

## THE LIVING STREAM

**Context: John 7:1-52: “A New Outpouring.”**

**Text John 7:37-52 ... The Last Day of the Feast**

**Today’s Study John 7:37-39 ... “The Living Stream”**

### Introduction

#### A. Clarification of the Messianic Ministry (*Briefly presented*)

1. The **“Feast”** (v. 37). This refers to: **“The Feast of Tabernacles.”**
  - (a) Also known as “Feast of Booths” or “Sukkot” (Hut).
  - (b) The Feast of Tabernacles was the great festival in the Jewish year celebrating the completion of harvest and commemorating God’s goodness during the forty-year wilderness wandering (Ex. 15:35; Deut. 1:3; 16:13-17; Psa. 95:10; Acts 7:42).
  - (c) For a start in regards to the Feast of the Tabernacles see Lev. 23:33-44, NB Vv. 34, 39; and other references such as Num. 29:12-40; etc.
  - (d) Direct references to the Feast of Tabernacle in John 7 are: Vv. 2, 7, 8, 10, 14, 37.
  - (e) *Please note that for a deeper understanding of the Feast of Tabernacles a detailed study is necessary.*
2. **The climax of the meaning of Jesus’ life, teachings and death as it relates to the Feast of Tabernacles came in “the last day, that great day of the feast.” (John 7:37, NB Vv. 38-39).**
  - (a) To the Jewish people this Feast was significant and during which they were to gather together in Jerusalem not only to remember God’s provision, protection, and presence in the Wilderness but also to look forward to that promised Messianic age when all nations will flow to this city to worship the Lord. (Zech. 14:16)
  - (b) Not only do events like these pointed to Jesus Christ, but we have the confirmation proven to all, that “the Word was made flesh” and lived among us!! (John 1:1-14, NB v. 14). **Deliverance has come!! Though Jesus Christ!!**
    - (1) Christ putting on the robe of flesh is referred to as the “Incarnation” (Rom. 8:3; Phil. 2:7; 1 Tim. 3:16).
    - (2) God now speaks to all through Jesus Christ (Heb. 1:1-2).

#### B. Canaan Realized

*Time is not available for a detailed study . . . note briefly a few pointers followed by a comparison chart.*

1. God promised a land of good things (Gen. 11:31-12:16 ... also Deut. 29 to 31, NB 31:20; etc.)
2. Between the time when the promise was made and when it was realized many years had passed including Israel’s bondage in Egypt.

- (a) Their journey from Egypt took a much longer time than what it normally would because of their lack of faith and disobedience, for example see Num. 13 and 14; note also Deut. 1:2-3.
- (b) Canaan was fully realized, conquered and occupied (The Book of Joshua, etc.)
- 3. As it relates to the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:37): The ritual of **the last day of the feast** is symbolic of the entrance of the Israelites into Canaan ... it was a great day! A wonderful day of triumph and great expectations!!
  - (a) These activities were carefully planned and the celebration was a festive occasion.
  - (b) During the feast each morning there was **the pouring out of water** – this was not done on the eight day (which was the last day).
    - (1) In regards to the pouring out ceremony, a priest would take a golden pitcher, fill it with water at the pool (The Pool of Siloam) and bring it back to the Temple amid the shouts of the people.
    - (2) There was also the chanting of Psalms 113-119 (The Hallel)
    - (3) The water was poured out on the right side of the altar.
    - (4) This ritual was probably to illustrate Isa. 12:3 “With joy you will draw from the wells of salvation.”
    - (5) It is believed that in the absence of this rite on the **last day of the feast**, Jesus made the statement in John 7:37-38.
      - Jesus filled the gap on that day and gave insight of what was to come.
      - What He offers is better than the physical waters of Siloam, He offers “**he Living Water**” (John 4:10, 13-14; 7:37, 38; Ezek. 47:1; Zech. 14:8)

