

Encountering Israel: Deepening Convictions

- Sword and Bow
- Awakening
- 9 weeks

Eric Intro Uniqueness of the Bible: Ancient Gates at Tel Dan, Royal Palace Jeremiah, Synagogue in Capernaum...etc. The Bible is verifiable in every way... Luke 1:4

Today is Jan 11th and the title of the message is Gihon: The Waters of Conquest and Coronation.



This morning's message will begin where all good things do:

- **Genesis 2:13–14 (ESV)**
- 13 The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush. 14 And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the

Euphrates.

Within our Genesis studies we have Eden and the garden on the East side. This area was watered by four rivers. Some of the rivers like the Tigris and Euphrates are easily identifiable today and still bear the same names. However, one river in particular has been the subject of much speculation—that is the Gihon. It's not within our purview to retread the changes to the geography of the earth that Noah's flood produced but these rivers were real physical features of the land at that time.

Some of you will remember our suggestion that the general area of Eden should be viewed in the same region as Israel today. Among many reasons this is because Israel is the center of the earth as Ezekiel 5:5 says.

Israel is the center of the world but the center of Israel is Jerusalem. It just so happens that there is a very special spring in Jerusalem also called by the name Gihon. The significance of this important feature in Jerusalem's geography will grow in your understanding today. Furthermore, the message it speaks about your own salvation and development process will be enlightening. (*Mystical Gihon*)

As a place to start we want to show you a video we took while at the Gihon spring in Jerusalem when we last went. This video shows what the Gihon spring would have looked like during the period between King David and King Hezekiah.

Next slide: *Play with Audio*. w)

>Insert edited 1.20m

<<Gihon Video.mp4>>

This video is played while inside of the excavation zone surrounding the Gihon spring THE water source for Jerusalem and it gives you an

idea of what the area around the spring and Jerusalem would have looked like at the time.

- You should have noticed that the spring itself was protected with a guard tower.
- Walled walk ways were constructed to protect people as they made daily journeys down to the spring.
- It's geographical position is also significant as it lies on the edge of the Kidron valley and directly below the city of David as well as the later temple built by Solomon.

•

We are going to pick up together where the Gihon spring first shows up in the Biblical story:

- **2 Samuel 5:6–10 (ESV)**
- 6 And the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, who said to David, “You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame will ward you off”—thinking, “David cannot come in here.” 7 **Nevertheless**, David took the stronghold of Zion, that is, the city of David. 8 And David said on that day, “Whoever would strike the Jebusites, let him get up the **water shaft to attack** ‘the lame and the blind,’ who are hated by David’s soul.” Therefore it is said, “The blind and the lame shall not come into the house.” 9 And David lived in the stronghold and called it the city of David. And David built the city all around from the Millo inward. 10 And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

We are not sure how you imagine this event... probably something like this picture:

