

## re-think No.62

# LET GO and LET GOD!

**EZEKIEL 47: 1-12** regarding the 'Son of Man' overcomer with whom every apprehended one in this hour can identify ... because he didn't quit! It begins with . . .

## HE BROUGHT ME not, HE SENT ME!

*HE BROUGHT ME* emphasis started in chapter 46 and verses 19 and 21. . . and these verses are included with the rest of the seven occurrences. To be **BROUGHT** by someone, the one being brought is first **WILLING TO BE LED** because they have full confidence/trust in the One leading. The Leader determines *where they go* and *when they go*. Ezekiel represents each one of us as we are willing to be led of the Spirit. You will see in these verses that *HE brought me OUT, HE brought me THROUGH and HE brought me TO* His desired end. Progressive steps in our lives. The yieldedness of the one being brought creates a beautiful harmony that ensures that progress is made and that the desired objective is reached. The 'Man', our Leader Who is bringing you, is a picture of Christ who is within you *to bring you into all truth* (John 14:26). The Spirit will bring you OUT of the confines of the Church-System, THROUGH many dealings of His word TO a new insight into God's great plan for these days.

## FOOD FOR PRIESTS

The first reference of *being BROUGHT* is in Ezekiel 46:19. The one being shown and led is being given a revelation that the ordinary folk do not get to see. Taken into the **HOLY CHAMBERS OF THE PRIESTS** . . . which faced north yet had special places on the west side of each chamber or room. Here was where the sanctifying food for the priests was prepared. It was 'boiled' . . . **water and fire** were involved. This sacrificial food **for the priests** had come from the working of *the water of the word and the consuming fire of His anointing and presence*. It was **the meat or real substance** of His will that was thus prepared for the priests. They too had to be identified with the three main offerings of Passover — seeing them by the Spirit. There was a distinct need for these priests to move in holiness . . . *without which no man will see the Father*.

## FOOD FOR THE PEOPLE

The second reference is in verse 21. Now the priests were brought to the OUTER COURT where they would then boil the sacrifices for the people. This ministry was done by THE MINISTERS OF THE HOUSE . . . priests chosen for that work. This took place in four courts that were 30c x 40c in size. These sizes declare the intent of this ministry. . . namely that by many testings (40) the people might be brought to maturity (30) and that it would include the whole world (4 areas).

We see that there is a precise dealings of the Lord for each priest within himself to be followed by similar dealings for the people. It is a picture of *the husbandman must first be a partaker of the fruit*.

Now to our study . . . this preamble needed to be included because chapter 47 begins with 'Afterward'. Ezekiel called '*son of man*', is now brought back to the door of the house — the place of going in or out . . .

## THE HOUSE = THE CHURCH

A priests' office is to so be one with Father-God so they can 'represent' Him to the people AND present the people to God. Yes, that is a mediator of which Jesus Christ was the prototype . *The things that I do, you shall do also and greater* . . . Remember that our High Priest, Jesus Christ, is now corporate. . . for *we are the body of Christ*.

## READY TO GO ON?

**DOOR OF DECISION** with the **THRESHOLD OF CHALLENGE** If one gets as far as the threshold, it is like you receive the impetus (from within) to go on . . . whether in or out . . . it is a sure picture that one will not stand still. Christ being the Door, we then are the feet that rest on the threshold. That which brought you to the door into moving with the Spirit, will cause enabling faith to rise up for that which follows. If you follow where the 'water of the word' (Eph.5:26) leads, it will be away from the Church Fellowship as your priority. Mother-Church's calling is to bring forth the new life and grow them up so that they can walk with Father.

**WATERS FROM 'THE HOUSE'** ... Ezekiel 47:1 *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 from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar.* To follow or surrender to these waters will be a sacrifice.

Jesus said, *I am the Door* which happens to include the threshold. The DOOR of the HOLY PLACE is where these waters start to be seen . . . flowing EASTWARD — towards a new day, a new move, a new accomplishment. THIS WATER of the Living Spirit-Word came from the Holy Place of the anointing and touched the SOUTH side of the brazen altar in the outer court. This indicates that this living flowing word of life — THE VOICE OF GOD —was for a new day and a new expression of Christ and in its path there was blessing (south side) because of Calvary (brazen altar). This refers to the blessings that have been received because we have truly passed by this altar experiencing 'death to self'.

