



# **The Great Invitation**

*Ed Riddick, October 22, 2006*

# Hungry for the Old Testament

- **Romans 15:4-5** "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus,"
- **Zephaniah 3:17** "The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing."  
ESV

# The Great Substitution

- Isaiah 53:4-6 "Surely he has borne our grief's and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. "But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all." ESV

# **The Great Blessings**

## **Isaiah 54**

- **Healing Stranger Envy**
- **Healing Widow Shame**
- **Healing Orphan Loneliness**

# I. Who Is Invited?

## Two Kinds of People

A. The Thirsty

B. The Spending in all the wrong places

**Jeremiah 2:13** "people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water." ESV

## **II. What Are We Offered?**

### **A. The Benefits, 55:1**

- **Water**
- **Milk**
- **Wine**



## **II. What Are We Offered?**

### **B. The Quality and Quantity of These Benefits**

The background of the slide is a vibrant autumn scene with trees and bushes displaying leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and red. The scene is slightly blurred, creating a soft, naturalistic backdrop for the text.

## **II. What Are We Offered?**

- A. The Benefits, 55:1**
- B. The Quality, 55:2**
- C. The Reality, 55:3**

# C. The Reality

- **Psalm 73:25-26** "Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."
- **Psalm 42:1-2** "As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?" ESV
- **Psalm 63:1-3** "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. "So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. "Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you." ESV

## **C. The Reality**

- John 7:37-38 "On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. "Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' "" ESV**

### **III. How Do We Get These Benefits?**

***Pay attention to what you hear!***

***James 1:21-22*** "Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." ESV

# 4 Steps

1. Come
2. Buy
3. Eat
4. Enjoy

**Psalm 16:11** "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore." ESV