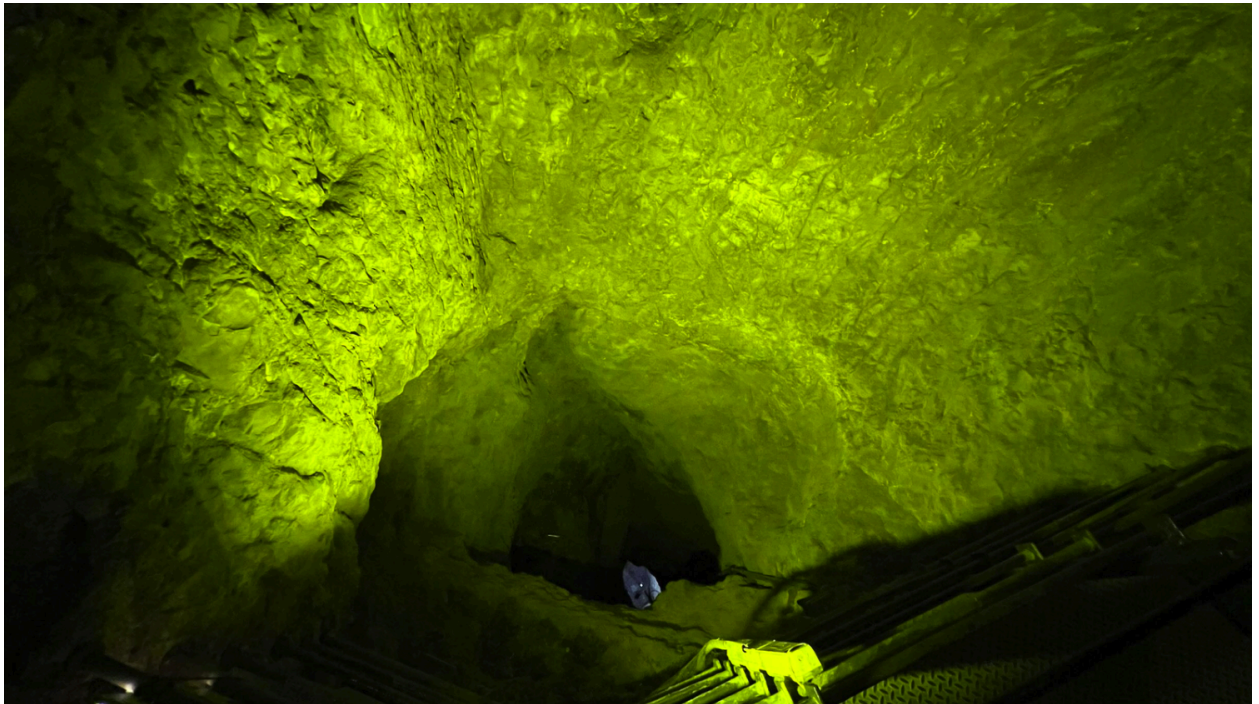


-
- Let's show you a video and some pictures of the water shaft that Joab climbed at David's direction and overthrew the city as recorded in 1 Chron 11:4-9.
- **(we also have this video, play video first)**
- Now, let's show you our descent on the next slide:



○

- - We first entered into this tunnel which brought us further and further below ground.
 - We continued our decent into the earth, several stories below ground, until we came to the spot of the water shaft.
 - Next slide:



This is the water shafter Joab climbed up in order to take the city of Jebus.

In 2 Samuel 5, this enigmatic passage is beloved for its display of heroism, but it also invites debate—especially around its linguistic and cultural layers.

- In the peshat (plain meaning), the Jebusites issue a taunt against David and his men: something to the effect of, “**Even** the blind and the lame could keep you out.” This is a mocking exaggeration meant to highlight the city's perceived impregnability.
- However, an additional interpretive possibility is at play. Some scholars suggest that the writer of Samuel may have

substituted the names of Jebusite idols—those the Jebusites believed would protect them—with derogatory terms like “the blind and the lame.” In this reading, the Jebusites were claiming that their gods would defend the city, but the biblical author, **in polemic fashion, refers to those idols as powerless and pathetic.**

- This would mean that the phrase “blind and lame” is not just a literal insult, but a sarcastic jab—a way of saying **that the gods of the Jebusites are spiritually blind and lame**, incapable of defending their stronghold against the anointed king David.
- *Regardless of how you take it the point is that God always provides a way or water shaft that will lead you to his throne* The Mystical Gihon

To recap: the anointed king of Israel captured the city God had ordained for His throne to rest. This was accomplished by going through the water shaft of the Gihon. Consider a Psalm that Israel would sing on their way up to Jerusalem before every feast:

- Psalm 132:1–5 (ESV)
- - 1 Remember, O LORD, in **David’s** favor,
 - all the hardships he endured,
 - 2 how he swore to the LORD
 - and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,
 - 3 “I will not enter my house
 - or get into my bed,
 - 4 I will not give sleep to my eyes
 - or slumber to my eyelids,
 - 5 **until I find a place for the LORD,**
 - a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob.”**

David secured the city where the Mighty One of Jacob will dwell for all eternity by utilizing the Gihon spring.

In this way the Gihon sets a pattern **as the literal pathway to the**

city and throne of God.

Consider:

- John 6:44 (ESV)
- 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.

The spring is a source of life and the thing that leads you to the city of God. Much like John 6 displays the spirit leading you to fellowship with the Messiah and the Father.

- Gihon is defined as bubbling... gushing forth
- It is also associated with the word Siloam... to be **drawn** or **sent**
- In both cases this is an invitation to fellowship with God **and** open warfare with the mocking enemy. This is a special **awakening** in every person's life and it forges the convictions necessary to finish the race.

The enemy very well may see you as "blind and lame" or believe that even the "blind and lame" could defeat you. However, we must remember that our Messiah does something very special with the "blind and lame" because he wants to display the power of God through weak vessels in a special place.

