

***There is
a
River***

*Dedicated to HIM who sits on the Throne and
Unto the LAMB*

Special recognition to my daughter, *Seun Fiyinfoluwa Olarewaju*, whose superb artistic imagination produced the cover of this book; and to my son, *TiOluwa OloruniShola Olarewaju* whose technical ingenuity made the desktop publishing, formatting, and graphical processing possible.

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Preface

The *Word of the Lord* came unto Ezekiel the Priest in the land of the Chaldean. It was here in the land of captivity, by the river Chebah, that Ezekiel saw spectacular visions of the glory of God, one of which is the subject of this book. In this particular vision, the Spirit of the Lord took Ezekiel to the gate of the new Tabernacle of the Most High God. Here Ezekiel saw the glory of God returning to this new Tabernacle. His voice was "*like the noise of many waters*", and the "*earth shined with His glory*".

In this great vision, Ezekiel saw the River of God, also spoken about by David the man of God, issuing forth from *under the threshold of the Tabernacle*. David sang in the Spirit concerning this River saying: "*There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early*" (Psalm 46:1-5).

This River, *whose channels gladden the city of God*, flows from the Holy place, carries life and refreshing wherever it goes. It's the river of wonder, bringing life and strength to all in its path. The sick are healed, the blind eyes are opened, the lame walk, tumors fall off people, tuberculosis healed, the dead come alive as they come in contact with the River of God. Its streams bring restoration to a weary Church, turning the weak and the worn out into giants who can work wonders in the name of His Holy Son Jesus.

The purpose of this book is to give you a vision of God; a vision of the supernatural; a vision of the River of Life that will bring you revelation, wisdom, healing, restoration, provision, prosperity, and fruitfulness from the throne of God and from the Lamb. The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will perform it.

Joseph Olarewaju
September 21, 2004

Table of Contents

<i>Chapter 1: There is a River</i>	5
<i>Chapter 2: From the Throne of God</i>	13
<i>Chapter 3: The River of God</i>	17
<i>Chapter 4: Waters to Swim in</i>	23
<i>Chapter 5: Committed Two Evils</i>	31
<i>Chapter 6: Fountain of Life</i>	44
<i>Chapter 7: The Spirit and the Bride Say...</i>	51

Chapter 1

There Is a River

“There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early” (Psalm 46:1-5).

This opening chapter cannot begin with a better passage of Scriptures than these quoted above written under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost by David the man of God. If any verses of Scripture were written to encourage us in times of trouble, the verses quoted above surely are.

This passage brings us a message of hope from the Throne of God to anchor our souls on the Rock of Ages especially in this stormy day and hour when the whole earth is been shaken. The hour foretold by Paul the apostle is upon us, the hour when the voice of the Almighty God will shake both the earth and the heavens.

“Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.

And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain” (Heb 12:27).

Today, the earth and the kingdoms of men are beginning to shake just as the Almighty spoke through the mouth of His holy prophets. But there is a more terrifying shaken ahead, the magnitude of which

will cause the strongest of men to faint in fear. A shaken which the Spirit says will cause the foundation of the earth itself to shake at its root. David, by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, wrote these verses for our benefits. The purpose is to admonish us to anchor ourselves in faith firmly to the Rock of Ages. This is the only hope that is sure and steadfast and will carry us through the final upheaval about to be unveiled.

Writing both from a prophetic plane and drawing from his experiences of deliverances wrought by Jehovah, he asserted:

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof” (Psalm 46:1 KJV).

David made the above statement with an unusual confidence: That though the earth is removed and the mountain shaken off their root and dumped into the sea, there will be no fear in them that take refuge in God.

How can a people stand sure and unmoved when such a cataclysmic event is taken place on earth?

David, by the Spirit of prophecy, revealed to us the secret. He continued the message saying: We will not fear *“though its waters (referring to the sea) should roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling and tumult”* (Psalm 46:3 Amplified). How can anyone stay calm in the midst of such chaos when almost everyone else would probably be in a state of panic? The Spirit, through David, gives us the answer: *We will not fear*, he said, because *there is a River, whose streams shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the Tabernacles of the Most High.*

The people who have committed their whole way of life to God, who have plunged headlong into the River of God and fully committed their lives into the care of the Spirit of God, shall know the joy, the peace and the rest of the River of God when the heavens and the earth are shaken, and when the mountains are cast into the depths of the sea.

We do not understand all the implications of these statements made by the Holy Ghost, but we do know that when the heavens and the earth are shaken, and the mountains are dissolved in the sea there is going to be a people flowing in the River of God. A people that will be dwelling in City of God and abiding in *"the Holy Place of the Tabernacles of the Most High."*

Let's proceed to the book of Ezekiel and begin to meditate on some of the visions given to him in the land of the Chaldens. The vision of the glory of the God of Israel and of His new Tabernacle is going to be the central theme of this book.

However, before proceeding, let's digress and begin this message from the life of Solomon who built the first Temple of God. We very well know the details of that magnificent temple that Solomon built for Jehovah in Jerusalem, with its glory and splendor. Sadly, Solomon, in his later years, forsook the God of His father whom he had served so well. He went astray to worship false gods of the nations around him. His heart went after strange women who led him into idolatry and erected high places for strange gods in Israel. Not long after his death, his kingdom was divided according to the word of the Lord. National apostasy sets in, and idol worship became rampant in Israel and Judah.

Yet through this time of apostasy God was faithful in sending prophets, whose mission was to turn the nation back to God, and to bring the people back to the ancient landmark and to the faith of their fathers. Back and forth from the days of the judges to the reign of the kings we see God's people turning away from Him after they have been delivered and brought back. There were seasons of revival followed by a turning away from God. Times when ungodly rulers succeed those whose hearts were right with God.

There were kings like Hezekiah who did what was right in the sight of the Lord after the steps of David and brought revival to the house of God (2Kings 18). And there were evil kings in Israel that followed the ways of Jeroboam who caused Israel to sin. There were even worse kings who followed the ways of Ahab and Jezebel the mother harlots. For *there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his*

wife stirred up. And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel. I kings 21:25-26

Eventually judgment came, and God gave both Israel and Judah over to the empires surrounding them to harass and carry them into captivity. The two separate nations of Israel in the north with capital at Samaria, and Judah in the south with capital at Jerusalem, went downhill at separate rates.

Israel went into paganism first reaching the crescendo of corruption under Ahab and Jezebel. God allowed them to be taken captive, in two separate waves, by the Assyrians. The Assyrians then took Gentile peoples to fill the cities of Israel. Israelites never returned.

Judah worshipped God a little longer than their Northern brethren but they too went awhoring after strange gods. God sent them prophets to warn them but they would not hear. Therefore God sent the Babylonians to carry them into captivity about 120 years after Israel had been carried away by the Assyrian. However, some Jews returned after 70 years, under Ezra, to rebuild Jerusalem.

There were numerous invasions and *carrying away* into captivity from both Israel and Judah before the final desolation of Jerusalem and the plundering of Solomon's Temple by the Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar.

It was during one of these *carrying away* that Ezekiel was taken captive from Judah to Babylon, and found himself in a camp with other captives near the river Chebar.

It was here, in the land of captivity, that God called Ezekiel the Priest and raised him up a *watchman prophet* for the house of Israel. *"I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me"*(Ezek.3:17)

It was here that the "word of the Lord" came unto Ezekiel, and God showed him several visions one of which is the subject of this book. It was here in the land of captivity that Ezekiel saw the vision of the glory of the God of Israel.

The purpose of this book, Dear Saint, is to cause you to see visions of the Most High. To cause you to be raptured by visions of the supernatural. Visions that will carry you through the difficult days ahead.

The young man Ezekiel, a priest, just becoming thirty years of age was just reaching the age when he could begin his ministry in the temple when the Babylonians struck. How sad, he found himself not in the Temple ministering as a Priest but among the captives by the river Chebah. But Ezekiel was not bemoaning himself rather he looking was looking up and was able to see the visions of God in the land of captivity.

