

I - All we need = Strong - Lower - all desert needs is water -
 Blind - light - Hungry - Bread, Mint - Water; Soldier Prim, Peace; Slave: redemption
 to physician - Balm, Salve; Buttermilk - Rose & Sharon; Geologist - Rock, eyes
 Astrologer - Bright moon star; Biologist - Lion, Turkey, Jadeite
 to author = a & z = when route letter limit need to go outside alphabet
 to desert: Measurements - Size TO unload = Friend of sinners
Ignorance; Truth - Winds & TO the Palatium = King King

Isaiah 35:1-7 Lawyer = justice, sell or great white stone
MIRAGES

Week before last when I was in California for the Crusade they tried to show me a little bit of that gorgeous desert - they kept telling me how beautiful it was and that I couldn't see it inside a motel room and so one day one of the pastors decided to drive me around that desert. You can drive all day in that desert and not see all of it. One very interesting spot he showed ~~me~~ the singer and myself was Edwards Air Force Base. He said I want to show you this base because you have heard a lot about it, its where the X15 is and you need to see it. And so we drove on the base, and all of it is desert and as we were driving along we came to a little rise and he said now I want you to look after we get over this rise, look to the right, I want you to see our beautiful desert lake. You didn't believe there was a lake out here in the desert, did you? But there is, you watch, the minute we get over the rise, you'll see a beautiful lake. And so as we came over the rise I looked to my right and there was one of the most beautiful lakes I have ever seen - just as clear and placid and still as it could be. And so we commented about how right he was, for it was a beautiful lake. We were looking at it and all of a sudden he said, "that's a mirage". I found it pretty hard to believe him at first, because you see I could see not only the water but you could see the reflection of the little bushes on the shore and a few little joshua trees were dotted around and you could see their reflection in that water and I almost thought I could see some fish in there and I knew that that wasn't a mirage. I

Jesus has more names than anyone else - over 250. Everything that is important to man is ascribed to + - Bread, water, etc.

out line

Calcutt = Pleasure
Economics = Possessions
Environment = Change - place

I - X all we need - not need of human heart - great claim -
all desert needs no water - springs & flowers

Names of X

II - X always there when you need them - sooner or later

everyone takes a journey across a desert - no flooding hope blossom -

sun of incubation flays a man - then all the other things you
attached you want to will fail - that's the thing about a

mirage: it promises much - but fails when you need it

the most. Broken cistern = can't hold water = on time
of drought.

Oasis to desert, X is to heart

III - X is where you need them - where do you find X = In
desert. not in church or priest = but in desert = where

He's needed most - X puts himself in way = available to

Simple man = "most needs so the Samaritan"

John told us found X in fact.

Hebrew children in
fiery furnace
4. no like unto
Sm of man

After escaping from Indians &
cavalry empty

always thought a mirage is something you have when you are thirsty and when you have been on the desert for weeks without water and that's a hallucination when you are out of your mind, and I may have qualified on some of those things but I wasn't thirsty and I hadn't been on the desert for weeks without water, I said that cannot be a mirage - I am too intelligent to have a hallucination. He said, "that's a mirage". I have never in my life see anything that looked more real. It looked more real than some lakes. But he was right. The closer we got to it, as you drove up to it, the waters just disappeared - just disappeared. And all it was was just desert. He said now when we come back it'll look even more real from the other direction. And he was right. Coming back I just couldn't believe that was a mirage. I said there has to be some water out there somewhere. That cannot be all an optical illusion - but it is. We drove right by it and as you drove by it the waters just receded - just disappeared - just X vanished - just fled away. A mirage. Then he made a little comment that I don't think I'll ever forget. As we drove along he said, "Can't you imagine, can't you imagine how disappointing that must have been to those first weary, bedraggled, thirsty pioneers that came over that rise over a hundred years ago. Can't you imagine what that must have done to them, after weeks on the desert to come over that rise and see that beautiful lake and think that they had found an oasis in the desert - something that would satisfy their thirst and then to find out it was just a mirage. The very next day by accident, by coincidence, I found this passage of Scripture. I don't recall ever having read this 7th verse before in my life. Isaiah 35 verse 7 - " and the parched ground shall become a pool." Now, in the revised versions

rolled up like a window shade

Early Settlers



JK

I asked a Robin as he sprang from
branch to branch as he sang -
what makes your breast so round & red?