Consider:

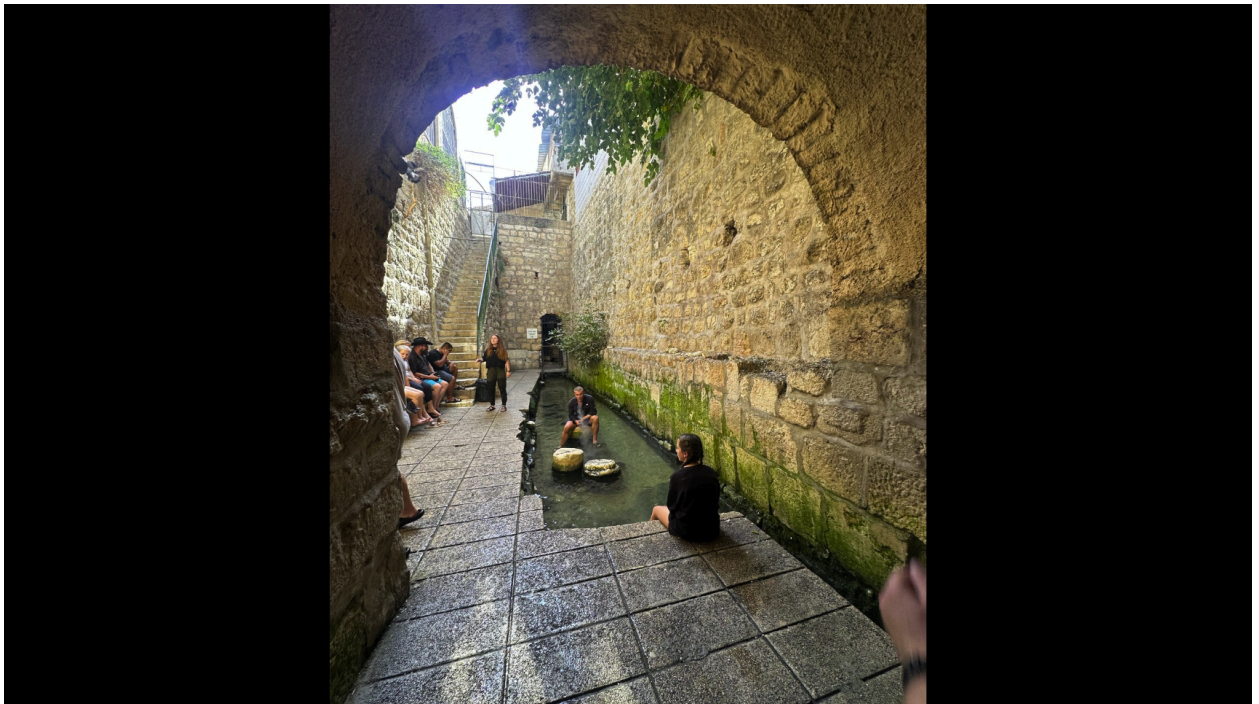
- **John 9:1–7 (ESV)**
- 9 As he passed by, he saw a man **blind** from birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the

world, I am the light of the world.” 6 Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud 7 and said to him, “Go, wash in the **pool of Siloam**” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

Jesus the son of David decided to put His ministry on display in a unique manner that you may not have noticed before. Jesus sees a man literally born blind and does not leave him that way. Using his saliva He makes mud and tells the man to wash in the pool of Siloam. The pool of Siloam is fed directly by the Gihon spring.

Relate this back to the original taunt

We have pictures for you. Next slide:



This is the Gihon spring flowing through a small pool.

Next slide:



This is the pool of Siloam and it is currently dry because it is actively being excavated. Like us you probably envisioned something smaller as you read the text but the pool is actually the size of two Olympic swimming pools put together and it was fed by the Gihon spring David used to capture Jerusalem.

In Jesus day, this area would be crowded and bustling as inhabitants of the city and visitors from all over Israel used it for ceremonial washing as well as daily needs. As the man born blind washed and was healed he would then immediately see men from all over Israel gathered in this one spot. Furthermore, men from all over Israel would also see the man born blind as he began to see for the first time.