The man Ezekiel, to whom God gave these end-time visions, is a type of a faithful remnant in the land of captivity. He himself had not sinned against God as the others, and the judgment was not coming upon him like the others; He was the voice of God to the nation. God raised him up as a sign to the nation to bring a prophetic word to His people in captivity.

In the same manner, God is raising up an Ezekiel company in this hour that will be the voice of the Lord to His nation in captivity.

My desire above anything else is to be numbered with that company; Numbered with the company that will be the “voice” preparing the way of the Lord; The “voice” that will lead a remnant out of captivity back to Zion to rebuild her walls.

In this great vision, Ezekiel saw the same River of God spoken about in the passage above by David the man of God. This River, *whose channels gladden the city of God*, flows from the Holy place carrying life and refreshing wherever it goes.

We shall, in this book, meditate on the revelation of this River of God unveiled to us through Ezekiel's visions. For these visions were given to him for our benefit in this day and hour.

At the time of this vision, Jerusalem was desolate and the glory of the God of Israel had departed from its place, within the Cherubim, in the old Temple. Yet in and through it all Jehovah our merciful God made a promise. He promised that He would return in the fullness of time and take up His habitation in a new Temple not

made by the hands of men; a "true tabernacle that the Lord pitched and not man". He promised that from this new Temple He will send forth a "River of Life" that will bring healing to the nations. (Ezek 47)

We see in the visions that God showed Ezekiel in the earlier Chapters of the book of Ezekiel how the glory of God withdrew from His place in the former Temple. The Lord first took Ezekiel on a tour of the Temple area, and showed him all the abominations that were being perpetrated by the priesthood and the elders of Israel (Eze 8&9).

"And he put forth the form of an hand, and took me by a lock of mine head; and the spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north; where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy.

And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, according to the vision that I saw in the plain.

Then said he unto me, Son of man, lift up thine eyes now the way toward the north. So I lifted up mine eyes the way toward the north, and behold northward at the gate of the altar this image of jealousy in the entry. He said furthermore unto me, Son of man, seest thou what they do? even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary? but turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations.

And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall. Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold a door.

And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. So I went in and saw; and behold every form of creeping things, and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, pourtrayed upon the wall round about.

And there stood before them seventy men of the ancients of the house of Israel, and in the midst of them stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan, with every man his censer in his hand; and a thick cloud of incense went up" (Eze 8:3-11).

In the passage above when the Spirit brought Ezekiel to the door of the Inner Gate, he saw the glory of the God of Israel in His place (Ezek 8:4).

It was at that time that the Spirit of God took Ezekiel on a tour of the house of God and showed him all the abominations being perpetrated by the elders and the priests in the house of God. He saw the idols and the images erected in the holy place by the people of God to provoke Him to jealousy.

In the third verse of the ninth Chapter, Ezekiel reported how he saw the glory of the God moved *from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house* and witnessed the judgment of God on His people.

And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side;

And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary.

When Ezekiel witnessed the judgment of God that fell upon the people starting with the priests and the elders in the sanctuary, he fell on his face and cried unto God for mercy.

Sadly as he watched all these, Ezekiel saw the glory of God moved to the door of the house (Ezek 9:3-4), then to the Eastern Gate of the Lord's house (Ezek10:19), and lastly the glory of the Lord completely departed from the city (Ezek 11:23).

But the Almighty is a merciful God. Blessed be His name for ever and ever. For He, our God, *is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy* (Psalm 103:8). In the midst of this righteous judgment, which was long overdue, God brings forth the promise of

a New Covenant; A more excellent covenant established on better promises, for the word of the Lord came unto Ezekiel saying:

"Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh; That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God" (Ezek 11:17-20).

Ezekiel, like all the other prophets from Samuel and those who followed after, were actually speaking of *this present day* in which we live.(Acts 3:24) The visions that God showed him contained a revelation of the wonders of God reserved for us. For *"Unto them it was revealed "that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you; which things the angels desire to look into."* I Peter 1:10-12

Yes, the Almighty, the gracious One, made a promise to His people in those visions that He would return in the fullness of time and take up His habitation in a new *Tabernacle not made with hands*. This promise began to be fulfilled in the later vision described in the 40th chapter of the book of Ezekiel. Here God showed him a new Temple of God in a new City. It was from this new House of God that water of life was flowing from under the right side of the Temple, south of the altar. This River of Life is what this book is all about.

Chapter 2

From the Throne of God

“The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee; Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion”

Every river must have a source, a channel through which it flows, and an outlet into which it continuously pour its content. The river source, which might be on a mountain top, must be potentially higher than both the channel and the outlet. The higher the source, the greater the flow rate. The deeper the valley or outlet into which the river flows, the stronger the stream velocity of the river current.

A river is also a source of power. In many countries of the world, hydroelectric power is harnessed from flowing rivers as a source of energy. While in others the power of a flowing river is harnessed to carry logs of wood over great distances. A flowing river carry power along with it and this power can be tapped by those that have the proper insight. These are so true about the River of God.

The message of this book pertains to the life-giving River that flows down from the throne of God and from the Lamb. It is the River of Power, the River of Truth, the River of Peace, the River of Liberty, the River of Joy, the River of Wisdom, the River of Knowledge, the River of Life, and the River of Love that flows ceaselessly from the heart of God to humanity through the land of our inheritance.

This river of life, of which we speak, springs forth from the House of God located on His holy hill. The fountain-head of this spring of life are from mount Zion. As David sang in the Spirit: “*All my springs are in thee*” Praise His holy Name forever more.

“Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Zion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed. O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

The LORD is great in Zion; and he is high above all the people. Let them praise thy great and terrible name; for it is holy.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

*The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of thee, **O city of God.** Selah.*

And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her. The LORD shall count, when he writeth up the people, that this man was born there. Selah.

As well the singers as the players on instruments shall be there: all my springs are in thee” (Psa 48:1-2; 87:3-7)

“And in that day, when O Jehovah, Thou shall count
When Thou shall write the sum of them
My heart cries unto Thee Most High
That it my be said of me, even me
That **this man was born there**
And that the singers may this of me sing
That **all his springs are in thee,**
O’ Zion, the city of the Living God”

While Ezekiel, in the vision, stood there in front of the new House of God, he discovered the source or fountain-head of this precious water. He reported what he saw in the vision saying:

“Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar” (Eze 47:1).

The River of God originates from the right side of the throne of God and it's therefore full of power. It is loaded with right-hand blessings for all who would tap it for their needs. It's source is from Him who sits on the throne, even He, who is at the right hand of the glory of God. *To Him who sits on the throne be glory and honor and power forever.*

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing.

*And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto **him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb** for ever and ever” (Rev 5:12-13).*

This River proceeds from its source described above, flows through the City of God, the Heavenly Zion, to the inhabitants of the earth below to meet the needs of humanity. *“And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb” (Revelation. 22:1).*

Ezekiel saw *waters issued out from the threshold of the house*. But Christ is indeed the temple; He is the door. It is from him that those living waters flow even out of his pierced side. It is the water that he gives us that is *the well of water which springs up to eternal life*. And it is by believing in Him, the Source, that we receive *ivers of living water*. *“But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive” (John 7:38).*

Let's notice that the origin of these waters was not above-ground, but they sprang up from under the threshold of the house. How analogous to the fountain of life in a believer. It is from the Christ *within*. As we become filled with these waters, men begin to observe

that out of us waters of life, of love, and of power begin to issue forth.

The waters sprang *from the altar*. This also speaks of Christ who is *our altar*. It is in and by Jesus Christ, the great altar who *sanctifies our gifts* to God, that God has *blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places*. From Him as the fountain head flows this river which *makes glad the city of our God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High*, (Psa 46:4).

This issue of life flow not only to the present and future generation but is also available for all even for those gone before us. For the prophet Zechariah speaking by the Holy Ghost said:

“But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.

And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be.

And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one” (Zec. 14:8-9).