Looking towards the sun; the Robin said

I saw the roses (by) unfold their
petals to the sun -

I asked whence comes your color there
so bright -

The roses answered, looking toward the
light,

I asked a Thrush as his silver note came
like a song from an angel's throat -
- what makes you sing in the twilight,
dim?

The Thrush makes answer, looking up to him

I saw the violet wet & blue, sparkling
in the morning dew -

I asked, whence ~~else~~ comes your color
there so shy -

The violet answered, looking toward the
sky -

Then I asked of Xian, heaven bent

3 quarters of a century for her master spent
what makes you so happy every day?

Looking unto Jesus, the only way!

you'll notice that it's a glowing sand and in the margin of the revised version it has - a mirage. And its not merely the parched sand, but in the margin of my Bible it has or glowing sand and that is literally what the Hebrew word means. Sand that glows - sand that shimmers. And that is what a mirage is. It's the sun hitting the sand and causing it to shine and to glow and to shimmer. That's what produces a mirage. And here's what Isaiah is saying - and the glowing sand, or the mirage, shall become a lake or a pool. He's talking about when Jesus Christ shall come the first time. In the fourth verse he says "God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you. " Then in vs 5, he begins to delineate all the results that will occur when Jesus Christ our God shall come. And one of these he says is this, that the mirage, the glowing sand, shall actually in reality become a lake - become a pool. Now the Bible gives us, what I consider to be, in this particular passage, as well as in other passages, what is the real nature of life - or the true view of what life is. The Bible pictures life as a journey. As a journey - John Bunyan caught this same spirit and he wrote the most famous book ever penned, outside the Bible, "Pilgrim's Progress" - that life is a journey, a long trip. And here in this particular passage it views our life as a journey across a desert, across a waterless, parched desert. And as you travel along this desert, you are looking for something. Looking for something that will quench the thirst, for something that will satisfy, for something that will quench the longing inside the human heart. Every body in some way or another is looking for something. Everybody has a philosophy of life. You may not call it that - you may not even know what a philosoph of life is, but everybody has a philosophy of life. The man that sits on his front

Real nature
of Life =
a Journey
across a
desert

Fulfillment
Goal
purpose
meaning

and rocks in his chair and says, "live and let live", that's what I say. That is his philosophy of life whether he knows it is that or not. Everybody has some philosophy of life. You have some idea of what life ought to mean, of what your life ought to add up to. And everyone is looking for something - something - something. It may be peace, it may be happiness, it may be financial security, it may be a sense of fulfillment, it may be something that will give satisfaction to your life, but everybody is looking for something. And here is the message of the Word of God - that as we travel along and as we live our lives, always looking for that one thing, whatever it ^{may} ~~XXXX~~ be, that will satisfy us - and we say, if I can just attain this, if I can just reach this point in my life, I'll be happy, I know I will. And he says that when we come to that place, when we finally attain that thing, when we finally achieve that goal, it's just like a mirage in the desert. Instead of really satisfying, instead of quenching our thirst, he says we discover it to be only an optical illusion. Outside of Jesus Christ, everything that promises to make us happy, everything that promises to satisfy the longing of the human heart, and to give peace and rest down inside, outside of Jesus Christ, is nothing but a mirage, and cannot satisfy and can only disappoint, Apart from Jesus Christ. But when Jesus comes into the life then He takes these mirages, these things that by themselves mean nothing and cannot satisfy and He turns them into a lake. He makes all of our dreams come true. He quenches the thirst of our heart and satisfies the longing of our soul. I wish I had time this morning to take you to the Bible, and in particular the prophecy of Isaiah, as the Word of God shows us the different mirages that mock people and delude us. He teaches that all of our life is a journey in which we are mocked and deluded by mirages, one after another, one after another. We come over one rise and there

Mocked by Mirages.