**WATERS FROM 'THE GATE'** ... Ezekiel 47:2 *Then BROUGHT HE ME out of the way of the gate northward, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looks eastward; and, behold, there ran out waters on the right side.*

These waters with life and purpose were unstoppable. This revelation to Ezekiel took him out of the outer court via the NORTH gate which speaks of 'tests' and 'battles'. We never had challenges like this before . . . it used to be 'plain sailing' until He brought me to the Threshold where the true water of life flows out. This 'son of man' was then brought to the gate on the east side where the waters were now flowing out to the world. He went out of the gate on the north side and walked round to the gate on the east side and was viewing the waters from outside of the Temple. Attracted to them and desiring to be a part of them, he waits for a move by God who would encourage him to step into the waters. Experiencing the word rather than just looking at it at a 'Bible Study'!

## THE MEASURING ROD

Now comes the MEASURING ROD and the LINE. Remember **Ephesians 4:13** . . . *Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto THE MEASURE of the stature of the fullness of Christ: Ministering Priests are called to bring God's people to maturity.* . . to the fullness of Christ, for His Body must become mature in every aspect. It is done by the Lord causing the hungry ones to be measured.

I expect you were measured by some adult when you were a child. They would put a mark on the door frame or wall and you would return after a while and get a further mark placed there . . . to see how much you had grown! There was a measuring done and you knew when you had grown and by how much. Being measured was a big encouragement.

God is measuring your progress and He encourages you not to quit . . . whether you are fully surrendered to His will or only partly! Is His stature being seen in you? Are you making progress in *being changed into His image?* Ezekiel 47:3 *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.*

A LINE was measured in these waters. A line is straight . . . the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. He walked on this line for 1000 cubits (please do **not** change cubits to some modern day measure-

ment for God measures in cubits). '1000' speaks of THE GLORY OF GOD — seen when He manifest His presence and that usually occurs when His will is accomplished. 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 declares that as we allow the Holy Spirit in us to be truly LORD, then *He will change us from GLORY TO GLORY into His Image* — a 1000 cubits at a time!

The water of life is touching you . . . to the ANKLES! Your 'walk' is being surrounded by this water , this 'new thing', this 'new thinking', but even so as you walk, you are muddying the waters with your own desires. There is a pull on your walk by the water — your natural, selfish ways and purposes now find a little opposition . . . it is a little more difficult to do God's will in your own way, but you do anyway. The progress you have made however, is pleasing to the Lord for His glory will be revealed to you in a special way . . . just how He sees that you need it.

### DON'T STOP — KEEP WALKING

*Shallow paddling* is often 'fun' and not too much effort is required, is there? Well, the next stage is where we experience *deeper paddling* ... probably trying to keep our clothes dry!

Ezekiel 47:4 *Again he measured a thousand, and BROUGHT ME through the waters; the waters were to the KNEES.*

Specific points of progress and maturing are being laid out for you by this 'Man' with the line. The mere fact that he has measured your course again is so that you can gain assurance as to your progress, be thankful for what He has done and know His presence (glory) in even a greater way. You really are beginning to mature! You are going deeper and deeper into this flow of the living word . . . that is the Truth, which is Jesus — His full nature. You are now walking in these waters up to the knees. The KNEES speak of relationship via communion via prayer via *praying without ceasing*. This 'knee-drill' is essential to receiving the strength needed to walk in the Spirit. Your walk, because of your ego being so dominant, is still stirring up the mud, but the effect of it is not quite so polluting as earlier. It becomes even harder to walk towards the new day (Remember that the light of every new day starts in the east) — the waters of life surrounding you makes it more difficult for your 'natural man' to make easy progress any more. This is yet another 'milestone' in your maturing. His presence is very real as the relationship is developed.

### DEEPER IS SLOWER!

*Again he measured a thousand, and BROUGHT ME through; the waters were to the LOINS.*

If you thought that it was tough walking with water to the knees, it is now even harder with water that come up to your loins. The LOINS speak of two major things. First REPRODUCTION and then DIGESTION. Those making their way towards experiencing THE NEW DAY OF HIS FULLNESS, will find that they will begin to reproduce the Life of Christ in others because of the waters of life that have surrounded their loins. No longer will there be offered a watered-down version of the gospel that comes over like adding Jesus to your life, but rather the full realisation that the old life is 'traded in' for His new life. *If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold all things are new. Behold all things are new* (2 Corinthians 5:17). The law of 'do's and don'ts' is replaced by 'for me to live is Christ'. Progress now appears to be slower. Mud is still be stirred up but it is not seen so readily.