Chapter 3

The River of God

“Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it” (Psa 65:9).

Now let's return to the Book of Ezekiel and read the 43rd chapter where the *Spirit of the Lord brought him back to the gate that looketh toward the east* (Ezek 43). This was the same gate, the eastern gate, from where the Glory departed from the old temple as we discussed in the closing section of the last Chapter. And Ezekiel saw Him returning *"from the way of the east"* to this new Temple. His voice was *"like the noise of many waters"*, and the *"earth shined with His glory"*. This time Ezekiel saw the whole earth shining with the glory of God because this new Temple covers the whole earth, wherever His people are.

As mentioned earlier, the house being referred to here, is the the new Tabernacle of the Most High which Ezekiel saw in the vision. Some refer to this as the Temple of Ezekiel, or the Temple of Ezekiel's vision. We are never told in Scriptures that this Temple was built or to be built; but we understand from the revelation of the Spirit that this is indicative of the end-time Tabernacle of God, the Tabernacle not made with Hands, the Tent which the Lord pitched and not man.

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord brought Ezekiel unto the outside of this House of God, and led him to the forefront of the House towards

the front door that faced the east. As Ezekiel looked, he saw waters springing forth from under the right side of the house at the south side of the altar.

Ezekiel had been brought to this House of God before in the earlier visions, but this time is different. Now he was brought to this house by the Spirit of God to unveil something special to him, something out of the ordinary. He had not seen this before, for God reveals his mind and will to his people, not all at once, but by degrees. He reveals His will to us *precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little there a little*, lest we become overwhelmed. This should help us understand why God did not tell the children of Israel what was ahead of them on the way to Canaan when they were leaving Egypt or they would have been discouraged and many could have refused to leave. He led them a step at a time. Blessed be our God.

We do not know how many times before this one Ezekiel had been brought into the house of God prior to receiving this revelation, but we read that this time, the Spirit of God opened his eyes to see something he had never seen before.

"Dear Lord, please open my eyes that I may see the wonderful things in your house.

Reveal to me, unveil before my eyes those wonderful things which "eyes hath not seen, nor ears heard", things which You have prepared for those in your House.

Lead me Dear Lord as you led Ezekiel into your revelation and unveil before my eyes the things that you want me to discern concerning Your House and reveal to me the wondrous things that you have prepared for them that love you." Amen

"Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east" (Ezek 47:1).

The front door of the house which Ezekiel saw, like the east gate of the Tabernacle of Witness" faces the east. The Spirit is clearly telling us that God has not only built a new Tabernacle, but that this is indeed the beginning of a new day. The east is symbolic of the dawning of a new day, the rising of the sun, and in this case; it the rising of the Sun of Righteousness in His Temple; the completed glorious Temple which the Lord "pitched". This is a new day and God Almighty is doing a new work in His house and is revealing it to His servants the prophets.

"Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert" (Isa 43:19).

As Ezekiel was led outside around the house and, he was probably standing in front of the house and facing east just like the front of the house so that the water springing out from under the house, which was definitely coming from the Sanctuary of God, was towards his right side. This living water that Ezekiel saw originated from the right side of the altar (the south side) and flowed eastwards away from the house of God.

What does this tell us? First and foremost, this tells us, as stated in the previous Chapter, that this stream of waters originates from the throne of God Almighty. Secondly, it is from the right side or the Southside of the altar, that is, the right side of the throne. The Scriptures tells us that when our Lord Jesus rose from the dead, he ascended past the heavens and is seated at the right hand of the glory of God in the heaven of heavens. David, in the Spirit, heard this discuss in the throne and wrote it in Psalms 110 saying:

"The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth"

The right hand speaks of power, of authority, of dominion, and of the position of our Lord in the throne of God. This water that Ezekiel saw is not only flowing from God but also has the life of God in it. The streams and tributaries created by these waters therefore carry provision, life, power, and deliverance with them wherever they flow to; for their spring originated from the right side of the throne of the Living God and from the Lamb.

These waters flow outwards through the Temple of God from under the threshold of the house at the east gate. We know that the Lord Jesus Christ and specifically the Body of Christ--that complete, perfect Body; without spot and without wrinkle--is the eternal Tabernacle of the Most High God. The Door at the east gate that Ezekiel saw is also symbolic of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Door to the sheepfold.

He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and no one can enter into the House of God to see the Father except through Him. Ezekiel saw living waters springing forth from under the Door of the House. Christ is therefore the source of these living waters.

Hear Him tell the "woman at the well" in John Chapter 4:

"Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water?

Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?

Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be

in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:10-14).

However, the revelation does not end here. The Scriptures tell us that the saints of God, the family of all born-again believers, form the spiritual Body of Christ. This body that God is maturing to bring to the full stature of Christ the Head, is the Temple of God. She constitutes the Body of Christ. She may not at the present be where the Head is in maturity, but God is not through with her. He is working on her. She, called the Church or the ekklesia, indeed is the Body of Christ; she is *the fullness of Him that filleth all in all*.

The Lord Jesus in the passage of Scripture above said to the woman at the well that whosoever drinks of these living waters that He gives shall never thirst again; and that this living water will become a well of living waters in the individual. He restated this in another place saying: *"Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water"*. The individual spirit-filled believer therefore becomes a "Temple of God" in a microscopic measure compared to the Body of Christ; but out of this miniature replica, as the prophet saw in the vision and as Christ declared in the gospels, shall flow rivers of living water.

*I see multitudes of Spirit-filled saints cover the earth
I see Living Water flowing from the throne of God and from the Lamb
I see these filling the hearts of the called-out Ones
I see streams of water of life flowing out from their bellies
I see it now,*

*Through these ones the waters of life will reach the ends of the earth
And He said to me:
"It's the River of God, just as revealed to Ezekiel long ago"*

*I see, as I looked again I see the showers,
It's the rain bringing more water as the Wind began to blow
Now I see a River brought forth out these waters,
And tributaries began to grow
I see the sick healed, the lame walk
The oppressed delivered wherever they flow*

I see their living waters giving life to the death in their path as they flow

*I see prison doors flung wide open and captives leaping out into the flow
I see the blind eyes opened, and the depressed alighted with a glow
I see the defiled wash in the waters, and they come out white as snow*

*And He said to me:
It's the River of God, just as revealed to Ezekiel long ago."*

Let's remind ourselves again and again that this river of Living water originates from the throne of Almighty God and it flows through the City of God. It begins its course through the House of God meeting the needs of the people of God. It is a river of provision that brings life-giving supply from the Throne of God. It is through this River, as David sang in the opening verse, that God visits the earth and enriches it. It is through this River that He causes the earth to bring forth fruit in abundance. It is the River *the streams of which shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.*

Dear Citizen of the City of God, this precious message is for you. Can you hear what the Spirit is saying here about the River of God? Are you in any need right now? Is it financial need, or health, or peace, or in need of direction in your life? Are you weary and fainting and in need a revival? Dive into the River of God and the Living water will bring you refreshing and your every need will be met.

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Rev 22:17).

Chapter 4

Waters to Swim In

"Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over" Ezek 47:5

In the previous chapter we followed Ezekiel in the vision to the front of the House of God where he saw living "waters issuing out from under the threshold of the house". The Spirit of God began to teach us that this river of living Water originates from the throne of Almighty God and flows through the City of God to humanity. God is the source of her, and as her water fountain flows and becomes a river, the streams of this river *shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.*

We came to an understanding the fact that this river is coming forth from the right side of the throne indicates that the river and her tributaries carry along God's right-hand blessings. This right hand blessings speak of power and dominion among other things; and David in the Psalms sang of this in the spirit saying:

"Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand are pleasures for evermore" (Psalm 16:11).

This living water flowed from the right side of the throne of God brings to us all the spiritual blessings in heavenly places. Joy, peace,

health and provisions all flow to us, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb, (Rev_22:1).

Let's go on then. Let's follow on with Ezekiel in this revelation.

In the 3rd verse of the 47th chapter of Ezekiel we read:

"And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles."

