual memorials or well markers in the heavens that commemorate mighty manifestations that happen here on earth. Kathryn Kuhlman's open well has one, as does the well that John G. Lake opened up. There's also a marker in the heavens for the well that Smith Wigglesworth opened up.

Remember the markers and spiritual stones commemorating the wells of four forefathers. Re-dig their wells and revisit the stone remains, which are saying, Remember! Excavate and harvest their anointing; uncover the dirt that has begun to cover those wells. Dig in prayer. Dig in the area of intercession. You're going to have to re-dig them.

With God you can turn a city upside down. Partner with Him to see cities and nations shaken by His power. Dig out those deep wells of our forefathers that the elements have covered over. Dig up a well of healing—pray, visit hospitals, and lay hands on the sick.

Dig up a well of revelation and of the prophetic. Or dig up wells of prophetic revelation. Meditate on the Word. Pray in tongues and worship God. Cry out for the spirit of prophecy. Just dig it up!

Then you can seek the face of God for the anointing of evangelism. Dig it up with fasting. Pray with fasting for harvest. Some of you are a well of salvation. Dig it up. See loved ones saved. Dig up your well!

God has already put wells within you—dig them up. You can become a well of blessing for others. Be a well of deliverance. Be a well of revival. Be a well of prayer. Some of you have been called to be the source and some are even called to be fire starters behind a major payer movement. Dig it up. Get on your face. Call a sacred assembly. Have a prayer meeting.

The Bible says that Gideon camped by the well. In almost all accounts in the Book of Judges, that's where he camped. Today God is raising up a church called the "Gideon Church," which camps by the well. God has called us to not only camp at the well, but to become the well so that we can continually drink from the living waters in us and then pour them out on others.

in Him.

Todd Bentley

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