The mud of the natural man's abilities in you will have diminished because of the effect of the life-giving water around you. The glory of God is experienced yet again along with a further measuring to note your progress.

### LET GO — LET GOD!

You're on your own now! Mature 'sons' do not have to be told what to do etc. like they did when they were servants! Let go your earthly, natural security and swim but 'don't swim with one foot on the bottom' . . . Ezekiel 47:5 *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.* By walking with Christ through many waters, as it were, He has trained you to hear His voice and to know His ways. His mind, the mind of Christ, is operative in you and you now know the way to go!

The limits of **your** confidence in **your** abilities, **your** decisions and **your** walk have now come to an end. **Your** natural thinking and accompanying walk is now *'out of its depth'*. Your feet are away from the earth . . . no more mud stirring. . . you are being fully upheld by the living waters that have increased to become a river of life. At this point you cannot cross the river by walking and staying in touch with just a little 'earth'. It is truly full surrender to His leading. The waters have surrounded you and now force you to swim. The struggle with its determined efforts is gone. When you swim (and I am thinking of the breaststroke), the head only is seen . . . this speaks of the Head of the Body — Christ . . . which in turn speaks of the mind of Christ which we have and as we allow His mind to be the source of our thoughts, **then Jesus Christ is truly Lord in us** and only then.

When thus swimming, the current of this river of life will take you where it flows. This is called elsewhere 'entering into His rest' where you have *ceased from your own works* as God did from His. . . which means don't rely upon your own thinking. You have given up your will for His, haven't you? Your will is now fully replaced by His will . . . *'not my will be done, but Yours'*.

I have commented on these verse as if we are the ones in the waters . . . which we are. Also the following verses give us a 'birds eye view' of the purpose of this journey within God's plan for the world.

Ezekiel was called 'son of man' and he represents us who have been called into 'sonship' . . . that of being like Jesus . . . in the image of Christ . . . in the full measure of His character, authority and provision . . . being adopted as a son! (see *re-think No.25*).

### HAVE YOU SEEN HIS PLAN?

Now the Spirit-Leader unveils the purpose of such a progressive dealing as we have come through. He desires that we see His way of getting the lifeless to receive life. The water of the living-spirit-word is essential to the preparation of the labourers that will be sent forth to bring in the end-time harvest.

Ezekiel 47:6 *And he said unto me, Son of man, have thou seen this? Then HE BROUGHT ME, and caused me to return to the brink of the river.*

Again brought to the next aspect of this maturing, there is a completely new setting shown to this 'son of man'. The vantage point is higher than before. As it were you were in the river, now you have been brought to the bank of the river — that's higher ground. You can see now that self-effort will produce nothing in His great plan.

There is the river that flows out of one's innermost being (John 7:38); there is the river out of the corporate temple of God (here in Ezekiel) and there is the river out of the throne (Revelation 22). Notice the progressive pattern from individual filling by the Holy Spirit, to the corporate Church pouring forth of life to the highest expression of that life — throne-life of ruling and reigning in Him.

The further you go on your **'becoming-walk'** with Christ, the bigger everything is ... more insight into the Word, more testimony, wider horizons and more overwhelming challenges. You can hardly recall when this mighty river was just a stream from under the threshold of the door of the Church!

The result of this river flow is that 'trees of the Lord' are established on the banks ... each drawing their full nutrition from the river.

### NEW EVANGELISM ... FOR TREES!

Ezekiel 47:7 *Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other.* It takes time for trees to grow ... this shows that others have been on this path before you ... as they have matured, so will you!

There has been a change! Many trees on both banks. Even *THE FISHERS OF MEN* of earlier times have matured into expressing the tree of Life, Christ. Interesting the Hb. for *BANK* = lip! The expressing of the words or water of life will be the fishing mode. . . one will not need any gimmicks.

### RESTORATION and RECONCILIATION

Ezekiel 47:8 *Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east COUNTRY, and go down into the*

*DESERT, and go into the SEA: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed.* Larger horizons are revealed .. God's plan is bigger than you think!

The purpose of this river was first to deal with those who have a revelation that they are called to be a part of **the corporate Son of Man** in this hour and then to be changed in order to meet the needs of the world.