Ezekiel's guide in the vision had a measuring line in his hand. The guide, using the line, measured a thousand cubits along the stream of the waters flowing from the House of God eastward. Then he brought Ezekiel through the waters. At the end of the thousand cubits, the water was ankle deep.

This symbolizes the beginning of our experience in God. It was here in the shallow edge of the river that we all started our experience and walk with God. Here we are entering into a life of learning the ways of God.

After accepting Jesus the Messiah as Lord and Savior we stepped into the river of God at the Door of the Tabernacle. There is no depth at this shallow edges of the River of Life for the waters are only ankle-deep, but the experience is wonderful. We have access to the water of life and are beginning to learn about God but are yet to know Him.

At this shallow edge we are in control of our motion, we determine where we go and do what we please. Though we are in the River, we are not being controlled by it. Many are content to stay at this shallow edge of the River where they operate in the realms of human knowledge and understanding. Unwilling to plunge into the depths of the wisdom of God they opt for earthly wisdom therefore they fight, bite and devour one another in the name of God. Full of human efforts and dominated by religious rat race.

At this stage we are only ankle deep in the things of God and not reaching any depths yet. The question is: Are we going to be satisfied with the shallow-water experience in God?

We must also notice that Ezekiel walked through the waters himself with the guide. He did not stay at the river bank and watch the guide go through. He experienced the waters by himself.

Dear ones, God wants you and me to have a first-hand experience of Him, of spiritual things, and of the realm of the supernatural personally. He does not want us to watch others do it for us. None of us is called to be a spectator. We are all called to participate in, and contribute to the building up of the Body of Christ.

However, to start with, you must experience salvation for yourself. You must experience the baptism of the Holy Ghost; you must experience the manifestations of the power of God in your life in healings, in deliverance, in provisions, and victory over the satanic forces of this evil world. You must experience speaking to, and hearing from God by yourself; and you must experience a personal intimacy with Him. You must experience the joy of practicing the presence of God in your life.

But don't stop now, you have only gone a thousand cubit and the water is only up to your ankle. Move on dear saint, for there is much more ahead of you.

You have only scratched the surface and are still drinking dilute milk. Press on into God, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. He wants you and me to proceed into deeper things of the Spirit.

The prophet and his guide are now ready to follow the stream as it ran outwards from God's holy city towards the east.

"Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins" (Ezek 47:4).

Now they followed the waters a thousand cubits more, and then checked the depth of it, and it was up to their knees. This kneel-deep portion of the river also gives a false sense of security because the carnal mind can still find its way around. He is familiar with the religion and tradition in this part of the river and would not venture into a greater depth of the River which might remove this sense of

security. It takes extra faith to take the next step forward into the deeps in the River of God.

The Lord wants us to be people that are constantly searching and seeking after the things of God. People who are thirsty for Him and therefore are not just walking in the shallow edges of the River, but are pushing forward and digging deeper, diving into the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.

Have you ever stood on the banks of a mighty river, flowing with full force, and wondering what would happen if you just plunged into the River with reckless abandon? Suppose you are not a skillful swimmer and so decide to take a plunge into the deepest section of this River? What do you imagine would happen? We can guess that you will be at the mercy of the River, and just as the *“the wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth”* so will the River convey you wherever it wants. *For it is not by our power or might that we’re going to make it in this ministry but by His Spirit.*

The guide measured another thousand cubits and they waded through the flood of the river for at this third time the waters was up to their loins. There is some depth to the waters now, but their feet is still touching the bottom of the river. They are still in control; the depth is still within their reach.

We must constantly ask ourselves? Are we going to stop at this level, or are we going to press onward still into deeper things of God. God would have us press forward to the unsearchable depths of Christ. He wants us to keep flowing with the river and for the waters of life to constantly flow out of us; and as this water of life flows out of us He will continuously refill us. He does not want us to remain stagnant or stale; for as you clearly see from this vision, the waters of the sanctuary are running waters. The river of God is teeming with life and is flowing constantly with fresh waters, fresh life, fresh provision from the throne of God. Not only is it constantly

flowing with fresh waters, it is also spreading further covering new territories and causing everything in her path to come alive.

The River of God seen here in the vision of Ezekiel grows deeper and fuller as she goes.

She is constantly running and the further she goes, the fuller she grows. So also are the things of the Spirit and of the kingdom of God. It may start, as it were, as small as the grain of mustard seed but grows up to be a great tree. The manifestations of the gifts of the Spirit increase as it's being exercised. They multiply with use and it is replenished in fullness as it is used. As we allow the streams to flow out of us unto others giving them life, we are being replenished with fresh waters from the fountain of Life. But a stagnant stream will quickly run dry. For a stagnant stream is really not a stream but a pond and will soon dry up.

However, dear saint, you must experience this yourself. You must follow this river wading through the waters. You must make a quality decision not follow along the banks, but must wade through the river under divine guidance into the deep things of the Most High God.

It's true that many people would rather stop here at the "waters to the loins" and not proceed to greater depth; for beyond this third thousand cubits they will lose their footing. They will lose control to the River because the bottom will probably become too deep. Some would even consider camping along this River bank now. At least they have made it up to this depth and now they can erect a tabernacle here. Others might like to remain in the river, but go no further; but as for you dear saints, you must press on.

"Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over" Ezek 47:5

This fourth time the guide with the line measured another thousand cubits; but as they attempted to walk along in the river as in the previous times they couldn't. The waters had risen and had become very deep with waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over.

God is raising up a generation of seekers and worshippers who would not stop but would keep searching into the deep things of God. These ones will not be satisfied with the shallow and religious knowledge of God that the traditional system provides, but will keep searching, through a personal relationship with Him, the deep things of God. These ones will, day and night, meditate on the word of God. They will continuously dig and dive into the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven. These are those whose utmost desire is to be intimately acquainted with God.

"This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O God of Jacob."

These ones must go all the way, soar to the highest heavens of God unrestricted and plunge into the depths of the river of God without restraint. Like Ezekiel the prophet, they may first hesitate before stepping into the waters. Take a small step or two to begin with. Then after 1000 cubits in the water, they find themselves in water up to ankles. But they move on. Gradually as they press on in God for another 1000 cubits the water is up to the knees, then gradually up to the loins. Still, they continue wading in the water until they are completely submerged and can no longer touch bottom, for now it is become a deep river: "waters swim in, a river that could not be passed over".

They plunge into the midst of the river of God with trustful abandon and are submerged in its depth. For there is a "going deeper and deeper" in the river of God until we are completely submerged "in the waters to swim in". There is a "changing from glory to glory" when we wait upon God and dwell in His presence. Right in the middle of this deep flowing river they are carried along by the currents of the Spirit. It is no longer by their power that they live and move, but they are completely carried by His Spirit.

In Him they live and move and have their being. They have given up control to the wave of the Holy Ghost. Now God is in complete control and wherever the Spirit takes them, that is where they go.

For others who find it too difficult to give up control to a life of faith in God, they must remain at the shallow end of the river or watch

from the bank. For these ones must have their feet on "on some physically tangible solid earth" at the river floor where they can control where they go. These ones, though are in the river or around her bank, will never come into the fullness of the blessing destined for them.

But as for you, O Child of God; press forward towards the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. *"Follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life"*.

There are so many in the religious world who feel comfortable and secure in the systems of men, and they fear the unknown Way. But the people who have committed their whole way of life to Him, and into the care of the Spirit of our Lord Jesus, shall know the joy and the peace and the rest of the River of God when the heavens and the earth are shaken, and when the mountains are dissolved in the depths of the sea.

The waters of this River is always fresh; constantly moving and constantly changing. Therefore it cannot be canned, contained or framed. This River flows down from God's holy mountain and its course are not predictable. God doesn't do things the same way every time and therefore man cannot manufacture the move of God. Though they still ignorantly try today.

The River of God is full of His divine power and will carry earthen vessels that are yielded to it. Without any effort on their part, as they yield and obey, this River will lead and carry them wherever the Spirit wills. This is the realm of the sons of God; for as many as are led by the Spirit of God they are the sons of God.