Many have had mud on your face...you many have been taunted... but you have become awakened to the source of life The Son of

David healed the blind in the very place David had been taunted!
That is in the face of the enemy

To help you envision this, we have an artist rendition that shows you from the present city of Jerusalem what the pilgrimage road that connected the Temple mount to the pool of Siloam would look like:



This means that the blind man walked this path from the Temple area to the pool and then returned on the same path from the pool back to the Temple area with his sight!... this would have been an extremely public display of the healing. Everyone entering or leaving Jerusalem would have seen it.

what would the blind man must have been thinking on that long blind walk to the pool...such a mixture of hope and doubt...but he obeyed anyway! Salvation always happens at the place of desperation

We read 2 Samuel 5 when David becomes king over a united Israel and then immediately took Jerusalem.

Now let's examine David's Son Solomon and his coronation as King under that united kingdom. Next slide:

1 KINGS 1:32-40 (ESV)

32 King David said, "Call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada." So they came before the king. 33 And the king said to them, "**Take with you the servants of your lord and have Solomon my son ride on my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon.**" 34 And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet there anoint him king over Israel. Then blow the trumpet and say, 'Long live King Solomon!' 35 You shall then come up after him, and he shall come and sit on my throne, for he shall be king in my place. And I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah." 36 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king, "Amen! May the LORD, the God of my lord the king, say so. 37 As the LORD has been with my lord the king, even so may he be with Solomon, and **make his throne greater than the throne of my lord King David.**" 38 So Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites went down and had Solomon ride on King David's mule and brought him to **Gihon.** 39 There Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!" 40 And all the people went up after him, playing on pipes, and rejoicing with great joy, **so that the earth was split by their noise.**

***Conquest** in David's Day... **Coronation** in Solomon's day*

We began this message in Genesis 2, where one of the rivers flowing from Eden—the Gihon—seems to vanish from the biblical narrative. Its location remains a mystery, and whatever you conclude is left to your own study.

What is clear, however, is that in Israel—the center of the world—and in its heart, Jerusalem, there exists a spring also called the Gihon. This spring is not just a geographical feature; it is a **pathway to the throne of God**. In 2 Samuel 5, David's ascent to kingship is tied to this location, and we connected that to John 6:44, where Jesus declares that no one comes to the Father except through the Son. Jesus is like this hidden source of life—a spring that must be sought out, and **fought for**.

Then in John 9, we examined Jesus as the Son of David, healing a blind man by making mud and sending him to wash in the pool of Siloam—a pool fed by the Gihon spring. The symbolism is rich: the blind receive sight through obedience to the Son of David, at the place of living water.

And it is at this same Gihon spring that Solomon, the son of David, was anointed king. His brother Adonijah had attempted to seize the throne, but at David's command, a prophet, a priest, and a unique warrior escorted Solomon back to the place of David's supernatural victory. There, at the Gihon, Solomon was anointed king over Israel. The Gihon is where David took the seat of his kingship over all Israel and it is where Solomon was anointed. **The Gihon is where Kings are made.**

*Moving beyond just being forgiven and Awakening to walking and as a king!

As a side point: Isn't it amazing that David chose to have Solomon coronated at the lowest point as a servant of all the people and the place he wouldn't forget the way in which the city was conquered.

(When you obey the Son of David you get to receive what He fought to obtain.)

Solomon, the son of David, was not the only one with a significant connection to the Gihon. **Hezekiah**, another son of David, undertook a monumental task to safeguard and enhance access to the Gihon, Jerusalem's vital water source. Hezekiah's efforts brought the water within the city walls, protecting it from enemies and ensuring that every resident of Jerusalem had access to this source of Living Waters!

- **2 Chronicles 32:27–30 (ESV)**
- 27 And Hezekiah had very great riches and honor, and he made for himself treasuries for silver, for gold, for precious stones, for spices,

for shields, and for all kinds of costly vessels; 28 storehouses also for the yield of grain, wine, and oil; and stalls for all kinds of cattle, and sheepfolds. 29 He likewise provided cities for himself, and flocks and herds in abundance, for God had given him very great possessions. 30 **This same** Hezekiah closed the upper outlet of the waters of Gihon and directed them down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezekiah prospered in all his works.

The Gihon had always been accessible to the city since the time of David. However as you could see in the first video it was **outside** the city and below it. Hezekiah, was not satisfied with proximity to the lifegiving water. He wanted the lifegiving water **within** the city. To accomplish this he had to chisel out about 2600 feet through the bedrock of the city. Literally he chiseled out almost a kilometer of stone in the heart of the mountain to make room for the life giving water to be **within** the city.