4. **A COMPARISON CHART WITH LIMITED POINTERS**

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES	EXPEIENCES FULLY REALIZED IN JESUS CHRIST ( <i>References Only</i> )
<b>Thankfulness:</b> In particular for God’s goodness during the Wilderness	Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6; Col. 3:17; 1 Thess. 5:18; etc.
<b>Joyfulness:</b> Celebrated in an atmosphere of cheerfulness, gladness, etc.	John 15:11; Rom. 5:1-5; 14:17 Phil. 4:4; 1 John 1:1-4; etc.
<b>Fruitfulness:</b> They celebrated the completion of harvest	John 15:1-8; Gal. 5:22-23 Phil. 1:11; etc.
<b>Fellowship:</b> The celebrants came from all over to Jerusalem for fellowship.	Fellowship is an integral part of Christianity: Luke 24:32; Acts 2:42; Phil. 1:3, 5; 1 John 1:7; etc.
<b>Rejoicing:</b> This is akin to fellowship. Se Zech. 2:10-11	Luke 10:20; Rom. 5:1-2; Col. 1:11-14; 1 Thess. 5:16-18; etc.
<b>Gathering:</b> People were gathered for the celebration.	<b>OUR GREAT DAY IS COMING!!</b> Matt. 24:31; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 7, NB Vv. 9-17; etc

<b>Water pouring ceremony:</b> The out pouring of water by the priest, etc.	Isa. 12:3; Matt. 3:11; Luke 24:49 Acts 1:8; 2:4, 38; etc.
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### John 7:37-38 Amplified Bible Classic Edition

“Now on the final day and most important day of the Feast, Jesus stood, and He cried in a loud voice, if any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink! He who believes in Me [who cleaves to and trust in and relies on Me] as the Scripture has said, From his innermost being shall flow [continuously] springs and rivers of living water.”

*The significance in regards to “the last day the great day of the feast” (John 7:37), directs our attention to some things of importance, I will briefly discuss four.*

#### A. Sent One

1. The Feast reminds us that Jesus Christ is the One sent by the Father (John 5:38; 6:29; 7:28, 29, 33; 8:24; 10:36; 11:42; 17:3, 8, 21, 23, 25; etc.).
  - (a) Sent in fulfillment of the promise long awaited and sought after (Col. 1:21-29, NB Vv. 25-28).
  - (b) Sent to a rebellious, God rejecting, hateful world; extending to man’s forgiveness (Rom. 5:1-11; etc.)
    - (1) We were without strength and ungodly (Rom. 5:6)
    - (2) We were still sinners (Rom. 5:8)
    - (3) We were His enemies (Rom. 5:10)
    - (4) A note of caution to the neglectful who spurn and reject God’s love freely outpoured: it means not to be saved from the wrath of God (Rom. 5:9).
  - (c) Sent on a mission to deliver not to condemn (John 3:17; Isa. 61; Luke 4:18, 19).
  - (d) Sent on a mission of love (John 3:16; 1 John 4:10).
  - (e) SENT:
    - (1) Jesus was sent because He is the “Good News” (Luke 2:8-20, NB Vv. 10-11; Luke 8:11; 1 Cor. 15:1-4; etc.)
    - (2) John the Baptist was sent to prepare the way for Christ’s first coming (John 1:6-7)
    - (3) The Apostles and all Christians are sent with the “Good News” as we prepare for the second coming of Jesus Christ (Matt. 29:19-20; Mark 16:15-18; Luke 9:2).
2. Jesus Christ fulfills everything foreshadowed by the Pool of Siloam and the water-pouring ceremony is intricately a part of this feast. *(Limited comments possible).*
  - (a) As note before the pool referred to in our study is “The Pool of Siloam.”
    - (1) In essence “Siloam” means “water was gushing out or **being sent** into the pool.”
    - (2) Scholars believe there is no spiritual significance as it relates to the pool of Siloam. I will be highlighting some areas of interest:
      - It was a fresh water reservoir, and the only source of fresh water within ancient Jerusalem.

