

June 12, 2008

## The Living Water of the Heavenly Throne that Saves All Nations

Ezekiel 47:1~2

“The man brought me back to the entrance of 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. He the brought me out through the north gate and led me around the outside to the outer gate facing east, and the water was flowing from the south side.”

I'm Sarah Lee, doing mission work in Laos. Though I'm Korean I preach this sermon in Japanese, because of my 5-year-experience studying in Japan, 19 years ago. Japan is really precious to me. For, in Japan, I accepted the Gospel for the first time, and decided to devote my life to God.

I give thanks to God for giving me an opportunity to preach a sermon in this land of grace that I can never forget, Japan.

The scripture that we just read is the vision that God showed Ezekiel about the recovery of the Israelites. The background of Ezekiel is as follows. Being punished by God, because of their deep-rooted idolatry and sin, the Israelites became slaves of Babylon, and lost every hope. For the people in this miserable situation, God showed a vision of the temple. This vision was revealed to them, so that God's chosen people might again become holy as the temple is holy. God's purpose in this vision was to plant a new dream, and a hope and conviction in their heart so that they might serve Him with more holiness.

God has a message for each of you from every country because you obeyed in attending the first CP General Assembly outside of the states. Ezekiel saw a vision of 'the living water'. This living water flowed from the temple, forming a river that flowed into the Dead Sea. The 'living water' saved all dead land that it touched, as well as the sea that it entered.

What does the living water from the temple mean?

**First, the Message of the Gospel**

**John 3:16**

**“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life”**

Wherever the Message of the Gospel goes, it sparks the amazing work of salvation.

**Second, the Power of the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ**

Christ redeemed our sins when he died on the cross. Whoever believes and relies on the blood that Jesus shed on the cross will receive eternal life.

**Third, the Work of the Holy Spirit**

Jesus said,

**John 7:37~38**

**“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.”**

Whoever depends on the Holy Spirit can live a victorious life, being provided with new power from God everyday.

‘The living water’ which gushed out from under the threshold of the temple, flowed outside. The water had miraculously risen, and become a river of living water deep enough to swim in.

What happens where the living water touches?

### **1. The water of the sea becomes fresh.**

**Ezekiel 47:8**

**“This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, where it enters the Sea. When it empties into the Sea, the water there becomes fresh.”**

Here, the sea means ‘the Dead Sea’. The Dead Sea is a dead sea, as the name implies. Nothing can live there. Thanks to ‘the living water’ from the temple, the sea was restored so that life was possible in it.

Different from the fact, that generally sea *takes* the water from river, the river of ‘living water’ *enters* the sea of death, then *changes* the sea of death to the sea of life with its power.

What message does this word give to you and me now?

The river of ‘the living water’ reviving a dead sea is the ‘mission to the world’. A dead sea is like a people and a nation who have not heard the Gospel of the Lord.

When the Gospel of Jesus Christ flows into each nation, through you and every CP church, by the good news, dead souls from all nations will be revived. They will come back to the Lord. God entrusted you and I with this mission to the world.

For several years, the CP church has accelerated the mission to the world. We should move forward in this mission to the world.

Do you believe that your church will be revived amazingly, through the message of the Gospel proclaimed in your church? And, do you believe that your church will move forward in the mission to the world, through revival given by God? I hope you believe so.

The Laos Luamit Church that I serve is planted in Laos, a communist country. It’s composed of Americans, Cambodians, Laotians and Koreans.

Two female Chinese students, who came to Laos to study, joined our church, and got training. They are now serving in the Laos Luamit branch church, as missionaries. They have service every morning and evening according to the schedule of the Laos Luamit Church. Friday night, they offer prayer for all nations. Sunday, they worship with the word proclaimed in the Laos Luamit Church.

Through this, their faith grew, one girl’s mother accepted Jesus, and their schoolmates have heard the Gospel by attending the services. This is the fruition of Ezekiel’s word. I saw this with my own eyes.