We have a video for you:

<<Jerusalem Tunnel Video.mp4>>

Tunneling through the stoney heart

(we used to have to go out and find the source of living water...but God's intention was always to channel through the stoney walls and cause that water to flow into and out from your heart

Making accessible for all

Elaborate on the darkness and what the space is like but the result of Living Water flowing "In" the city

Awakening to the reality that you once had to be drawn to the water but now the water is within you as you chisel out the stoney places... Confrontation has led you to Coronation

Now that you have some scope for what Hezekiah the Son of David did to bring Living Water to the heart of Jerusalem consider what Jesus the son of David said.

- **John 14:12–17 (ESV)**
- 12 “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and **greater works than these will he do**, because I am going to the Father. 13 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.
15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for **he dwells with you** and **will be in you**.

Jesus, like the kings before him recognized the Living water the people needed.

Like **David** he would fight for it by laying down His own life on a cross.

Like **Solomon** His Kingship would stem from it and be greater than those that came before him.

Like **Hezekiah** He would make a way for the Living water to not just be "with" or near the city but "In" the city itself. This process has always involved a chiseling of the heart so that there is room for the Living water to flow freely.

(He bore the cross so that you could be coronated AND receive the SPIRIT. Just like Exodus 25 and 40, when we were talking about acacia)

(If you want to be effective with the Sword and Bow, you must have the living water within your heart at all times)

When we speak of Jesus or the Spirit, you need to think of both the Word and the Spirit. As something that only works in combination with one another. Let's show you a picture. Next slide: (Hebrew wording of Ps 16 "I put the lord always before me" and Ps 67,124,127)



This picture is of a menorah (Represents the Spirit) and it is constructed with of the very Word of God. We are showing it to you because this is the Jewish view of the Word and Spirit acting as one at all times.

The Word was written by the Spirit and the Word is the display of the Spirit's workings.

(Just like we were talking about the Tabernacle on Wednesday and how the Menorah was shining in one direction on the table of show bread or the bread of his presence(face))

Like the city of Jerusalem, the Gihon spiring or Word and Spirit are your source of life! Your stoney heart must be channeled so that this flows from within you to all those around you. One without the other is an incomplete representation because they flow from one completely unified source.

Now let's take a look at Jesus words in John 7. Next slide

JOHN 7:1–6,10,37-39 (ESV)

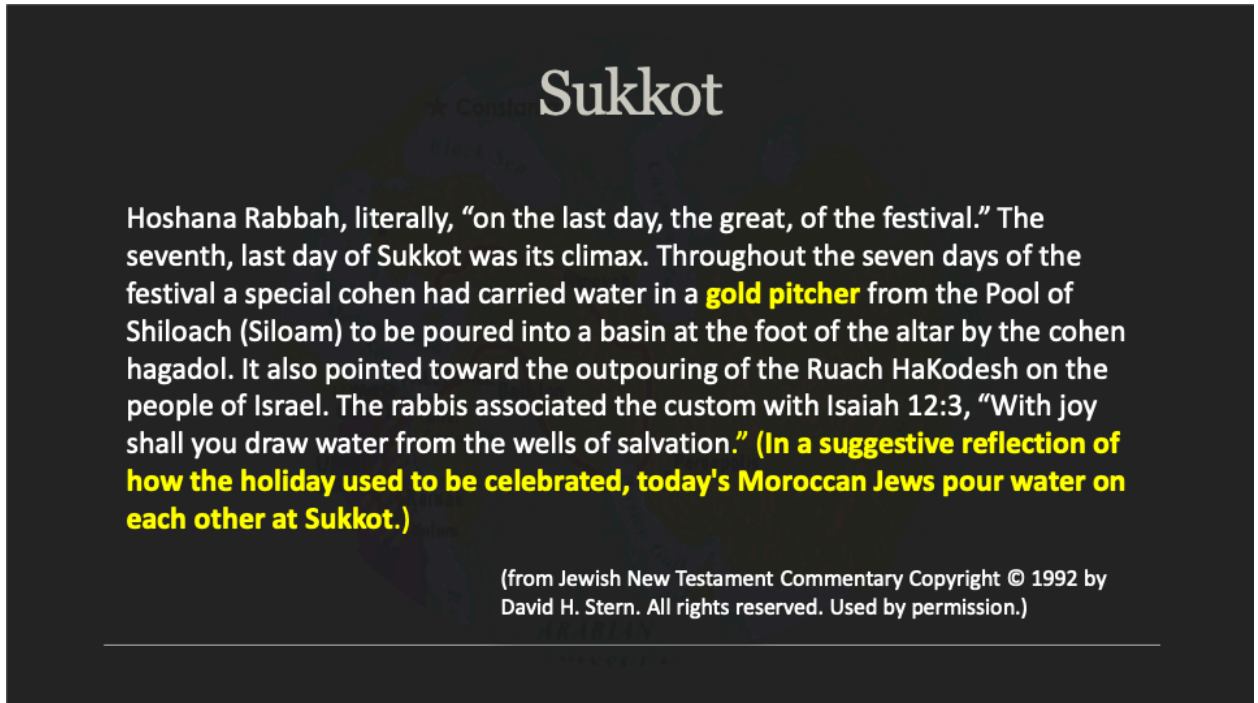
7 After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. 2 Now the Jews' Feast of Booths was at hand. 3 So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. 4 For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world." 5 For not even his brothers believed in him. 6 Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always here.

