

Vision 2026:

Advance

Introduction: I'd like to invite your attention to the book of John, chapter seven.

John is in the New Testament, which is the second part of your Bible. The first part is called the Old Testament.

If you need to use the index, that's cool. If you are using an app, it's in the same place.

Now, if you are watching today & are checking out Christianity, or maybe returning to the faith of your childhood, or maybe you're not even sure there is a God, I'm glad you are here. You are welcome with your doubt, uncertainty or questions & we pray God will reveal the truth about Himself to you.

Now, lets look at the text together.

There is, I Will, This is That

John 7:37-39

John 7:37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “*If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.*” ³⁹But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. NKJV

A. From the very birth of the Church until this present hour, every true revival has been marked by a mighty outpouring of the precious Holy Ghost. When God pours out His Spirit, hearts are pierced with conviction, repentance flows like a river, & prayer & worship ignite without restraint. Lives are transformed, chains are broken, & there comes a fresh, undeniable awareness of the presence & power of God moving among His people.

- a. As far back as the early 1700's with Jonathan Edwards & George Whitfield. Their meetings experienced a deep conviction of sin, weeping & crying with a renewed hunger for holiness.
- b. From the late 1700's to early 1800's with Charles Finney where history records having more than 500K conversions.
- c. The Welsh Revival of 1904-1905 with Evan Roberts – 100K conversions in about six months.

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d. And of course, ushering in our modern-day Pentecostal church, the African American Pastor William J. Seymour led a revival & outpouring in a humble stable at 312 Azusa Street in Los Angeles California.

B. As my family & I ministered revival meetings there is one that stands out: *Carey Ohio where the Spirit of God became so rich, & the glory of God so magnificently heavy no one moved & it was as if there was no need to even breathe because you were surrounded by the life & breath of the Spirit of God.*

Church, we need a fresh outpouring of the sweet Holy Ghost in convicting, saving, redeeming, healing, delivering abundant power.

Isaiah 43:19 (**BIBLE**)

I ask you to receive this word today as one released over this congregation, city & beyond.

Isaiah 43:19 Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ESV

I. **A New Thing in Me**

A. **There is**

Psalm 46:4 **There is a river whose streams** make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. *ESV*

- a. **“There is a river.”** Present. Now. Current. Today & will be tomorrow...
- b. In this river is life, revelation, a breathing forth from one source – One source, one river, one central, abundant wellspring & fountain - it is a full, life-giving river - with streams, tributaries, channels, conduits. – It's not a stagnant, static, dead body of water. It is living, moving, thriving & powerful. –

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- c. Since the fall of man, the world has been chaotic & messy. But this river in Psalm 46 presents God's peace & calm during a world of turmoil.
- i. This river is perennial, everlasting, eternal, perpetual - it's not effected by drought, it never runs dry... - It is enduring, constant & abiding.
 - ii. The streams from this river distribute the abundance of the river which brings gladness, fruitfulness & life.
- d. May I remind you of the river recorded in Ezekiel 47?
- i. He saw a river which began at the threshold of the Temple from the Throne of God. One Source...
 - ii. An angel gave the tour & took Ezekiel to the edge of the water & measured 1K cubits (1,500 feet, about 1/3 of a mile). – Ankles – 1K cubits Knees – 1K cubits Waist – 1K cubits *“Ezekiel 47:5 Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross; for the water was too deep, water in which one must swim, a river that could not be crossed.”*
- e. There is...

B. I Will

Joel 2:28 “And it shall come to pass afterward, that **I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh**; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.

ESV

- a. “*And it shall come to pass*” Yahweh is speaking & says, “*It will be.*” It’s not a suggestion, or just a possibility. {Weather forecasts says, “There is a __% possibility of rain.”}

When He says it, it carries the full authority of His unchanging character, power, & faithfulness.

- i. “***I will pour out***” is a strong, concrete affirmation of God's purposeful action. It is not vague hope but a divine commitment to an abundant outpouring (shaphak) of the Holy Spirit.
- ii. God used the pen of Joel to project a future event.

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b. This is the promise of an abundant, deliberate, outpouring of His life-giving Spirit. {Worth noting: Hebrew word “pour out” beings with the letter which represents fire. *“Shall baptize with the Holy Ghost and fire.”*}

- i. **Pouring out:** From the mighty righteous hand of God, He pours out Divine perfection, resurrection power & new life as is released from the very mouth of God He pours out what His hand contains. {Pouring out of His hand...}
- ii. What God pours out is not a measured dispensing, drip or trickle... It is an abundant, never-ending river!

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c. This outpouring is not just for the occasional, selective purpose as it was in the OT, but is now for all-time, all-peoples...

- i. The Spirit was given to these for a specific purpose:
 1. Joseph — Empowered with wisdom to interpret dreams and govern Egypt during famine
 2. Bezalel (and Oholiab + other artisans) — Filled with the Spirit of God for skill, wisdom, and craftsmanship to build the Tabernacle and its furnishings
 3. The Seventy Elders (with Moses) — The Spirit rested upon them so they could prophesy and share the burden of leadership
 4. Joshua — The Spirit was in him / upon him to succeed Moses as leader and bring Israel into the Promised Land
 5. Gideon — The Spirit of the Lord came upon him to gather an army and deliver Israel from the Midianites
 6. Samson — The Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him multiple times for feats of strength and deliverance from the Philistines
 7. We could tell of King Saul, David & Zechariah...
- ii. What you need to understand today is, that the Almighty promised His Spirit would be poured out on ALL flesh – Sons – Daughters – Men & women servants –

C. **This is That**

Acts 2: 16 *But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;*

a. Just as the "river" in Psalm 46 is one source with many tributaries, the Spirit of God was given from one source for many tributaries reaching communities, cities, and nations. - aac -

- i. Acts 2:1-4 – A single column of fire descended in that Upper Room & tongues of fire peeled off like a tributary & sat upon each of those in that Upper Room.
- ii. As Peter said that day, the same abundant flow now pours out from the heavenly temple/throne through the exalted Jesus (*Acts 2:33* — “*He has poured out [ἐξέχεεν] this which you now see and hear.*”)

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- b. Peter was saying to the crowd on the Day of Pentecost; "*This*," what you are witnessing right now (pointing to the events of the Upper Room) is "*That*" (pointing BACK to what the respected Prophet Joel) had spoken.
- i. **Acts 2** marks the inauguration of that greater reality — the *beginning* of the river (God's presence/Spirit) flowing freely from the true Temple, Christ.
 - ii. About 800 years passed between the prophecy of Joel & the fulfillment of the outpouring. What had been a limited, selective few receiving the outpouring is NOW available to all. From limited empowerment to lavish permanent indwelling burst forth in abundant, infinite, immeasurable & boundless rivers. {**John 7:37-38**}

II. Conclusion

- A. God's presence, His Spirit does not dwell within the four walls of a building. You & I are the temple in which God's Spirit dwells.

The church - *Ephesians 2:22* in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

- B. The reason we can do this is because of the resurrection of Christ.

- **He asks us to:**

**Repent*

**Live by Faith*

**Be Baptized*

**Be Filled with His Spirit*

Conclusion: PRESENT THE GOSPEL FOR SALVATION – EVERY WEEK – AND THE NEED TO COME FORWARD IN PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF CHRIST.