

WHEN THE RIVERS BECOME A FLOOD

Sermon Notes

Text: Ezekiel 47:1-12

Supporting Scriptures: John 4:14; John 7:37-39

Main Thought

God starts with a trickle, but when His Spirit keeps moving, the trickle becomes a river, and the river becomes a flood.

Introduction

Ezekiel sees a vision of the temple.

At first, he sees only a small stream flowing from under the threshold.

The farther he walks, the deeper the water becomes.

Finally, it becomes a river too deep to cross.

Wherever the river flows, life comes back.

Jesus later says that rivers of living water will flow from those who believe in Him.

The river Ezekiel saw now flows through believers by the Holy Spirit.

I. God Calls Us Deeper (Ezekiel 47:1-5)

God begins with a trickle.

Every step Ezekiel takes leads him deeper.

Ankle deep, knee deep, waist deep, then waters to swim in.

God does not call His people to stay shallow.

Some believers are saved, but still not fully surrendered.

God wants us to move from comfort to full dependence on Him.

Key Line: God is not looking for people who can explain revival. He is looking for people willing to walk deeper.

Application:

- Have I stopped at ankle-deep Christianity?
- What part of my life have I not fully surrendered to God?
- Am I willing to trust God in deeper waters?

II. Where the River Flows, Life Comes Back (Ezekiel 47:6-12)

The river does not avoid dead places.

It flows right into them.

The Dead Sea is healed when the river reaches it.

Everything lives where the river goes.

Jesus still brings life into dead places today.

Examples: Broken marriages, addictions, lost children, cold churches, wounded hearts.

Key Line: The dead place did not heal before the river came. The river healed it.

Application:

- What dead place in my life needs the river of God?
- Where do I need healing, hope, or renewal?
- Do I believe God can still bring life where things seem hopeless?

III. Jesus Put the River in Every Believer (John 7:37-39)

Ezekiel saw the river flowing from the temple.
 Jesus said rivers of living water will flow from the believer.
 John tells us Jesus was speaking of the Holy Spirit.
 The river no longer flows only from a building.
 It now flows through Spirit-filled people.

Key Truths:

- The church is powerful when the Holy Spirit flows through God's people.
- Every believer can be used by God.
- Ordinary people can carry extraordinary life when filled with the Spirit.

Key Line: Rivers do not need titles. They just need room to flow.

Application:

- Have I made room for the Holy Spirit?
- Am I letting Christ flow into my home and community?
- Do I believe God can use me?

IV. Rivers Become Floods

Rivers become floods when believers stay yielded to the Holy Spirit.
 Prayer deepens. Holiness matters. Idols are surrendered. Hunger drives people to Jesus. The church welcomes God's outpouring. God's people care about broken people.

Supporting References:

Romans 8:26; Joel 2; Rich Young Ruler; Isaiah 58.

Key Line: Floods do not come from spectators. Floods come from surrendered believers.

Application:

- Am I holding anything back from God?
- Is my prayer life deep or dry?
- Have I made room for the Holy Spirit?
- Am I helping bring life to those around me?

Closing Challenge

Ezekiel never saw the river get smaller. Every step with God made it deeper. That is how revival works: one heart surrendered, one family touched, one church awakened, then another, until the trickle becomes a flood.

Final Appeal

Will we stay ankle deep, or will we walk deeper with God?
 Will we settle for a trickle, or will we ask God to make us a river?
 When believers surrender to the Holy Spirit, rivers become floods, and dead things live again.