10 But after his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly but in private.

37 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. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' " 39 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.

You are going to find out that the very water being used in this feast is from the Gihon. Now that you know it was water from the Gihon let us remind you of some things we taught you during the Weapons of Old series.

Next slide:



Sukkot

Hoshana Rabbah, literally, “on the last day, the great, of the festival.” The seventh, last day of Sukkot was its climax. Throughout the seven days of the festival a special cohen had carried water in a **gold pitcher** from the Pool of Shiloach (Siloam) to be poured into a basin at the foot of the altar by the cohen hagadol. It also pointed toward the outpouring of the Ruach HaKodesh on the people of Israel. The rabbis associated the custom with Isaiah 12:3, “With joy shall you draw water from the wells of salvation.” **(In a suggestive reflection of how the holiday used to be celebrated, today's Moroccan Jews pour water on each other at Sukkot.)**

(from Jewish New Testament Commentary Copyright © 1992 by David H. Stern. All rights reserved. Used by permission.)

You first experience the drawing of the Holy Spirit from the outside. But the ultimate goal is for the Spirit to flow inside you. Jesus ministry started out of the city, but now he is shouting in the middle of the city on the greatest day of the feast.

Next slide:

Sukkot

"A connection between the possession of the Ruach ha-Kodesh and ecstasy, or religious joy, is found in **the ceremony of water drawing, Simchat Beit-HaSho'evah ["feast of water-drawing"]**, on the festival of Sukkot. The Mishnah said that he who had never seen this ceremony, which was accompanied by dancing, singing and music (Sukkot 5:4), had never seen true joy (Sukkot 5:1). Yet this was also considered a ceremony in which the participants, as it were, drew inspiration from the Holy Spirit itself, which can only be possessed by those whose hearts are full of religious joy (Jerusalem Talmud, Sukkot 5:1, 55 a)." (Encyclopedia Judaica 14:365)

(from Jewish New Testament Commentary Copyright © 1992 by David H. Stern. All rights reserved. Used by permission.)

You do have the living water within you! Whether you are getting groceries or in the darkest place in Chicago, you can minister wherever you are!

The bow and sword are not separate. Think about this, the digging started from opposite ends of the tunnel and met in the middle. We will meet in the middle. The source of lifegiving water is for both the sword and bow. You are working in this congregation to grow and become like Jesus in every way, your pastors and elders are working toward that same goal and we will meet in the middle! You husbands and wives, you parents and teenagers etc...!

As they got closer and closer to each other they could hear the others working.

Next slide: (3x Yeshua)

ISAIAH 12:1–3 (ESV)

¹ You will say in that day: “I will give thanks to you, O Lord, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. ² “Behold, God is my salvation (**Yeshuah**); I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. (**Yeshuah**)” ³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation (**Yeshuah**).

****Vs 3 is the plural you***

If we were reasonable people we would end here But we are not reasonable people and we want you to see the overall picture. The fact that you are here in this room is because you want to go further than a cursory understanding. We exist for what is happening in here to affect the world.