*Life is a giant disappearing act -
now you see it, now you don't.*

*Trying to get out, this
world is more than there
is in it.*

- page 5 -

We see that lake. We look for it and say that's it - that's it. Once I reach that point, once I achieve that, I'll have what I am looking for. But when we get there we find that it has disappeared. It's like catching the illusive wisp of smoke, like trying to catch a firefly in the night - you see it and now you don't. And you reach out to where it was, but when you open your hand you find you have not caught it. He says this is what life is to so many of us apart from Christ - just one mirage after another.

And \bar{M} he names and gives several of these different mirages. One of them -

I just want to mention two or three - is that mirage of entertainment, the mirage of pleasure. The Bible talks about people who are on an endless cycle - translate that \bar{M} today to a merry-go-round, an endless cycle of pleasure. There are multitudes of people who feel like if they can \bar{M} just stay on one constant whirl, one party to another, one drink after another, one reel after another, if they can just occupy all of their time in just having fun and just indulging in pleasure, that this is all they need to make their life real and add meaning to their life. But it's only a mirage. It's only a mirage. I've never seen anyone, I've never seen anyone who has tried to drink at a mirage of entertainment who has ever really found satisfaction. And this is the dangerous thing about worldly pleasure - is that it does not satisfy the taste, it only irritates it, it only aggravates it. Its like a man lost on the ocean, dying of thirst and he reaches down to quench that thirst by drinking that salt water - and instead of satisfying, instead of quenching, all it does is make him that much more thirsty. And the person who indulges, and indulges in pleasure will find that it does not satisfy, but it only makes him have to have more, it only makes him to want more. This is the dangerous thing about trying to satisfy your thirst by drinking that glowing sand.

*Pleasure
mirage because
never get
enough -*

*Like salt water
- appetize
- enlarges
"He who begins by
carrying a cog round
won't be able to
carry an ox."
- drink, bottle*

Perhaps

Some of us this morning feel this way = if I could just do this, if I can occupy my time, if I can fill every thought, this is the main thing in life - this is what I live for, for me to live is just having a good time, just having a good time. But it's only a mirage and you know this to be so.

Possessions = proof = a home in which the mother is taken

Another mirage that many people try to drink at is the ~~mirage~~ mirage of economics - economic stability. Here's a young couple that are not long married and they are beginning already to find that ~~the~~ marriage is kind of like a bath, you know, it's not so hot once you get into it. They're beginning to have just a little bit of difficulty - just a little bit of trouble, and their home is beginning to get just a little rocky. And you know nine-tenths of all the trouble that any married couple has is over finances, you know that - nine out of every ten little fights and fusses ~~is~~ and disagreements that you and your wife have can be basically, ultimately and directly traced back to finances. So they say, well, if I can just reach financial stability if once we can just make a certain amount of money, why then everything will be all right - this will satisfy us, this will make us happy. This will get our home back on the right track. And so, perhaps, the man takes an extra job, perhaps the wife goes to work to supplement the income and they feel like if they can just reach a certain economic status, if they can just get into another bracket, that this is going to satisfy them and this is going to make everything all right in that home. It does not. It does not. Somebody asked John D. Rockefeller one time, "How much money does it take to satisfy a man?" And he said, "Just a little bit more." Less than a year ago I sat in a doctor's office, I'd gone there for a check-up, ~~but~~ he wanted a check-up also. And so he began to talk. He said, you've got

and I can prove it

Jesus is only external commodity

The Julian's carpeted bathroom

a minute let me tell you something. He said, in the past nine years I have accumulated holdings worth a million dollars. I have achieved my goal. That's what I started out to do. He said I own my own clinic, I have two Cadillacs, I have a \$200,000.00 home, I'm respected, I'm on the board of a hospital, I'm chairman of the board of a hospital, I'm on the board of a new bank. He said I am worth over one million dollars, and he said, now at 44 years of age I am trying to find happiness - tell me how to find it. I'm trying to find happiness - he had been drinking at the mirage of economic stability and it will not satisfy. It will not satisfy.

