

# Rivers Of Living Water

*Promise: the Holy Spirit gives us life and preserves us onto salvation*

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Numbers 11:24-30; Ps 25:1-14; Acts 2:1-21; John 7:37-39

(Day of Pentecost, 5/31/20)

*Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."— v. 38*

**Lead In** – There is always a lot of life in and around a river. Even in an arid area like Egypt, you will find life, both vegetative and animal, along the banks of the Nile River. And backpackers know that rivers and streams are important sources for water and are vitally important for survival. Interestingly, our Lord Jesus likens the gift and sending of the Holy Spirit as rivers of living water.

## I. Why Did Christ Call the Grace of the Spirit Water?

- All living things are dependent upon water...
- Water comes down from heaven as rain...
- Same water produces many different effects...

## II. Jesus Will Soon Vanish, But Only From Their Sight

- His ascension does not mean He is gone from us!
- Inseparable Holy Spirit to play a lead role...

## III. Four Ways the Holy Spirit Helps Us In Christ

- The Holy Spirit calls me through the Gospel...
- He gathers me to the holy catholic church...
- He enlightens me with his gifts, esp in baptism...
- He sanctifies and keeps in true faith...

**Parting Shot** – The Holy Spirit accompanies the proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and He is bestowed on us in Baptism. This is the most precious gift! Please don't disdain this gift. Don't grieve the Holy Spirit! We grieve the Holy Spirit whenever we resist listening regularly and attentively to the Gospel. When we resist be gathered with other Christians. When we refuse to be enlightened by the Holy Spirit's inspired Scriptures. And when we refuse to benefit from His discipline and deepening of our faith in trials. ... Come Holy Spirit...

**Gen 2:7** the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

**Jn 3:5** Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

**Jn 14:26** But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

**Jn 15:26** But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

**1 Cor 12:4-6** Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

## John 7:37-39 ESV

*Jesus High Priestly Prayer*

<sup>37</sup>On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. <sup>38</sup>Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" <sup>39</sup>Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

**Mt 28:19-20** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them... And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**Jn 16:13** When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth...

**Luther's Expl:** I believe that I cannot by my own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and kept me in true faith. In the same he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church one earth, and keeps it united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church day after day he fully forgives my sins and the sins of all believers. On the last day he will raise me and all the dead and give me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

**Rom 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

**Jn 6:44** No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

**Eph 5:8** for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

**1 Pt 1:6-7** In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

*Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine. Voice of God and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.*

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