Would to God that you and me will loose our footing in the River of God, that is in the flow of the Spirit, so that we can be totally led by the Spirit and be carried by the Holy Wind to where the Master desires. How glorious would it be if we find ourselves not only filled but also completely submerged in the River of God, so that we are controlled and driven by the Spirit of the Living God, who is the River of Life.

God is pouring out His Holy Spirit as foretold by Joel the prophet. He is coming down upon us as a torrential rain causing the river of God to flow and overflow its banks as never before.

Some of us, children of God, filled with fear, are attempting to swim in the river of God in the shallow waters near the banks. They are reluctant to let go and plunge into the middle of the river where the river is too deep and the current too swift for them to retain control of their motion. They are however ignorant of this fact, that in the shallows they are easily entangled by snags and the muck formed by the mixing of the river and the banks is treacherous footing. And that though they are standing on their feet they are not as safe as when they lose control to the currents of the river of God.

As you cling to Him in faith He will uphold you by His right hand. His strength will be your strength in the midst of the river. He will carry you on by His Spirit in the midst of the river. But you only need to let go of the control to Him and you will know the peace that passes all understanding and joy unspeakable and full of glory.

Chapter 5

Committed Two Evils

"Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water" (Jer 2:12-13, RSV).

The message in this chapter is difficult to deliver. I wish I could skip this section and proceed, but then I would be like an errand-boy that pockets the message to save his face. Such a disobedient errand-boy cannot escape his due wages. The Scriptures tells us, *And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes* (Luke 12:47).

The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy? (Amos 3:8). The Spirit of Truth has ordered that the burden of God be delivered to the Church in this generation, for the time is at hand.

The message given to Jeremiah in this second chapter of his book was a very serious one. As we examine the words that were used by God when sending Jeremiah to His people we'll begin to grasp the gravity of the situation.

But we must become conceited and look down upon the natural people of God to whom Jeremiah was sent with this message, because we are no different from them. The Spirit of God wants us to examine ourselves for we are no better than them. If we would

open our eyes, we would indeed see that the fingers are actually pointing at us. It was for us that these messages were sent.

As we meditate on the words of the Spirit of God in this passage, let us know for a certainty that these warnings and rebuke were not addressed to Judah only, but to us also, even to the Church of this age.

The message began in the first verse of Jeremiah Chapter 2:

“The word of the LORD came to me, saying: Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem, Thus says the LORD:

I remember the devotion of your youth, your love as a bride, how you followed me in the wilderness, in a land not sown. Israel was holy to the LORD, the first fruits of his harvest. All who ate of it were held guilty; disaster came upon them, says the LORD.

Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the LORD: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?”(Jer 2:1-5).

This important message from the heart God began with an announcement from a loving God to an ungrateful people. *Go and cry in their ears*, God said, and *remind them of the days of their youth, their love, their zeal, and their pursuit of Jehovah in the wilderness.* After reminding them of the glorious days gone by, when they were *“holiness unto the Lord”*, Jeremiah was to then ask the children of Judah some serious questions.

“What unrighteousness have your fathers found in me, that they are gone far from me, and have walked after vanity, and are become vain? asked Jehovah.

Why have they forsaken me? Neither said they, Where is Jehovah that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, that led us through the wilderness, through a land of deserts and of pits, through a land of drought and of the shadow of death, through a land that none passed through, and where no man dwelt? (Jer 2:6) is the cry he was to proclaim in the ears of the people.

In these verses of Scripture, Love was pleading His case with His people. He continued:

“And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat the fruit of it, and the goodness of it; but when ye entered, ye defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.

The priests said not, Where is the LORD? and they that handle the law knew me not: the pastors also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit.

Wherefore I will yet plead with you, saith the LORD, and with your children's children will I plead” (Jer 2:7 -9).

Jeremiah was sent to Judah in a day when the people had turned away from the Living God to do their own thing. They had turned away from Jehovah to other gods. No longer were they devoted to the Lord as they once did. They had turned away from the Fountain of living waters and were looking everywhere else.

They have become prosperous, eaten the good of the land thereof, became prosperous and forgot the Lord that brought them hence. Becoming spoilt they followed after personal gains and have forsook Him whom they once served in holiness. In the days gone by, *“Israel was holiness unto the LORD, and the firstfruits of his increase”*. But now they have defiled His land, and made His heritage an abomination.

Listen to the prophet speaking by the Holy Ghost saying:

“Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? but my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit.

Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the LORD.

For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water” (Jer 2:12).

Judah, just like the present day church system, was guilty of two evils. *"My people have forsaken me"* is the first part of this cry given to the prophet to deliver to God's people. This is the first of the two evils.

Is it possible that God is sounding the same message to us His people today? Could He be saying to this end-time church:

"I have this against you--that you no longer love Me as you did at first. Be mindful, therefore, of the height from which you have fallen. Repent at once, and act as you did at first, or else I will surely come and remove your lampstand out of its place--unless you repent" (Rev 2:4-5 Weymouth Translation).

Are we guilty of the same evils that the people of Judah were in Jeremiah's day? Is it possible that we've left our first love and fervency towards Him and have become lukewarm? Is it possible that we have lost that initial zeal for Him? Could it be that we have lost our initial sincerity, innocence and simplicity of faith? Could He be saying about us that once we were *"holiness unto the Lord"* but now have *defiled His Tabernacle, and made His heritage an abomination.*

Is it remotely possible that God is directing this rebuke at us for committing the same atrocities Judah committed? That once in days gone by we were fervently devoted to Him and sought after Him in the wilderness, but now that we have become prosperous we have left seeking the Spring of Living Water but have shifted our pursuit from Him towards riches and fame. Is this not true of the church system of this age?

"Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent" (Rev 3:17).

My people have forsaken me, saith the Lord.

“Has any nation ever exchanged gods? Yet, my people have exchanged their Glory for something that doesn't help them. Be horrified over this, heaven. Be terribly afraid,” declares the LORD.

My people have done two things wrong. They have abandoned me, the fountain of life-giving water. They have also dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that can't hold water. (Jer 2:11-14 God's Word Translation).

The Spirit wants us to return to Christ, the Source of Living Water, instead of putting our trust in arms of the flesh. We should worship in the Spirit and **glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh**" (Phil. 3:3). Our confidence should be in that River that originates from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

To emphasize the importance of this message, the Holy Ghost repeated this through the mouth of Ezekiel the prophet. We know by the revelation of the Spirit that the book of Ezekiel is an end-time book and has some resemblance with the book of revelation. Is it also possible that the same burden of the Spirit that Ezekiel prophetically delivered in the sixteenth chapter of his book was addressed to this church age? The passage is almost identical to the cry of the Spirit through Jeremiah discussed in the previous chapters. Let's go through it:

“Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations, And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto Jerusalem; Thy birth and thy nativity is of the land of Canaan; thy father was an Amorite, and thy mother an Hittite.

And as for thy nativity, in the day thou wast born thy navel was not cut, neither wast thou washed in water to supple thee; thou wast not salted at all, nor swaddled at all.

None eye pitied thee, to do any of these unto thee, to have compassion upon thee; but thou wast cast out in the open field, to the loathing of thy person, in the day that thou wast born” (Eze 16:2-5).

The sarcasm used in the prophetic message above is by no means a complimentary one. From examining the language; to say that God

was not happy with His people is an understatement. The prophetic message continued:

And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live.

I have caused thee to multiply as the bud of the field, and thou hast increased and waxen great, and thou art come to excellent ornaments: thy breasts are fashioned, and thine hair is grown, whereas thou wast naked and bare.

I clothed thee also with brodered work, and shod thee with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk.

I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck.

And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head.

Thus wast thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment was of fine linen, and silk, and brodered work; thou didst eat fine flour, and honey, and oil: and thou wast exceeding beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom.

Now let's hear what God said of Jerusalem through this prophet similar to the message through Jeremiah.

But thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy fornications on every one that passed by; his it was.

And of thy garments thou didst take, and deckedst thy high places with divers colours, and playedst the harlot thereupon: the like things shall not come, neither shall it be so.

And in all thine abominations and thy whoredoms thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, when thou wast naked and bare, and wast polluted in thy blood.

That thou hast also built unto thee an eminent place, and hast made thee an high place in every street.

The message is the same. My people has forsaken me. They have not *remembered the days of their youth and have done abominable things and become whores. Whoredom which is used mostly understood to describe sexual promiscuity was originally used by God to describe the unfaithfulness of His people. This is clearly dramatized by God in the life of prophet Hosea to depict their idolatry. A whore is one that compromises his or her principles for personal gain and would readily sell his or her love for money thereby exchanging his/her glory for worthless things.*

They have exchanged their glory for worthless things and have sold themselves into slavery. *“Are the people of Israel slaves? Were they born into slavery? Why, then, have they become someone's property? (Jer 2:11-14 God's Word Translation).*

Now let's move on and consider the second evil that God said His people have committed. *“My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water”*

In the previous verses we have looked through a few Scriptures and seen how the people of God have forsaken Him the Living water. However, turning away from the Spring of Living Water was bad enough, but to proceed and construct an artificial reservoir for collecting and storing spiritual water was tragic! If the heathen ignorantly follow lifeless gods or pursue worthless things which cannot meet their spiritual needs, that may pardonable because they don't know any better, but not for the people of God.

Invariably in the history of God's people we see this recurring, and yet we see the merciful Jehovah pleading with them and bringing them back to Himself.

Shall we of this generation learn from the error of their ways and not walk in their footsteps? Shall we listen to the voice of the Spirit and obey? For with many of them God was not very pleased because

they turned away from their Rock and forsook their King and would not have Him reign over them. Let me remind you of this passage:

*"And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, **but they have rejected me**, that I should not reign over them"*(1 Sa 8:5).

In the early days of Israel as a nation after they had become settled in the land of their inheritance their hearts became cold towards Jehovah. God had been their Lord and King from the time He brought them out of bondage, and brought them into the land of Canaan. But now in the time of Samuel they began to grow weary of following the Lord, and desired a king, like the nations round about them. This grieved the heart of God.

They therefore came to Samuel and cried, *"Give us a king, that we may be like the nations."* This greatly displeased Samuel, and it greatly displeased the Lord. Had not God planned a king for them? Yes, God's original purpose for them was that they were to be a *"kingdom of priests, a special people, a people for His inheritance"*. Right from the beginning, their very existence as a nation was by reason of the fact that God longed for an inheritance of His own in a people that were separate from other people, and very much **unlike** the other nations. But they wanted a king so they could be "like the nations".

It wasn't only their desire for a king that displeased the heart of God, but also the fact that they wanted to conform to the pattern they observed in the nations round about them. The desire for a human king was the rejection but the yearnings to conform to the way of life of the other nations was the second evil. God had planned that His people would have a king at the appointed of time. He had even planned an everlasting kingdom for them under the Shepherd King, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. But they demanded a king, so He gave them Saul who belonged to another tribe of which no one spoke of kingship.

Forsaking the Fountain of Living Water is the first evil; this is done when the people of God turn away from the rule or the leadership of the Holy Ghost in the church and adopt the ways of man and of the nations around us. We thereby forsake Him and demanded for Saul to reign over us. We forsake the Source of Living water and have hewed for ourselves broken cisterns, that can hold no water. Such is our church system in the world today; such are the inventions of men when followed and depended on.

In Bible lands, a cistern was an artificial reservoir which was dug in the earth or hewn in the rock for the collection and storage of water. Cisterns were very important in the land of Israel because of the long dry season and the relatively few natural springs. But a broken cistern was practically worthless. Cracked rock or crumbled masonry could hold only a small quantity of dirty water, or no water at all.

Why did the people of God do such a thing? Why did they forsake the Spring of Living Water and turned to broken cistern? Could it be that they no longer want to live in dependence on the River that brings fresh flowing water? Maybe they were apprehensive that one day this Spring might fail and no water would flow and so they dug reservoirs to store the living water just in case? Maybe if they can store or “can” some of the move of God they’ll have something to fall back on if the glory should depart. If can build a structure around the move of God then we can cause the move to go on for as long as we want. In fact, if we are ingenuos enough, with our modern technology, we can turn to the structure that we have built around it and cause the revival to continue without even drinking from the flowing River of Life.

This is the interpretation of the cry of Jeremiah to this generation. And hear this, O man of God, *hearken diligently for this prophetic word is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.*

But the Spirit of God will have us know this: that the River of God can no man can. n the

Is it possible that we've wandered away from the Fountain and have we foolishly gotten involved in constructing our own cisterns? Have we turned to our careers for fulfillment in life? Is our dependence on religious system the arduous labor that we've engaged in for our denomination? Is our trust in the arms of the flesh and the great project that we are building for God? Have we turned to other gods or idols in place of Jehovah as our object of worship? God said: **"My people have forsaken me and have exchanged their glory for the glory of little gods which do not profit.**

As it happened to Israel so has it happened to us in the church. Can't you see it? The religious kingdoms started with the first Headquarters in Rome under the Papacy, under them the district hierarchy or College of Cardinals, and then the churches with their priest or preachers. When the Church ecclesiastical was thus established and men set over them, God's people suffered the same fate as the people of Israel who wanted a king. The five fold ministries and Gifts of the Spirit are being manipulated by carnal minded man who use them to the benefit of the denomination. Today it is essentially the same under different name.

The Fundamentalists and Pentecostals, once a true move of God, ruled and led by the Holy Ghost with the visions of God are now governed by powerful men. Kings or to say it more accurately Sauls, whom these nations(or denominations) asked for. Don't forget that the name Saul itself, though stands for the flesh or the arms of the flesh, means "asked for". The people of God asked for a king and God gave them what they asked for. He gave them one "head-and-shoulder" above them all. He gave them a powerful man, a king of the type their carnal mind desired. But that was not His perfect will for them. That was not what He had intended for them and He had tried to dissuade them through His prophet. He told Samuel to warn them and tell them of the nature of the kings that would rule over them. *He told that that their kings would take their sons and make them serve. Some would be commanders, others would plow his ground and reap his harvest. The daughters will do menial tasks and serve. He will take the best of your fields, vineyards and olive groves and give them to his attendance. He will also take a tenth*

of your wealth and you yourselves will become his slaves. But they would not hear. They wanted it their way, so God told Samuel to give them a king.(1 Sam. 8:21) "There is a way that seems right unto a man."(Prv. 16:25)

Tell me Dear Child of God, are we any different? The Lord Jesus our Master returned to the Father and sent the Holy Spirit to us His Church. And by the acts of the Holy Ghost, the word of God grew, multiplied and prevailed and believers were added to the Church in astounding numbers under the Apostles. The world saw a new breed of God-seeker who worshiped the Father in Spirit and in Truth. Men and women who in the face of death followed God wholeheartedly. They constantly drank of the Living Water and were in the flow of the River of God.

However, like our forefathers who came out of Egypt into the land of Caanan, after the church became powerful we rejected the rule of the Spirit of God and began to build the our own cistern in the place of the the Living Water. We said to Him *"Give us a King to rule over us"* so that we may be like the other nations around us. God warned us, His people, just as He did through Samuel the nature of the Kingdom that we've requested, but like our forefathers we must have it so.

Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the LORD our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season: he reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest.

They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked: they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge.

A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land;

The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so" (Jer 5:24,28,30-31).

Is it not sad that no sooner do a people who are totally led of the Lord in the realm of the Spirit and who had begun in the Spirit in a divine relationship as God intended., immediately there are voices arising and crying out for some great man other than the Holy Ghost

to be their king. Someone they can see; someone famous who can make them great like the other (denomi)nations, someone who can organize well, and get everyone involved in some kind of church activity. Soon under such great Saul, the structure becomes indeed great and the leadership of the Holy Ghost is history. Soon the Owner of the Church is outside the door knocking seeking to see if anyman would hear His voice and open the door to let Him in.