- It was also a major gathering place in ancient times for Jews making religious pilgrimage to the city.
- (b) Jesus Christ was not only the **sent One** but came for the releasing, restoring, **refreshing**, etc. of the lost and hopeless.
- (c) **“Times of refreshing” refers to the age of salvation that comes as a result of repentance and forgiveness of sins** (Acts 2:38; 3:17-21; etc.)
- (d) There are some outstanding facts associated with water, whether it is a river, well, pool, or another source. I will briefly note two things:
- (1) **Healing**
- Naaman was **sent** by Elisha to wash in the river Jordan (2 Kings 5, NB Vv. 10, 13-14)
  - Healing took place in the Pool of Bethesda once a year for one fortunate person (John 5:1-5). There Jesus Christ healed an impotent man (John 5:6-18).
    - A blind man was **sent** by Christ to go wash in the Pool of Siloam after anointing his eyes with clay.
    - See John 9, NB Vv. 6-11
    - The significance here is that Jesus Christ is God, who has authority to heal any adverse situation faced by man.
    - Another great lesson in this account (John 9), is it shows that illness and diseases come as a result of the fact that we live in a world riddled with sin an evil.
  - Absolutely!! There is healing in the name of Jesus . . .
    - Psa. 146:8; Matt. 9:27-34; 12:22; 20:29-34; Acts 3:1-10; etc.
    - Countless numbers have been healed spiritually, physically, mentally, etc. throughout the centuries!!
    - The refrain for the hymn: **“There is Healing in His Name”** by E. Warren
 

Casting all your care on Jesus,  
Sickness, sorrow, grief and pain,  
Oh, believe His blessed promise,  
There is healing in His mane.
- (2) Focusing on rivers, pools, etc. I will highlight some thoughts as it relates to us **in-Christ**.
- The Pool of Siloam was built for survival during a siege.
    - Despite disasters created by Satan, we are safe and secure in Jesus Christ (Psa. 91)
    - Jesus is a shelter in the times of storms. He is with us even to the end of times (Mat. 28:20)
    - God’s presence in our lives dispels all fear (Isa. 43:1-7, NB v. 2; **Rom. 8:15**; 2 Tim. 1:7; 1 John 4:18).
  - It is believed that the Pool of Siloam was used for ritual bathing by the Jews.

- This “ritual bathing” involved immersion in Judaism to achieve purity.
- Our experience **in-Christ** is a transformation, the making of a new person (2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 12:2; Titus 3:5; etc.).
- See also Isa. 1:18; Psa. 65:3; Ezek. 36: 25; Heb. 9:14; 1 John 1:7; etc.
- The Pool of Siloam was also used as a place where pilgrims met.
  - We are called into companionship and participation with Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Cor. 1:9)
  - Believers enjoy personal fellowship with God. Fanny Crosby in the hymn, “I Am Thine, O Lord, “states: “When I kneel in prayer and with Thee , my God, I commune as fiend with friend.”
  - He is a God who can be personally known (1 John 1:1-3)
  - One of the signs of genuine fellowship with God is our “brotherly love (John 13:35; 1 John 3:14; 4:20; etc.)
- Earlier, I made mention of “**refreshing**”; please note a few more highlights:
  - The Greek word for “refreshing” denotes: “any kind of refreshment, as rest or deliverance from any kind of evil.
  - Look at it this way, think of the result of obtaining cool unpolluted water after being exposed to the consuming heat of the scorching sun.
  - This is what salvation does for those who accepts God’s offer of deliverance; it gives a fresh start in life and invigorates for the future!!
    - Beloved, fellow Christians, we do have a story to tell to the nations
    - Our testimony to the whole world is “**Come see a man!!**” (John 4:27-30). The wonderful message of Jesus Christ will bring about the necessary religious awakening so desperately needed (John 4:39-42; Acts 2:1-47; 8:6; 9:35; etc.)
  - We are called to be Christ’s ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:20): We do need to “Get all excited, go tell everybody that Jesus Christ is King!!”

#### Points Review:

Main Point: **Living Stream**

First Sub-Point: **Sent**

#### B. Subtle Reality

1. Seemingly, the things of God, at least to some individuals are difficult to perceive or understood ... for example the reality of who Jesus is as Savior and Lord.
  - (a) The Jewish leaders saw Jesus as a repulsive individual.
    - (1) Opposition was evident from the commencement of His earthly ministry (Luke 4:16-32, NB Vv. 28-30; etc.).

