

**The River of Life in the New Land
of the Messiah's Kingdom:
A Picture of God is the Source of Life
Ezekiel 47:01–12**

**I. *The source of the river:
The Temple —
God's very own presence***

- 1) It flowed eastward by the altar

- 2) It then flowed toward the east
and passed by the south
side of the altar

- 3) It continued to flow south
and southeast

**2. *The magnitude of the river:
A picture of the depth
of God's provision to meet
the world's need for life***

- 1) After flowing 1750'
it was ankle deep

- 2) After flowing another 1750'
it was knee deep

- 3) After flowing another 1750'
it was waist deep

- 4) After flowing another 1750'
it became enormous and had
such a torrential flow of water
that it could not be crossed

- 1 The man brought me back
to the entrance to the temple,
and I saw water coming out from under
the threshold of the temple toward the east
(for the temple faced east).
The water was coming down
from under the south side of the temple,
south of the altar.

- 2 He then brought me out
through the north gate
and led me around the outside
to the outer gate facing east,
and the water was trickling
from the south side.

- 3 As the man went eastward
with a measuring line in his hand,
he measured off a thousand cubits and then
led me through water that was ankle-deep.

- 4 He measured off another thousand cubits
and led me through water that was knee-deep.
He measured off another thousand and led me
through water that was up to the waist.

- 5 He measured off another thousand,
but now it was a river that I could not cross,
because the water had risen
and was deep enough to swim in —
a river that no one could cross.

**3. *The purpose of the river:
A picture of the transforming
power of God to save
and nourish His people***

- 1) It will give birth and life to a great number of trees
- 2) It will bring life to a barren, desert land (the Arabah)
- 3) It will heal the salty water of the Dead Sea

- 4) It will give birth to new life wherever it flows
 - Animals will multiply
 - Fish will abound in the Dead Sea
 - Everything will live where the water flows
 - Fishermen will spread their nets in every sea-side community (En Gedi to En Eglaim)
 - Fish of every kind will flourish and be caught
 - Swamps and marshes will be left untouched: To provide salt for people
 - Fruit trees of all kinds will grow abundantly
 - Leaves of the trees will never wither
 - Trees will actually bear fruit every month
 - Trees will produce fruit for food and leaves for healing

- 6 He asked me,
“Son of man, do you see this?”
Then he led me. back to the bank of the river.
- 7 When I arrived there, I saw a great number of trees on each side of the river.
- 8 He said to me, “This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, where it enters the Dead Sea. When it empties into the sea, the salty water there becomes fresh.
- 9 Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live.
- 10 Fishermen will stand along the shore; from En Gedi to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading nets. The fish will be of many kinds — like the fish of the Mediterranean Sea.
- 11 But the swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt.
- 12 Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear fruit, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing.”