Title: the ultimate thirst quencher II

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# Draw near - it's your choice

James 4:8 (NKJV) 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Psalm 63:1-4 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup> O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. <sup>2</sup> So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. <sup>3</sup> **Because** Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You. <sup>4</sup> Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

• Our natural response to your love – praise, blessing, lifting my hands...

# The Father desires true worshippers

John 4:21–23 (NKJV) <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the **Father is seeking such to worship Him.** 

**Worship:** proskuneo – "to kiss toward". *To prostrate oneself, bow down, show reverence, do homage, worship, adore.* An intimate relationship with Jesus will manifest in worship from the heart, moving to our souls and then our physical bodies.

• The ultimate thirst quencher happens when we worship Jesus Christ / the Father, from the heart.

### Worship must be from the heart (the whole heart)

Matthew 15:8–9 (NKJV) <sup>8</sup> 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. <sup>9</sup> And in vain they worship Me,....'"

### Let us come to Him:

Psalm 95:2 (NKJV) <sup>2</sup> Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms. Psalm 95:6 (NKJV) <sup>6</sup> Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. Psalm 95:8 (NKJV) <sup>8</sup> "Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, as in the day of trial in the wilderness, Psalm 95:10–11 (NKJV) <sup>10</sup> For forty years I was grieved with that generation, And said, 'It is a people who go astray in their hearts, And they do not know My ways.' <sup>11</sup> So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.' "

#### Slavery

Exodus 6:6–9 (NKJV) <sup>6</sup> Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the LORD; I will bring you out from <u>under the burdens</u> of the Egyptians, I will <u>rescue you</u> from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. <sup>7</sup> I will take you <u>as My people</u>, and I will be your God. <u>Then you shall know that I am the LORD</u> your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. <sup>8</sup> <u>And I will bring you into</u> the land ..... <sup>9</sup> So Moses spoke thus to the children of Israel; but they <u>did not heed Moses</u>, because of <u>anguish of spirit</u> and <u>cruel bondage</u>.

## Things that keep us from worshipping God from the heart: anguish of spirit and cruel bondage

- 1. **Dead religion the wrong door the empty shell, but not the substance (Religious spirit)** we should come to a Person, not a religion. Come to Jesus.
- **2. Burdened by the things of this world** worried about work, money, relationships etc. / <u>Trust in the Lord</u> with all your heart... <u>Prov 3:5</u> / We need to unburden our souls.

Psalm 91:1–2 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup> He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. <sup>2</sup> I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."

**3.** Enslaved by the things of this world – the crumbs of this world which fills us, but never fulfills. We desire the world more than we desire God. We are enslaved to the world system. Desires for other things lead us astray. Psalm 63:8 (NKJV) <sup>8</sup> My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.

# Complete turnaround – from slaves to conquerors

Exodus 8:1 (NKJV)  $^1$  And the LORD spoke to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD: "Let My people go, that they may serve Me."

Ephesians 4:8 (NKJV) <sup>8</sup> Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, <u>He led captivity captive</u>, and gave gifts to men."

### Covenant – commitment to seek God

- 2 Chronicles 15:12 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup> Then they entered into <u>a covenant to seek</u> the LORD God of their fathers with <u>all their heart</u> and <u>with all their soul;</u>
- 2 Chronicles 15:15 (NKJV) <sup>15</sup> And all Judah rejoiced at the oath, for they had sworn with all their heart <u>and sought Him</u> with all their soul; and <u>He was found by them</u>, and the <u>LORD gave them rest</u> all around.

When we worship God from the heart then we move out from the place of bondage / slavery into the secret place or dwelling place.

As we worship from the heart we will meet with Jesus and our thirst is quenched.