Position

couple having marital problem, buy new house

Place

Another mirage that people drink at, or try to satisfy themselves at, is the changing environment - changing environment. Well, if I could just make a change, if I could just get in a new location, if I could change these present circumstances. You know what this doctor that talked to me about his dillusion in looking for happiness - you know how he decided he could find happiness - by leaving his wife, by divorce. He said if I could just change my home situation I feel like then I could be happy, then I could find happiness. And basically that is the cause of most divorces - the belief that changing the environment will solve all problems. Now I grant you that there are times when the change of environment is right and is good. But I have talked with many, many a divorced couple and I rarely find that if a first marriage doesn't work out, neither does the second. There are exceptions to that but they are rare exceptions. Most of the time the second marriage doesn't ~~work~~ work out. I had in my office this past week a member of our church who is in the second marriage and it is not working out either. And for the husband it will be the third, when he leaves her and marries this woman.

How many of us fall ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ prey to this delusion - if I can just change my circumstances. The funny thing is that when you change your environment you take the same type of person with you that you had in that old environment. And to me the greatest proof that environment cannot meet a person's needs is the fact that man fell from God's presence while he was in the Garden of Eden. You'll not find a better environment than the Garden of Eden. In Paradise, and yet that was where sin first entered the human race.

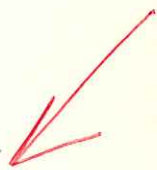
There are a number of mirages - maybe I've not mentioned anything that you are drinking at this morning, or trying to satisfy your thirst, but ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ every thing apart from Jesus Christ, apart from Jesus Christ is only a mirage. But here is the great claim of the gospel - he says that when Christ shall come, when Christ shall come then the mirage shall be turned into a lake, shall be turned into a lake. Now, when the prophet makes that statement he says basically three things about Jesus Christ and the first one is this - He makes this claim that

*X is life
of promise
Col. 1:17*

Jesus Christ is able to satisfy every need of the human heart. Now that's a great claim. That's a tremendous claim. But the Bible never hesitates to make that claim - that whatever your need is, whatever your longing is, whatever your heart hunger and soul thirst, Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ alone, can take that sand and turn it into a river of water. He can satisfy every need. Because you see there is nothing that the desert needs except water. When I came out to California they made a few jokes about these tall Texas tales and they expected a tall Texan. Actually, when I got there, when I got off the plane, the fellow that was supposed to meet me

missed me. I just walked off the plane and stood around, and stood around and I knew the man was supposed to be there to meet me and after awhile I saw a real tall man with a little red ribbon on so I knew it was the man. So I walked over to him and I introduced myself and he said well I just missed you I was looking for a tall Texan. I just walked right under him and he never even saw me. But I heard some tall California tales while I was there. / This pastor was driving us across the desert, we were coming out of Edwards Air Force Base and he said you can go out there to that mirage, that dry lake and get you a bucket and you fill it with sand out of that dry lake. And he said, then take that bucket home and fill it with water and set it on the back porch and in two or three days there will be shrimp in that ~~XXXX~~ bucket. I said, No wonder we can't have revival - all you preachers are liars out here. He said, now it's not the kind of shrimp you eat, but its a species of the shrimp - you try it. He said I've done it. He said and you can go out on the ~~XXXXXX~~ desert and you can pick up a little chunk of wood that looks like somebody, years and years ago, just chopped it off the side of a ~~XXXX~~ tree - just looks like a little chunk of wood, dead, rotten looking, brown. He said you take that little chunk of wood home, you soak it in water for two or three days and then you plant it in the ground and the most beautiful flower you've ever seen will blossom out of that chunk of wood. He said, there's life in the desert - all it needs is water - all it needs is water. You see that's all the desert needs is water. And when the Bible says that Jesus Christ can take the sand and turn it into water he is saying that all the human soul needs is Jesus to make him come alive. Jesus one day was walking through Samaria

shrimp
wood & flower



- I- all we need
- 1 - Shrimp & flowers
 - 2 - woman at well
 - 3 - name of Jesus
 - 4 - Col 1: 18 - life flies apart
 - 5 - Poem - Robin
 - 6 - Joe Lu Kelpatru