Many of our modern day ministers will probably disagree with me, and rightly so, when I say that there is a famine in our land. A famine not of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of the word of the Living God. This why many are wandering from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east seeking the word of the LORD.

What do you mean? Someone might ask me; How can there be a famine in these days of ours? When we have sermons on multitudinous and disparate media and have succeeded in covering most of the free world with Bibles and Christian literature. We have sermons on tapes, radio, cable television, satellite broadcasting, and even the latest Internet Technologies. Yes, these are great media that we should continue to take advantage of, but these are not the substance in themselves. They are vehicles to carry the substance and are useless unless the genuine and pure, or as Peter called it, the sincere milk of the word is flowing through them. These media will take life to the listeners only if the River of God flows through them.

Millions and even hundred of millions may be reached by these media, however, their spiritual needs will only be met if the supernatural waters of life is flowing through these media to reach the vast of needy humanity. There is a famine in our land. No doubt there is an abundance of bread but they are not necessarily the pure and sincere milk of the word that the spirit man needs to grow. Just as there are multifarious media for broadcasting, so there are plenty of words today. Some are religion focused and are based on attaining righteousness by good works. Many are strongly influenced by denominational beliefs and may have a tendency to promote the idea of some great man, why others tinted by filthy lucre preach the word with a focus on financial prosperity.

It is true we have a plethora of great words today; our land is full of superfluous and world-conforming words. We are full of these words. Make no mistake about it, we are prosperous, we are rich and have need for nothing but are indeed shallow and spiritually pretentious.

God's desire for everyone of us His Children is that we should come into total union with Him. He wants to be your King and your Source in everything without any middle man. He must be your sole object of worship and trust, not any man or any system of man however good its intention. He wants you to walk in Truth, in Holiness, in Patience, in Long-suffering, in Kindness, in Mercy, and in Love. He wants you to become one with Him in all things. He wants to rule over you Himself. He does not want to share this with any man or any god and He is jealous for His people. He specifically told Israel saying *"thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God (Exo 34:14)*

Chapter 6

Fountain of Life

"They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.

For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light. O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee; and thy righteousness to the upright in heart" (Psa 36:7-10).

The Lord Jesus, following the leading of the Holy Ghost in which He constantly walked, went to Samaria on His way to Jerusalem. *"He must needs go through Samaria", says the Scriptures in Luke ..* When He arrived at a city of the Samaritan called Sychar and stood near a well in the parcel of land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph, He went close and sat on the well. This was around noon.

As He sat there, *"There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water"* (Jn. 4:7). By the way, this did not just happen by accident; It was by divine appointment. God the Omniscient One had pre-ordained the occasion. God had prepared the soil for a fruitful planting of the word of truth.

"Give Me a drink", said the Lord Jesus to the woman. The woman replied, *"How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?"* Historically the Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans . They considered them as an inferior race of people

with mixed ancestry from Israel and the heathen nations who did not worship Jehovah the God of Israel.

Jesus answered her, *"If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."*

The woman responded, *"Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and livestock?"*

Jesus replied, *"Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life"* (John 4:13).

She responded, *"Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."* She did not understand that Jesus was speaking about the living water of eternal life that people receive from God when they believe upon and receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

The promised fountain of life-giving water is the Holy Spirit. This comes to the believer as a gift from the Lamb upon the Throne. This promise was given several times in the Holy Scriptures by the Almighty through the mouth of His holy prophets and finally by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

"For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring; They will spring up among the grass Like willows by the watercourses." (Isaiah 44:3-4).

*"On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow **rivers of living water.**' But this He spoke concerning **the Spirit**, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified."* (John 7:37-39).

How we long for more of those days when the Spirit of God came into our midst in abundant fullness, and flows in our midst. Instead of God's ministers trying to "pump" up a little water with the sweat of their brow, we enjoyed the refreshing waters of the River of revival ; Just as the Lord Jesus promised us, "*Out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.*"

"I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert... to give drink to my people, my chosen" (Isa. 43:19-20).

"I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water" (Isa. 41:18).

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water" (Joh 7:37).

Jesus was stating that the living water of His life would flow first into us, then out from us. His plan and purpose was that we would drink from Him; And that from drinking from Him, we would have real drink to give others.

The waters of the River that Ezekiel saw are not standing waters as those of a pond. They are flowing waters. The River is constantly flowing. The further it goes the fuller and deeper it becomes. So also is the gospel of Jesus Christ. The called-out ones were very few in the beginning like the waters of the ankle-deep river, or like the grain of mustard seed. When the word was first preached in the power of the Holy Ghost, it started with a few thousand people in Jerusalem. Then its waters overflowed to Judea; becoming fuller and deeper as it flowed, reaching others in the uttermost part of the earth.

This river of life is the move of the Spirit of God in revival and brings *times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord* (Acts 3:19). Through the river of revival, we can be cleansed, yield to the flow of the Spirit, be refreshed, and move in the gifts. It is the **River of**

Cleansing. Its water is described in the book of Revelation as “clear as crystal” and is efficacious for our purification.

River of transformation: Rivers alter the landscape in their path, eroding rough edges off rocks and producing smooth stones. This is an illustration of how true revival will transform our lives removing all the rough edges so that we no longer hurt those with whom we come in contact. The rough edges of jealousy have be ground off, and we are never again the same.

Have you ever wondered why David on the way to battle Goliath chose five smooth stones from the riverbed? The Scriptures tell us: *“He took his stick with him, picked out five smooth stones from the riverbed, and put them in his shepherd’s bag. With a sling in his hand, he approached the Philistine”* (I Sam 17:40). With one of those five smooth stones of Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers David killed Goliath. These stones had already undergone the processing in the River of God and had been transformed to an effective battle weapon in God’s hand. It did not matter which one of them was picked for they are all smooth and the rough edges of jealousy and rivalry had been removed. May God grant us understanding of these things.

River of Revelation: The river of God flows into our heart bring fresh revelation from the throne of God and from the Lamb. It is the Holy Ghost that reveals the Father unto us for He is the Anointing that teacheth; unveiling to us things *which eyes hath not seen nor ears heard* and comparing spiritual things with spiritual things. Revelation is waters of life streaming from Him into us.

River of Wisdom: The waters of this river give wisdom: *“The words of a man’s mouth are deep waters; the wellspring of wisdom is a flowing brook.”*(Proverbs 18:4). Jesus promised these waters to the woman at the well: “Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.” (John 4:13).

River of Healing, fountain of Life: *Healing water:* The healing virtue of this river. The waters of the sanctuary, wherever they come and have a free course, will be found a wonderful restorative. **The river of God is** full of water in this great hour. Whithersoever this great river shall flow, it shall bring healing and life to a world that is waste and barren

River of Restoration and of Power: It's the river of wonder, bringing life and strength to all in its path. The dead are raised, the blind eyes are opened, the lame walk, tumors falling off people, tuberculosis healed in the River of God. Its streams brings restoration to a weary church turning the weak and weary into giants working signs and wonder in the name of His Holy Son Jesus.

River of Mercy and Love: Water of life flowing with love and mercy from the throne of God and of the Lamb. Fountain of life-giving waters flowing onto a parched land symbolizes the spiritual fount. Precious as water is in an arid land, there is another river flowing from the throne of God, of greater worth than the visible watercourses

River of Provision and of Prosperity: *"They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures"* (Psa 36:8).

"The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God" (Psa 92:12).

The River of Fruitfulness: *"And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine"*(Ezek 47:12).

This River distributes fruitfulness everywhere it contacts, to plants and animals along their shores. They cause every fruit bearing plants along their shores to bring forth and become exceedingly fruitful. *All kinds of fruit trees will grow on both sides of the river. As*

the Psalmist also prophesied, their leaves won't wither and they won't fail to produce fruit.

“And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper” (Psa 1:3).