Let's go to:

◦ **Psalm 46:title–11 (ESV)**

46 TO THE CHOIRMASTER. OF THE SONS OF KORAH. ACCORDING TO ALAMOTH. A SONG.

1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

3 though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah

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

Expectation of mountains moving and stream or river that makes the city of God glad

5 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

6 **The nations rage**, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

7 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

8 Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

9 **He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.**

10 “Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”

11 The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

The accomplishment of this process is an end to all war and Jesus reigning over the entire world.

EARTHQUAKE

1 Kings 1:39–40 (ESV)

39 There Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, “Long live King Solomon!” 40 And all the people went up after him, playing on pipes, and rejoicing with great joy, so that **the earth was split by their noise**.

Psalms 46:3 (ESV)

3 though its waters roar and foam, **though the mountains tremble at its swelling**. Selah

Zechariah 14:3–5 (ESV)

3 Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle. 4 On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and **the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley**, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward. 5 And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the **earthquake** in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him.

Remember the earth quakes?

Next Slide:

Next slide:

FOUNTAIN

Psalms 46:4 (ESV)

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

Zechariah 12:10 (ESV)

10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a **spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him**, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

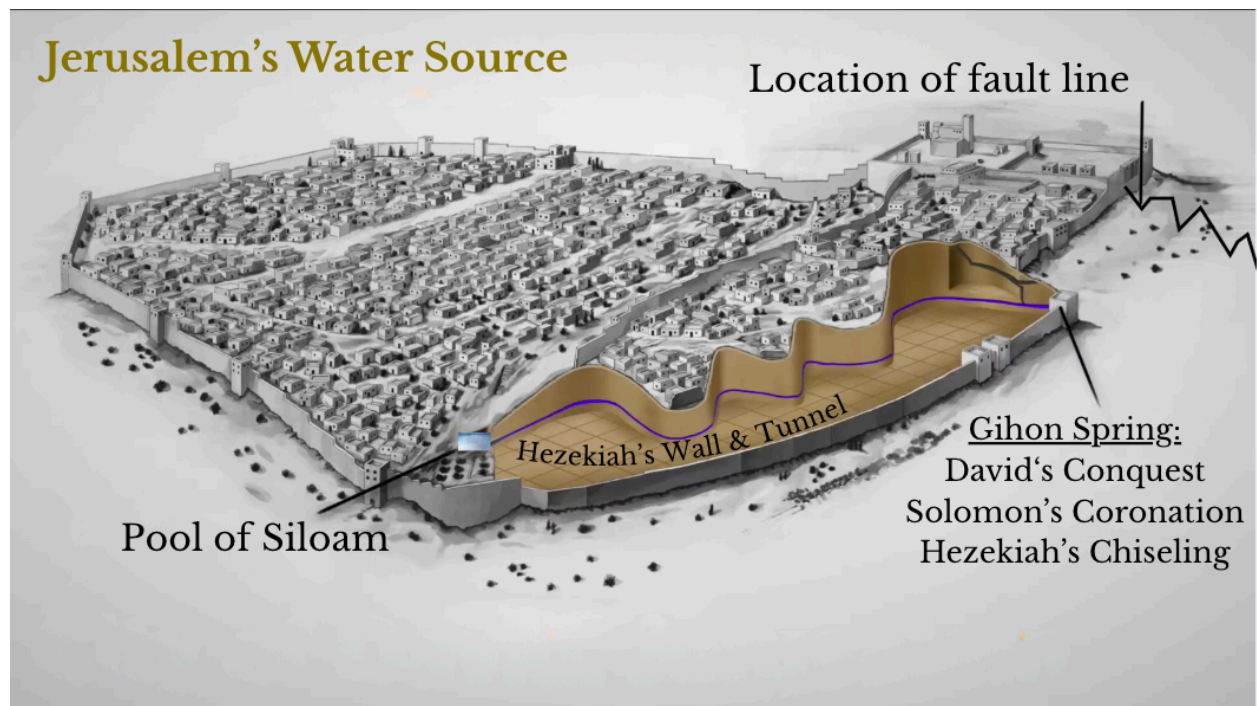
Zechariah 13:1 (ESV)

1 "On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.

Zechariah 14:8–9 (ESV)

8 On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea and half of them to the western sea. It shall continue in summer as in winter.

9 And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day the LORD will be one and his name one.



Availability of the Water starting with David and ending with Jesus.