II always there - when cisterns & fountain
trip across desert

III always where
standing somewhere in the shadows you'll
behold Jesus

Names of X
Joe Lee Kirkpatrick

and He met a woman at the well whose life had turned out to be less than what she had expected it to be - she had drunk at the fountain of the mirage of entertainment and of pleasure and of the changing environment, for He said you have had five husbands and the man you are living with now is not your husband = but life had not added up to what she had expected it to and she was a thirsty person. Jesus said if you drink of the water that I give to you, you will never thirst again. All a soul needs is water- that's all. All some of us need this morning is just the touch of Jesus Christ upon our lives. It gives me when I look at some of our people - our church members - and I know that inside them there is the potential of a beautiful flower of godliness and all they need is the fullness of Jesus Christ in their life. In some of you this morning there lies dormant that beautiful flower of service and of Christ=likeness and of holiness, but it will never be brought to life, never be brought to blossom until you let Jesus Christ come and satisfy the longing of your heart. Some of you, even though you have met Jesus Christ, still think you can satisfy your life and find peace and ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ contentment and joy in all of these other things - and your life is nothing but a long desert spiritually because you have never allowed Jesus Christ to fill yourself with His own Spirit. This is what the human soul needs - this is what a man needs - Jesus Christ. That woman went away rejoicing and went into the city and said, come and see a man that told me all that ever I did, is this not the Christ? He was exactly what she needed - He was exactly what I needed when I found him as a Junior boy and he is exactly what you need. But not only that, but when the Bible says that Jesus Christ is an oasis in the desert it means that He is always there - He's always there. Now, it is very important that you understand that the Bible

*Your life is
a desert =
all it needs
is the water
Jesus X*

11

is picturing your life as a trip across the desert - sooner or later, sooner or later, everybody takes a trip across the desert. Right now you may be walking on the streets, right now you may be walking in a beautiful green country, but sooner or later, without warning, suddenly you'll take a trip across a desert - where there'll be no flowers of hope and no blossoms of joy and all will be arid and dry and parched. Everybody - sooner or later - takes a trip across a desert. And I don't know what mirage it is this morning that you think is more profitable to you than Jesus, I don't know what it is in your life that you count more dear and love more than Jesus, it may be pleasure, it may be a multitude of things, it may be your only possessions, it may be your self, it may be your job, it may be your family, but whatever these things are that you ~~XXXXXX~~ count so dear, and are investing your life in, when you take that trip across the desert they'll be just as disappointing to you as a mirage - they won't be there when you need them, they won't be there when you need them. I've know a lot of families who have gone through sorrow, and when they go through the sorrow, they don't call for the bartender and ask him to pray for them and come and stand by them in fellowship. Not many of them will go out and stand beside their boat and motor and pray to it and say - now give me comfort in my time of need. Not many of them can go to their business and look at their business or pick up their checkbook or look at their beautiful lawn or stand in the middle of their beautiful home and say - now comfort me, I have given you my life, I have invested my time, my energy, my money in you, now do something for me - they will be just as disappointing as a mirage in the desert- they're never there when you need them. That's the thing about

*get broken
cisterns
&
fountains
spring
waters*

a broken cistern and a mirage, when you're the thirstiest, in the time of drought, when you need it the most, its empty - it's not there. Jesus Christ is always there - always there. Jesus Christ is to the human heart what an oasis is to the desert - he's always there.