John, the apostle of testimony, received a similar message in the revelation given him when he was caught up in the Spirit in the Day of the Lord. He saw the trees of life that produce fresh fruit each month because they drink of the water that flows from the Holy Place. Their fruits will be good food, and their leaves will be used for healing the nations.

And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations” (Rev 22:1).

The River of Life: *“Wherever the river flows, there will be many fish and animals. The river will make the water in the Dead Sea fresh. Wherever the river flows, it will bring life. From En Gedi to En Eglaim people will be standing on the shore of the sea with their fishing nets spread out. As many kinds of fish will be there as there are in the Mediterranean Sea” (Eze 47:9-10).*

Wherever this river flows there will be life. Even the Dead Sea will be transformed to a medium teeming with life as this River flows into it; for the prophecy state that *wherever the river flows, it will bring life (Eze 47:9).*

And for you O Saint of the Most High, rejoice for this is a River of Joy and Jehovah will make you drink of and by submerged in the River of His pleasure. How excellent is His love towards us!

O how true is the song that David sang unto God in the opening Scriptural passage above (Psa 36:7-10). My heart leaps for joy as I meditate on the message in this song. I admonish you dear saint to join in singing this song unto God in your heart.

May we be found, as the song admonishes, putting our trust in Jehovah and thereby eternally partaking in the fatness of His house and drinking of the river of His pleasures, Amen.

“How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures. For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light. O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee; and thy righteousness to the upright in heart” (Psa 36:7-10).

Chapter 7

The Spirit and the Bride Say...

“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely” (Rev 22:17).

I grew up in a village where I had a great opportunity of working on my father’s farm during school holidays and learnt a great deal. Of course I did consider it as a great opportunity at the time. It was much like torture; but today, looking back, I could see how God was using those experiences to mold me and to build in me the endurance that I would so much need in latter years. I remember on several occasions after working several hours in the hot Sun I would become exhausted.

You may be wondering what this experiential narration has to do with the subject of this book, but come along with me, and you’ll soon discover how. I can still see, in my mind’s eye so to speak, my young weary self, wearily walking down the path between the yam furrows and heading as fast as I could towards the nearby river. This picture always comes to my mind very vividly whenever the subject pertaining to a river is brought up.

I knew if I could just get to the nearby river, plunge myself in its water, I would be restored and refreshed again. Even though I did not know how this comes about, yet I saw it happen every time. I knew there was something about the waters of a river that acts as a

soothing and restoring medicine of the flesh of a weary man. I could not understand but I knew it is true.

On each of those occasions, and there were a couple of hundred of them, after getting to the river; I would locate a clean calm portion, get inside, and give myself a good bath. O' how refreshing and resuscitating it used to feel after the river bath of those days. Of course the external purpose of taking bath in the water of the river to wash off the dirt and the dust that has accumulated on the skin from the several hours of work on the farm, but the restoration of the body and refreshing that this bring is even more desirable.

Let learn from a man of God who had a much better experience than mine narrated above. This man was a shepherd boy. From his youth he learnt how to take good care of his father's sheep. He knew how to take them to a pasture full of green vegetation for provision; how to protect them from wolves; how to guide and lead them back to the barn when they're lost; and how to get them water to drink when they're thirsty and weary.

From these experiences he could look up and understand how the Good Shepherd takes cares of His sheep. Writing under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, he wrote:

"Jehovah is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside still waters.

He restoreth my soul: He guideth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, thou I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou hast anointed my head with oil; My cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and lovingkindness shall follow me all the days of my life; And I shall dwell in the house of Jehovah for ever" (Psalm 23, American Standard Version).

In this twenty-third psalm it can be plainly seen that the Holy Spirit is taking the events in the working day of a shepherd in Israel as an

inspirational basis for the words of the song. Each event and activity of the shepherd's day was turned into a delightful allegory, vividly portraying a spiritual truth, every one of which should comfort our hearts as we daily walk through this valley of the shadow of death.

David began this song stating that Jehovah, the Lord, is his Shepherd. If anyone should know what a shepherd does, this man David does. He therefore said that because the Lord is his Shepherd, he will not be in want of any good thing.

The next verse is even more revealing. Here David tells us how the Good Shepherd leads His sheep into green pasture. Here the sheep have plenty vegetation and leafy forage to graze. At the same time it makes for a good resting place after grazing on a hot day.

He continued in this verse by telling us that the Good Shepherd leads His Sheep by the quiet waters. This is where the Shepherd provides water for the sheep. He guides them by the brook of a river and cause them to walk in and drink. After a long hour of grazing and weariness, the sheep now have the opportunity for a cool refreshing that only water can bring to a thirsty and weary soul. They drink and their thirst are quenched and their vitality restored. It is no wonder that the following verse of this great songs says: *"He restoreth my soul: He guideth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake"*

"When He putteth forth His own sheep, He goeth before them."

These are the words of Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, and how similar they are to the words of this Psalm. *"He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul"* Here, walking in the light of His presence, we find ourselves treading in green pastures. There is plenty of food in God's word and the amount left over increases with the increase of the number who eat it.

The Good Shepherd brings restoration to His flock by leading them to, and making them drink of the River of God which is full of water. They drink and are restored.

But that's not all this verse is telling us. David sang in the following phrase that the Good Shepherd then *leads the sheep in the paths of righteousness*. Blessed be God for evermore.

The path of righteousness leads to peace, quietness and assurance. *"And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness, quietness and confidence for ever"* (Isa 32:18). This is the quietness associated with the river described in the second verse of the twenty-third Psalm quoted above. This is peace like a river.

"For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees" ().

The River of God is a mighty source of provision, of healing, of refreshing, and of restoration to all who would come to it. Even its bank is full of life and the fruits of the trees along its bank is for the healing of the nations. Not only these, just remaining at its banks after receiving restoration and refreshing from its waters, leads to peace.

"So, when in my spirit, I heard the Holy Ghost loudly saying: *Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price"* (Isa 55:1). I know in my heart the spiritual implication of those verses. It came to me long ago that the restoration of my weary body experienced from the waters of those rivers is just God's Scripture written in nature to teach me a greater truth and point to the real water of Life. Just as the great apostle wrote that:

"The invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Rom 1:20).

This taught me that if I would go the true water proclaimed by the Prophet in the passage above and drink, I will not only be cleansed, have my thirst quenched, but will also be restored and receive a

refreshing from the presence of the Lord. I will have peace like a river.

Dear reader, Are you weary? There is refreshing for you in this water of life. Do you need cleansing? This river is full of water, *pure water of life, clear as crystal* to cleanse you until you're as white as snow. To those of you who are thirsty? Isaiah in the Spirit cried out saying: *Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters.* Come to the waters and drink your fill. It is free. Plunge into the River and be restored, drink her waters and be refreshed.

There is plenty of blessings even at the bank of the River of God; Provision, healing and peace. But God's real desire is not for you to camp at the bank of the river. He does not want you to settle for a partial benefit. He wants you to get into the river. In fact, He does not want you to remain in the river ankle deep or even kneel deep, but wants you to go all the way. Don't stand at the bank of the River, dear one; Dive in; take a plunge into the river of life.

Commit your whole way of life to Him, and into the care of the Holy Ghost, and you shall know the joy and the peace and the rest of the River of God when the heavens and the earth are shaken, and when the mountains are dissolved in the depths of the sea:

Therefore will we not fear, though the earth shall be removed, and though the mountains shall be carried into the midst of the sea;

Though its waters shall roar and be disturbed, though the mountains shake with the swelling of it. Selah.

There is a river, the streams of which shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

In closing, Dearly Beloved, we may not understand all the implications of the events soon to be revealed upon the earth. But there is one thing we do know from these verses of Scripture that when the heavens and the earth are shaken, and the mountains are dissolved in the midst of the sea, there is going to be a people in the

River of God. May we be found in their company, found in the flow of this River, riding on the waves of *waters to swim in, a river that cannot be passed over.*