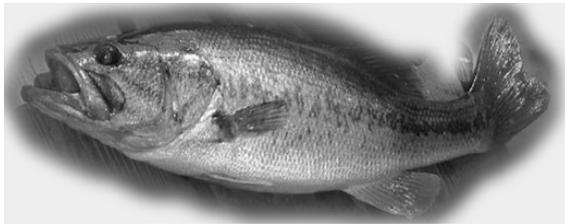


Don't Be a Dead Sea Christian!

John 7:37-39

THE DEAD SEA has various inlets such as the Jordan River from the north, the Arnon



River from the east and the Kidron from the west, but it has no outlets. It also has no fishermen (that is, not until the millennium—Ezekiel 47:8-10). No fish survive in this lifeless and heavily-salted body of water.

A great deal of water flows into this area, but nothing flows out: *“I looked upon a sea and lo! 'Twas Dead, Although by Hermon's snows and Jordan fed. How came a fate so dire? The tale's soon told. All that it got it kept, and fast did hold. All tributary streams found here their grave; Because the sea received, but never gave.”* *

Many inlets, plus no outlets, equals a Dead Sea. This formula in nature also applies to Christians. How is it possible for some people to read the finest books, study their Bibles regularly and continually take in the Word as it is preached from the pulpit, and yet seem so lifeless and colorless in their daily walk with the Lord? Could it be that they have spiritual “inlets” but little or no spiritual “outlets”? Always taking in and rarely giving out results in spiritual stagnation. The Christian who refreshes and blesses others is the one who not only “takes in” all he can, but who also generously “gives out” to others.

Let us be like the Sea of Galilee which has both inlets and outlets and is teeming with fish and life! ***Lord, make me a refreshing fountain, pouring out to others what I have first received from Thee.*** Our Lord Jesus said, “Out of his belly [innermost being] shall flow rivers of living water” (John 7:38). May we take the truth which we have learned and walk it and talk it. May we know it and show it and share it!

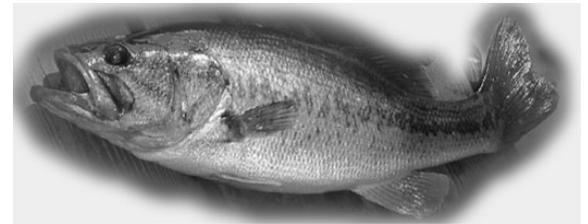
~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

***Two Seas**, Missionary Review of the World, Vol. 140, Part 2, 1917, p. 857

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