Are You In Over Your Head? Brad Harrub

In the Bahamas it is hard to miss. Almost every direction you turn it confronts you—water. Have you ever considered just how important water is to your life? Most of us take it for granted, as we have it piped into our homes and heated on demand. Most offices have clean running water or even bottled water available for drinking anytime we need to wet our whistle.

But I want you to think more deeply today. Without water, life ceases. Plants and animals depend on this "liquid life." We have all seen the results of either indoor plants or crops that are suffering from a lack of water.

Yet again, let's think even deeper than this. Most of the oxygen we breathe comes from microscopic plants—plants that live in the water! Without those microscopic plants mankind would not exist. It is no wonder that every time NASA looks to a new planet they try to detect water, because for them water equates to life. (Make no doubt about it, what they are actually trying to prove with the presence of water is that the Biblical account of creation is inaccurate. However, even with all of the headlines and speculation, they have still yet to make any dents in God's Word.)

Now that we are more than "ankle deep" on the topic of water, let's jump in over our heads. Consider for a moment that on day 1 the Earth was covered with water (Genesis 1:1-2). Look again at what the Spirit of God was moving over. Humans, which God created on Day 6 consists of a large proportion of water. And it was water that God used to cleanse the earth when the thoughts of man were on evil continually (Genesis 6:5). Is it any wonder then that this liquid life is at the center of man's redemption—baptism in water? In 1 Peter 3:18-21 we read:

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waitedin the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

It is in the water that we are buried with Christ (<u>Romans 6:4</u>) and come into contact with the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ—a spotless sacrifice for our sins. As I mentioned earlier, without water life ceases! Because without the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ we all remain slaves to sin.

My family closed out our day with a walk along a beach, wading our feet in the water—all the while drinking in God's phenomenal creation. We watched as the sun God created touched the water in the west—back toward America. Let me encourage you to think deeply on the topic of water...and how it has within it the power of life.