David's conquest for the water shaft, Solomon was coronated as king,

Hezekiah made it accessible to the heart of the city, Jesus makes it accessible for the whole world!

Next slide:

SUPERNATURAL RIVER: PART 1

GENESIS 2:10 (ESV)

10 **A RIVER FLOWED OUT OF EDEN** TO WATER THE GARDEN, AND THERE IT DIVIDED AND BECAME FOUR RIVERS.

EZEKIEL 47:1 (ESV)

47 THEN HE BROUGHT ME BACK TO THE DOOR OF THE TEMPLE, AND BEHOLD, **WATER WAS ISSUING FROM BELOW THE THRESHOLD OF THE TEMPLE TOWARD THE EAST** (FOR THE TEMPLE FACED EAST). THE WATER WAS FLOWING DOWN FROM BELOW THE SOUTH END OF THE THRESHOLD OF THE TEMPLE, SOUTH OF THE ALTAR.

EZEKIEL 47:6–9 (ESV)

6 AND HE SAID TO ME, "SON OF MAN, HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?" THEN HE LED ME BACK TO THE BANK OF THE RIVER. 7 AS I WENT BACK, I SAW ON THE BANK OF THE RIVER **VERY MANY TREES ON THE ONE SIDE AND ON THE OTHER**. 8 AND HE SAID TO ME, "**THIS WATER FLOWS TOWARD THE EASTERN REGION AND GOES DOWN INTO THE ARABAH, AND ENTERS THE SEA; WHEN THE WATER FLOWS INTO THE SEA, THE WATER WILL BECOME FRESH.**" 9 AND WHEREVER THE RIVER GOES, EVERY LIVING CREATURE THAT SWARMS WILL LIVE, AND THERE WILL BE VERY MANY FISH. FOR THIS WATER GOES THERE, THAT THE WATERS OF THE SEA MAY BECOME FRESH; **SO EVERYTHING WILL LIVE WHERE THE RIVER GOES.**

What was hidden will be unveiled at Messiah's return.

Next slide:

SUPERNATURAL RIVER: PART 2

EZEKIEL 47:12 (ESV)

12 AND ON THE BANKS, ON BOTH SIDES OF THE RIVER, THERE WILL GROW ALL KINDS OF TREES FOR FOOD. THEIR LEAVES WILL NOT WITHER, NOR THEIR FRUIT FAIL, BUT THEY WILL BEAR FRESH FRUIT EVERY MONTH, **BECAUSE THE WATER FOR THEM FLOWS FROM THE SANCTUARY.** THEIR FRUIT WILL BE FOR FOOD, AND THEIR LEAVES FOR HEALING."

REVELATION 22:1–2 (ESV)

22 THEN THE ANGEL SHOWED ME **THE RIVER OF THE WATER OF LIFE**, BRIGHT AS CRYSTAL, FLOWING FROM THE THRONE OF GOD AND OF THE LAMB 2 THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET OF THE CITY; ALSO, ON EITHER SIDE OF THE RIVER, THE TREE OF LIFE WITH ITS TWELVE KINDS OF FRUIT, YIELDING ITS FRUIT EACH MONTH. THE LEAVES OF THE TREE WERE FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS.

Conquest to coronation

Bow and arrow "meet in the middle"

Awakening

Encountering Israel: Deepening Convictions

1. Gihon — **Awakening**

God initiated salvation; His life begins to flow through the man of God, and the heart of man is opened.

2. Hermon — **Confrontation**

The enemy resists; identity is contested, and through this process, conviction is forged.

3. Kidron — **Decision**

Daily choices shape destiny, and salvation becomes, not just a moment, but a path both lived and walked upon.

4. Valley of Kings — **Pressing**

God refines through pressure; obedience is perfected, and anointing is produced.

5. Adullam — **Formation**

Seasons of hidden obscurity develop kings—disciples become leaders, and what was just a calling becomes ingrained character.

6. Tabernacle — **Assembly**

The dwelling of God is built with unlikely materials that are stripped down and covered with hammered gold.

7. Hebron — **Purpose**

God's promises require a lifelong fight of faith that forms us into people who are raised to resurrection hope.

8. Megiddo — **Prevailing**

Our preparation now will cause us to prevail in the final and ultimate battle at the end of days.

9. Caesarea Maritima — **As You Go**

Our mission is to move forward with unwavering conviction, boldly bearing witness to the hope of The Resurrection.