Margie Head

/// And then another thing about Jesus Christ is this, you find Him right where you need Him - you find Him right where you need Him. Where is water needed the most - in the middle of an ocean? Where water is needed the most is in the middle of a desert. And as you drove out the desert you found people irrigating, irrigating and trying to plant vineyards, and some trying to plant orchards, ~~XXXX~~ yards, and some trying to plant other crops. They were irrigating -- why -- because water is what they needed, and that water was where it was needed - in the desert, and they are spending millions and millions of dollars to channel Feather Creek to bring water from another state down to that Antelope Valley Desert. And notice where you find Jesus - you find Him in the desert, you find Him right where you need Him, you find Him right where you need Him. I'd glad it said that. I'm glad you don't find Jesus just in the church because I'll be very honest with you, I have most of my problems Monday through Saturday, and if the only place I could find Jesus was in this church He wouldn't be of much help to me Monday through Saturday. I'm glad I don't just find Jesus in some priest or some preacher, because he may not be around when I need him the most. But that's the marvelous thing about Jesus - He's right where you need Him, He's always right where you need Him in the desert.

*Standing somewhere in the shadows
you'll find Jesus -*

I met a very interesting man while I was out in California, his name was Jim Johnston. He was in charge of the counselors. One night after the service we were out having a cup of coffee and I said, Jim, how long have you been a Christian. And he said I've been saved since 1955 - he looked at me and he smile and he said I was saved in the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Don't care
you to walk
a higher road.

Abstain = Hold self aloof from
- Don't stoop to sin - when a
Xian sins he has to stoop to do it -
for D has lifted (He lifted me) him to
a higher plane - higher ideals, standards, etc -
- Sin always appeals to the lower nature, desires

Plegrim: Don't you a child, King, don't stoop
to act like a child of gutter

U Name Hawner = Betty Swallow - to Africa -
Fred M... - Dr said - "If you believe
that, you can't live like the rest of us"

War: rather be Benedict Arnold silly count to
Burling after night exploits at Jambardu -
than to be you silly count + for sin +
sloth in this new Cethseum

Peter - sleeping
Judas

Fort Smith, Ark. city jail. I said, I preached my first sermon there in 1952. He said I was saved there in 1955 - back in those days I was a pretty wild fellow. Another friend and I were out having a real good time, drinking and we were driving down the highway right outside of Fort Smith and we had been drinking and weren't watching what we were doing or where we were going and I ran into a school bus and the highway patrol came and they put the handcuffs on us and dragged us down to the city jail. He said that was on Saturday. Sunday afternoon they opened up the outer doors to that jail and in walked a group of men - a group of laymen, the brotherhood from a Baptist church there. He said they started singing a few songs, a couple of men gave testimonies, one man started to preach, tried to preach, I was sitting there on that jail bunk and all of a sudden I began to cry and began to weep like a little baby, he said this is what I need - this is what I need. And he said, I was saved, I found Christ in city jail. Right where he needed. Him the most - he found Him.

I tried the broken cisterns, Lord,
but, ah, the waters failed
even as I stooped to drink they disappeared and mocked me as I wailed
For pleasures lost, I sadly mourned, but I never wept for thee
Till grace these sightless eyes received, thy loveliness to see.
And now none but Christ can satisfy
There's no other name for me,
There's life and joy and lasting peace,
Lord Jesus found in Thee.

He says, I am the water of life, he that cometh to me shall never thirst again.

Sal. Army placard = Lifeboat - reaching
down - Is he trying to save them or just
holding hands.

He that winneth souls is wise - not
Ph.D. - If died, how may look on
your dead face say, he lead me to
X.

Because you won't abstain, someone goes to
hell - what little sin, gossip, etc is
worth it

Turn life into a rose garden
instead of a desert
why abstain?

Life to be Disciplined - Pilgrim

" " Defended

" " Demonstrated Life

Life
Soul to
Life
Savior

Defend = Pilgrim & Strongman

Depend

Demonstrate

our prayer life has
been captured by study time,
witness, captured by
pleas, captured by
lusts

MBBC - Irving, Texas April 28, 1968 11.

Dallas Pastors Conference

May 5, 1968 8:30

Clyff Temple BAPT. Dallas, Texas - May 20, 196.

Tate Springs BAPT Ch - Arlington, TX Aug. 21, 1968

JBC, Alief (Houston), Texas 3-6-69

Second BAPT - Garland Texas 4-15-69

Southwood BAPT - Okla City, Okla 10-8-69

Central BAPT Ch - Aurora, Col 4-22-70