Ring of Truth daily devotion

Ring of Truth provides 366 daily 'proofs' that the Bible is consistent throughout from Genesis to Revelation and relevant for our lives today!

2 July

Jeremiah 2:13

"My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken Me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water."

This is not a 'symptom' - this is the real disease.

People have all sorts of perceived 'problems' - but often, they are really only symptoms. And they waste so much time, money and energy trying to put a band-aid on something which needs surgery.

We all need **security, self-worth and significance**.

Security - we need to be unconditionally loved so no matter what we say or do, we can relax in knowing someone really cares for us and loves us despite our mistakes.

Self-worth - we need to know that we have value and we are special - not some lump of slime that 'eventually' turned into a person.

Significance - we need to know that our lives amount to something worthwhile - we are not just wasting our time on earth, there must be some point to it.

In order to gain or achieve these, we engage in all manner of activities and searches.

We seek **security** in work, wealth, investments and friendships, only to find that riches are no more than an illusion. They bring neither security nor lasting happiness.

No longer are jobs secure. We live in a day of constant restructuring and redundancy. Even if we work until we retire, we have a short-lived retirement because our security was in the job and now that is gone, we have nothing to live for.

Friendships are shallow and when we cling to them for unconditional love, they let us down badly. Intimate relationships just highlight our own insecurity and prove that our basic needs cannot be satisfied in human relationships. Another human being can never meet our expectations or deepest needs.

We long for **self-worth**. We seek to find that in others too, only to find that they are just as desperate as we are to find their own needs met through us. We both become increasingly selfish. They need constant affirmation but the best we can give is temporary, and in the end, it seems terribly shallow and condescending. Since that need is not adequately met, they become more and more demanding and in the end, we get turned off completely and even cease the 'offerings' that we were giving. In their pain they turn to alcohol, drugs and sex for temporary respite, which ends in crippling addiction or suicide.

For **significance**, we strive for status, power, achievement or the acquisition of more and more 'things'. The only problem is that as soon as the 'thing' is bought, it loses its lustre, and as soon as the 'achievement' is secured, it becomes worthless and any recognition is shallow and temporary and never satisfies. That dissatisfaction leads to frustration and anger, and the drive for more eventually breeds insensitivity and turns us into workaholics.

The Jews had the same problem. They thought like we do - that independence would give them freedom. They thought their 'man-made ***cisterns***' would satisfy their needs but they were broken, leaking and therefore only temporarily satisfying.

But there is an antidote. Jesus Christ provides the ***"living water"*** that satisfies our deepest needs. The three 'S's, as we call them, can be satisfied only through Him and Him alone. He alone is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

He loves us unconditionally, providing all the **security** we shall ever need.

God accepts us as His children. There can be no greater source of **self-worth** than knowing that the Creator God loves us so much He sent His Son to die for us - *that's how much He values us*. We are, *you are a prince or princess of the King of kings*.

What more **significance** could we need, than to know that *we can live in and fulfil the destiny our Creator has planned for us*?

Give up your broken cisterns today, come back and drink freely from the only source of living water - Jesus Christ, the Lord - and find in Him unconditional love, unending joy, unshakable peace, true and lasting fulfilment, and total satisfaction.