These waters . . . these expressions from God's heart via the mind of Christ . . . would reach the desert. The desert is a very dry place where no life grows — or if it does, it is very stunted. There are many lives 'out there' which have no spiritual life at all. The Sea would refer to the Dead Sea which is so salty — no life in it. These salt waters here are lifeless because of 27% salt and need healing. The waters that make up this river are the guarantee that the '**sea of humanity**' will be healed and fully restored. It is in His plan.

Ezekiel 47:9 *And it shall come to pass, that EVERY THING THAT LIVES, WHICH MOVES, wherever the rivers shall come, SHALL LIVE: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and EVERY THING shall live whither the river comes.* Oh how we long to see the healing power in miracles released to the needy!

Here is a scene of marvellous RESTORATION and NEW LIFE . . . and it is all caused by the rivers of life flowing to them. Notice here the one river has become rivers. *Out of one's innermost being shall flow RIVERS of living water.* . . the words of Christ to bring forth life where death reigned before. Remember, *Man shall not live by bread alone, but by EVERY word that PROCEEDS out of the mouth of God.* Not what proceeded in times past. . . but right up-to-date words from the mind of Christ. The words that are a 'now-word' . . . the letter word of the past kills, but the spirit (now-word) brings forth life.

### PREPARED 'FISHERS OF MEN'

Fishers of men . . . that is what Jesus said we would be. The river of life makes it possible for fish to be caught for Him. Fish quantities shall be huge . . . Catch this! EVERYTHING shall live!

Ezekiel 47:10 *And it shall come to pass, that the fishers shall stand upon it from En-gedi even unto En-eglaim; they shall be a place to spread forth nets; their fish shall be according to their kinds, as the fish of the great sea (The Mediterranean Sea), exceeding many.*

ENGEDI/Hb.= fount of a kid; ENEGLAIM Hb.= fount of two calves. These were places on the Dead Sea. 'A fount' (from the Hb.) speaks of INSIGHT associated with the eye — what **springs up** as revelation: this seeing increases to a **double portion**. **These fishermen know who they are and what God is doing** . . . they are now *established in present truth*.

The waters are healed and life can again come froth from those arenas. The fishing is NOT by a line but by NETS. Jesus told the weary fishermen to cast in their nets . . . and there was a great haul of fish back in John 21. Ezekiel 47:11 *But the miry places thereof and THE MARSHES thereof shall not be healed; they shall be given to salt.*

Even with such a mighty display of God's restoration power, there will still be some who will not tune into what is happening. **MARSHES** are stagnant or **unmoving waters**. This is a picture of an individual or group of believers (or nonbelievers) that are going nowhere — the same old thing over and over again. . . with no desire to change or receive life. They are like an ostrich who buries her head in the earth. Those who acknowledge that they are plain dry but desire change will fare better than those who are like a motionless swamp. The word for 'marsh' also means *pool* or *cistern* where the water just 'sits'! Many saints keep filling their 'cistern' with the water of the word, but the water is still and will most likely stagnate! Comparing this to a river where the water is fresh and alive.

### CONTINUOUS HEALTHY FOOD

Ezekiel 47:12 *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.*

MEAT = food. *We are trees of the Lord, planted by Him, our leaves shall not fade.* . . . and the fruit of these trees will be an inexhaustible supply. Eat as much as you can and there will always be more! Every month shall be the same in that regard. New fresh fruit sufficient for **ALL** to receive — THE UNLIMITED SUPPLY OF THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT — wherein is the Incorruptible Seed, Christ.

Every ailment from natural thinking will be healed by this Divine supply that He has brought forth out of the Sanctuary — the Holy Place people who were willing to be led by the Spirit. *Those that are led by the Spirit are the sons of God* (Romans 8:14)

Divine Life, the expression of the Divine word and thought will bring a full healing and restoration.

### **IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO SWIM!**

There is first a laying-down of one's will, one's own way including what we want to do for the Lord and then a willingness to be led. The Holy Spirit will bring you through these dealings and processings to the place where you can SEE what He is doing and why. Revelation and insight will burst forth in you and from you so that the flow of His river of life, His words are not hindered but are allowed to fully achieve His purposes with those you meet.

May the Lord Jesus Christ enable each one who has been challenged to experience the changes that He desires to see in each. You will find yourself confidently swimming. §