## **2. Living creatures and fish increased.**

**Ezekiel 47:9**

**“Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish.”**

Living creatures and fish are the saved men. By the Gospel of the Truth flowing through our churches, all nations will become fishing ground. Now many people of various races and nations come into the CP church. In the mission fields of the CP church, many people have been saved. This is the second revival that God has given the CP church.

Believe that the fishing ground will be enlarged, and the number of the saved will increase everyday.

## **3. Fishermen will stand along the shore.**

**Ezekiel 47:10**

**“Fishermen will stand along the shore; from En Gedi to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading nets.”**

Here, ‘Fishermen’ are workers of the Gospel who proclaim salvation. ‘Fishermen will stand along the shore’ means that workers for the world mission are produced. From the CP church, many missionaries will be produced.

**Matthew 4:19**

**“Come, follow me”, Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.”**

As Jesus said, many fishermen of the Gospel, like Peter, will be produced from the CP church and from your church.

For example, in my church, built in the mission field, Cambodian students, after getting discipline, train their juniors and Laotians. The Chinese students, I mentioned, are disciplining their juniors.

I hope you believe that the same work will be done through your ministry.

## **4. Many kinds of fish**

**Ezekiel 47:10**

**“The fish will be of many kinds—like the fish of the Great Sea.”**

This means accomplishing revival as various countries’ saints are increased in number.

The long history of the presence of the CP churches in Japan, Hong Kong, as well as the States, is remarkable. Let us believe that in many more countries, presbyteries will be established, and the great work of revival will rise up, as God has already accomplished in Japan and Hong Kong.

## **5. Fruit trees of all kinds will grow, and their fruit will not fail.**

**Ezekiel 47:12**

**“Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail.”**

Through your work, many fruits will be born. It will not cease with the fruit of the salvation of souls and the fruits of ministry.

## **6. Every month they will bear.**

**Ezekiel 47:12**

**“Every month they will bear, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them.”**

God will allow the CP church many more works. New projects will arise more abundantly in your ministries. The rule of the Kingdom of God is to entrust more works to faithful workers.

Many more works of the Kingdom of God will be done through many of God's servants of the CP church who make efforts to move forward, not content with the present, just as the faithful man of 5 talents who was entrusted with 1 more talent from the unfaithful man of 1 talent.

## **7. Their leaves will serve for healing.**

**Ezekiel 47:12**

**“Their leaves will serve for healing”**

Regardless of the nation, many people have wounded hearts in these modern societies.

Many people will be healed in their spirits and souls through our work. Many nations' souls will be healed and recovered.

‘Serve for healing’ is in Hebrew ‘ritrupa’, originally from ‘rapa’ – meaning ‘heal’. This means the medical ability to heal the sick, the rotten.

The healing work through you and me is ‘the living water’. ‘The living water’ is our medicine. As it heals and restores the sick and corrupted, unreached nations will be new members of the family of God. Being healed, they will enjoy true freedom and joy.

**Revelation 22:1~2**

**“Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.”**

The living water flows down from the Heavenly throne giving eternal life and abundance through every CP church, and the CP mission field, wherever it goes. Believe ‘the living water’ is the message of the Gospel of John 3:16 proclaimed in our church.

Believe ‘the living water’ is the blood Jesus shed on the cross.

Believe ‘the living water’ is the work of the Holy Spirit.

Let ‘the living water’ flow out to your mission field, to your neighborhood, and to the nations.

Let it flow to the land of the dead.

The message of the Gospel will save them.

The precious blood of Jesus Christ will save there.

Wherever the Holy Spirit reaches, dried bones will be revived.

Wherever you let it flow to, people will come back to the Lord.

There will be revival.

There will be healing.

Be filled with ‘the living water’ flowing from the Throne of Heaven. With a new dream and vision, your lives will be filled.

Let it flow to where it's needed, this is the living water that you've received.

It is overflowing with amazing life, healing, and blessing.

May this amazing blessing of God be overflowing in every organization, every CP church, and in your life and work. In Jesus' name. Amen