

How Far Will You Go For God?

"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.

In the garden was a river, which, when it passed out of the garden separated into four separate rivers, Genesis 2:10-14.

This one river was to be sufficient for Adam and his family as they commenced to populate the earth, Genesis 1:28.

For the last two thousand years, Christians have had but one source of water. "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.

(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified)" John 7:37-39.

Jesus, on the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, a day when the Jewish people acknowledged God's Provisions for them in the past, was calling the people to come to Him.

At this point, it is made clear for us that Jesus is not only offering a bodily provision, but also a spiritual provision - the Holy Spirit.

Ezekiel describes this river in detail, Ezekiel 47:1-5.

The water is coming out through the door of the house. Jesus states, John 10:9, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture".

At first the water is shallow, coming only as high as the ankles, and easy to negotiate. Jesus taught by the use of parables, that the new lambs would not have difficulty understanding the Heavenly Teaching, Matthew 13:10-11, "And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?

He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given".

The river Ezekiel is describing gets both deeper and wider. Why should the Spirit cause Ezekiel to write these words?

Your walk with the Lord started in shallow water. As you walked into deeper water, you did two things,

1. You started leaving the earth behind. As you got closer to God, your knowledge of God grew. As your knowledge grew, you relied more upon God for your needs.

2. You started to permit the Lord to do more through you. When you permit God to work through you, you become a usable disciple.
"After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come...And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name...In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight", Luke 10:1, 17, and 21.

Peter, in his Epistle, wrote "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby", 1 Peter 2:2, it is the only way you can grow.

A child, when it is old enough, will mimic a person reading a newspaper or novel.

Many adults when 'reading' their Bible, will get as much from it as a person reading a newspaper or novel.

The Bible is not there to be read, it is there to be studied, that the reader might receive a life that mimics the fullness of God's Grace and strength in our life.

How Far Will You Go For God? Will you stop paddling, and start progressing through the deeper waters that you might reach God?

God is challenging you to go deeper. Will you accept God's Challenge?