

A MEASUREMENT OF THE WATERS

KINGDOM PRINCIPLES OF THE RIVER

1. “There is a River, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High”; Psalm 46:4
2. This mighty River begins as a trickle, then a stream and then it becomes a River.
3. The River heals as it flows; it is the life-giving flow of the Holy Spirit; Ezekiel 47:9-10
4. There is a **PROPHETIC FLOW**: the River flows “out of the belly”, which points to **prophetic ministry**; Luke 3:3-17; John 7:37-39; 1 Corinthians 14:31
 - a. This is an anointing to declare God’s message and reveal God’s heart unto men.
 - b. We are encouraged to “prophesy”(to speak under inspiration): “Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy and forbid not to speak with tongues”; 1 Corinthians 14:1, 39.
5. There is a **PRIESTLY FLOW**: the River flows out of the Temple (Sanctuary), which points to **priestly ministry**; Ezekiel 47; 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 5:10
 - a. This is an anointing as a mediator: one who intercedes in men’s behalf.
 - b. This anointing also points to worship, offering up “spiritual sacrifices”; 1 Peter 2:5.
6. There is a **KINGLY FLOW**: the River flows out of the Throne, which points to **kingly ministry**; Rev. 22:1; Luke 19:17-19; 1 Corinthians 6:2-3; Revelation 1:6; 3:21
 - a. This is an anointing of one who governs and rules from a throne with authority, because there is power in the word of a “king”; Ecclesiastes 8:4
 - b. A king is a judge who takes dominion and administers justice: “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them...and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years”; 1 Corinthians 6:2-5; Revelation 20:4
7. The concept of the River of Life is the dispensing of His life (the combined ministry of the prophet, priest and king) to all creation through His saints; Is. 66:12; Rev. 21:7. This River will flood the Earth (the sea of humanity) with deliverance and life. God’s Kingdom will come to the Earth, and it will be full of the knowledge of the Lord; Is. 11:9
8. The River flowed out of Eden, which brought divine blessing to the “garden”; Genesis 2:10-14. There was one “Tree of Life” in Eden, but there will be many “trees of life” (saints) who are raised at the Lord’s appearing; Ps. 92:12-14; Isaiah 61:3.
9. There is Man With a **Measuring Reed** and a **Line of Flax** In His Hand; Ezek. 40:3-5:
 - a. The “measuring reed” (rod) measured the dimensions of the “House”; Ezek. 43:10-11
- A reed was used for shorter measurements; Revelation 11:1; 21:15.
 - b. The “line” of flax measured the distance and the depth of the “water of the Word”.
- A line was used to measure long distances; Zechariah 2:1-2.
 - c. Jesus Christ is the Measuring Man; He discerns the breadth, the length, the depth and height of God’s love and fullness within us. The reed and line represent His standard of a “Perfect Man”, the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; Ephesians 3:18; 4:13.
10. “Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment. And a man shall be as a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; AS RIVERS OF WATER in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land”...But there the glorious Lord will be unto us a place of broad rivers and streams...”; Isaiah 32:1-2; 33:21

Here Is The Pattern:

1. He Brought Me **OUT**
2. He Brought Me **THROUGH**
3. He Brought Me **TO** (higher ground; an appointed place in Him)

KINGDOM PRINCIPLES OF THE WATERS

1. He leads us to the “Door”; waters flow from the **threshold**; John 10:7, 9; Rev. 4:1
2. The WATERS came down from the right side of the House, just as water flowed from the side of Jesus. The “House” is the eternal Temple of God (Jesus Christ: Head and Body), the Lamb and His Wife; the Holy City; Ezekiel 47:1; John 19:34; Revelation 21:2
3. The Lord encourages us to STEP INTO THE WATERS; Matthew 14:28.
4. His voice is like the sound of “many waters”; Ezekiel 43:2; Revelation 1:15; 14:2.
5. “**He brought me**” through the waters indicates a willingness on my part to be led by Him. I must be drawn by Him; I cannot lead myself into the heights and depths of the things of God; it is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit; Ezekiel 47:3-5; Romans 8:14.
6. He leads us through “waters” of adversity and difficulty; this is necessary for our spiritual development. “When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee...”; Isaiah 43:2; Psalm 66:12.
7. The waters also represent the **progressive influence** and **spread of the Gospel** throughout the Earth: first in Jerusalem, then Judea, then Samaria, then to the uttermost parts of the Earth; Acts 1:8. His people are “fishers of men”; Ezekiel 47:9-10; Mark 1:17.
8. We are invited to experience a deeper life in the Spirit, not standing still, but always moving forward. Stagnant, unmoving waters are “swamps and marshes”; Ezekiel 47:11.
9. He is leading us to a **full and deep immersion** into His life, whereby we are washed, sanctified and cleansed, that we might be a glorious Church; Ephesians 5:26-27. Five Greek words describe different stages of spiritual growth / development:
 - a. “nepios” – an infant, a babe in Christ; 1 Corinthians 3:1
 - b. “paidion” – word used to describe a younger child; 1 John 2:18
 - c. “teknon” – word used to describe older children; John 13:33
 - d. “neaniskos” – word used to describe a mature, young man; 1 John 2:13-14
 - e. “pater” – word used to describe a father or parent; 1 Corinthians 4:15; 1 John 2:13-14
10. The LEVEL OF WATER INCREASES with every 1,000 cubits:
 - a. The **length** and the **depth** of the waters **are measured**; a Man with a LINE in his hand measured 1,000 cubits; there was a total measuring of 4,000 cubits (about 6,000 feet, 6,000 years from Adam, there is a “river to swim in”).
 - b. 1,000 – indicates fullness of quantity; completeness of a specific level or divine order; it is a degree of God’s glory; 2 Corinthians 3:18; a “cubit” is an ancient Hebrew measure of length.
 - c. Hebrew meaning of LINE: “a cord for measuring; a rule”; He sets His House in order and brings correction:

“...I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies; my house shall be built in it, saith the Lord of hosts, and a LINE shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem”; Zechariah 1:16

“But the word of the Lord was unto them precept upon precept...LINE UPON LINE ...Judgment also will I lay to the LINE, and righteousness to the plummet; and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place”; Isaiah 28:13, 17
 - d. “But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream”; Amos 5:24. When we are judged (corrected) as “sons” by the Lord, it is so we would be conformed into the image of the Lord Jesus Christ; Hebrews 12:5-7. When we yield to Him in obedience, we are brought into a GREATER DEPTH (of union) with Him.

e. The Lord measures our growth in grace through faith; He sees our worship for Him ascending and increasing.

f. At each stage, we must be proven as faithful stewards; we must overcome through every present obstacle before we are entrusted with a new level.

11. A Man with a LINE in his hand measured 1,000 cubits. He brought me through the waters, which were **TO THE ANKLES**; Ezekiel 47:3

a. This is the beginning of our “walk” with the Lord, which is now being surrounded by the “water”, the influence of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. Our feet are wet with the waters of conversion and regeneration.

b. “Lambs” wade in the shallows; those with a weak capacity (babes, little children) thrive upon the “milk” of the Word, the elementary doctrines; Hebrews 5:12; 1 Peter 2:2.

c. With out “feet” we rise up and leave Egypt. The “walk” among our brethren begins, with justification through faith, and pardon through the Blood of Jesus Christ.

12. A Man with a LINE in his hand measured another 1,000 cubits. He brought me through the waters, which were **TO THE KNEES**; Ezekiel 47:4

a. Knees speak of relationship with God, communion in prayer (as bowing in worship).

b. Knees can point to weakness, a lack of faith; they must be strengthened to walk long distances. When our hunger grows, we “beg” for more of Him; Isaiah 35:3; Heb. 12:12.

c. Bending the knee speaks of submission (upon which a father’s blessing is received).

13. A Man with a LINE in his hand measured another 1,000 cubits. He brought me through the waters, which were **TO THE LOINS**; Ezekiel 47:4

a. Loins speak of “reproduction”: the ability to reproduce the life of Christ in others; this points to a spirit-led life, and indicates a high level of spiritual activity.

b. The loins also speak of “digestion”: one who is able to digest the meat of the Word.

c. Those in this category have put away “childish things”; 1 Corinthians 13:11. We gird up the “loins of our mind” to be sober, and receive only His thoughts; 1 Pet. 1:13.

14. A Man with a LINE in his hand measured another 1,000 cubits - a river that I cannot pass over, for the waters were risen; **WATERS TO SWIM IN**; Ezekiel 47:5

a. We are led through deep waters; Is. 63:13; we lose the ability to “muddy the waters with our feet” (to “work up a flow”, the footpumps of Egypt; Deut. 11:10). Confidence in our own abilities have come to an end; we submit to His Lordship and “enter His rest”.

b. This is the laying down of our own will, when we are launched into the “depths”, cut loose from the earthly ties, and lose control of our own lives. We are being fully upheld by the living waters of the Word, yielding to the flow of its current; Luke 5:4.

c. When we are being carried by faith, fully immersed in the water and “swimming”, the “head” (Jesus, the Head of His Body) is the prominent part that is seen; Colossians 1:18.

d. This stage prepares us for the redemption of our mortal body. **Every victorious saint will pass through the “realm of the depths”**; Ps. 42:7, the deep dealings of God: the trials, the “prisons”, the purging, a complete testing, a thorough “proving”, which qualifies an individual, as determined by the Lord. No person can be robed in immortality, be glorified, to rule and reign with Christ, unless they meet the necessary requirements to “attain to” the out resurrection from among the dead; Phil. 3:10-11.

15. Then He brought me to the BRINK OF THE RIVER (solid ground); Ezek. 47:6-7. The “trees of the Lord” are established on the bank of the River; Psalm 1:3. His goal is to lead us to RESURRECTION LIFE - “higher ground”; Psalm 18:33; Habakkuk 3:19.

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