- (2) The people of Nazareth opposed and rejected Him (Matt. 1:58; Mark 6:3, 6; Luke 4:28-29; etc.)
  - (3) The chief priest and rules rejected Him and murdered Him (Luke 23:18)
  - (4) The Jewish nation rejected Him (John 1:11; 12:48)
  - (5) There are many other examples including our text (read the chapter NB Vv. 37-53).
- (b) After Christ's ascension the opposition continued and to new levels
- (1) Read the Acts of the Apostles as well as other books.
  - (2) For example He was regarded as a nuisance (Acts 24:5)
2. **The cross of Jesus Christ is an offence!!**
- (a) We try to make the cross and its message popular but compromise of standards has not worked well (Rev. 2 and 3; etc.).
  - (b) Converted from Judaism, Paul preached salvation through faith in Jesus Christ for which he was severely persecuted because the preaching of the cross is an offense to the world (Gal, 5:11).
  - (c) Trying to popularize the cross of Jesus Christ and its message or rejecting it is disastrous
- 1 Cor. 1:18 Amplified Bible**  
 "For the story and message of the cross is sheer absurdity and folly to those who are perishing and on their way to perdition, but to us who are being saved it is the [manifestation of] the power of God."
3. Caution is necessary, because to reject Jesus Christ is to reject man's ONLY hope! He is the source of life, THE LIVING STREAM!!! (John 7:37-38)
- (a) Note Psa. 118:22-23 – The stone that is rejected by the builder becomes the chief corner stone!!
    - (1) Jesus applied this quote (Psa. 118:2-23) to Himself in Mark 12:10-11.
      - This application was necessary because Jesus Christ was thrown aside by His own people (John 1:11; 5:43; 12:48; etc.)
      - Jesus became the **chief cornerstone** when He was raised from the dead (example Matt. 28:18)
- Matt. 28:18 Amplified Bible**  
 "Jesus approached and breaking the silence, said to them, All authority (all power of rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me."
- (2) **Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection are the key elements to God's plan of salvation** (1 Cor. 15, NB Vv. 1-4, 12-20; see also Rev. 1:8; Phil. 2:1-11, NB Vv. 8-11; Acts 4:12; 1 Cor. 3:11; etc.
- (b) Peter also applied Psa. 118:22-23 to Jesus Acts 4:11; 1 Peter 2:7. No some characteristics of Christ as the "cornerstone.
- (1) He is completely trustworthy.
  - (2) He is precious to believes
  - (3) Although rejected by some, He is the most important part of the Church (Universal).

- People who refuse to believe in Christ have made the greatest mistake of their lives.
- **They have stumbled over the one person who could save them and give meaning to their lives and they have fallen into God's hands for judgment.**

**John 3:36 NKJV**

“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

4. As noted above, during the first seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:10, 14, 7), water was taken in the Temple in a golden pitcher and poured out at the altar.

(a) Observe: That which was external and limited brought to the temple from without, now becomes internal, dynamic, outpouring and abundant.

(b) Even so, Jesus Christ who was born in obscurity, despised and rejected has become:

(1) **Internal**

- Everything revolves around Jesus Christ because it is all about Him!!
- He alone is able to save from sin (Acts 4:12; John 6:68)

(2) **Dynamic**

- You decide how to describe Christ's ministry: energetic, spirited active, compelling, effective, vigorous, and any other. *You may have heard my presentation of Ezek. 47:1-12 which is another powerful example of the uniqueness of Christ's ministry from a prophetic source.*
- Listen to the report given by the officers to the Jewish leaders ... John 7:46
- See also Matt. 7:29; Mark 1:27; John 5:27.

(3) **Outpouring**

- Outflow of blood and water (John 19:34)
  - Believed by some scholars to symbolize a broken heart
  - We also know that **blood and water** became symbols of salvation brought by Jesus Christ
  - There is now available to the whole world an outflow of God's salvation liberating from the tyranny and dominion of sin 1 John 5: 1-13, NB Vv. 4-8
    - Here we see mention made of Christ's water baptism ... “by water” (1 John 5:6) and proved He was the Son of God (Matt. 3:13-17)
    - There is also the fact that He shed His blood for our redemption (1 John 5:6; 1 Peter 1, NB Vv. 18-25)
    - There is also verification by the Holy Spirit (1 John 5:6; Matt. 3:16)
    - While Christ had no sin to repent of He bore our sins; this was an outflow of God's abundant grace to man. **John 3:5 ... water**

baptism there signifies the repentance aspect of salvation and **the Spirit** refers to the work of the Holy Spirit.

- The outflow of the Holy Spirit enables the Church to be effective witnesses and live victoriously (Joel 2:28-29; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4)
- (4) **Abundant** . . . *(This is closely related to the next main point “Spirit Filled)*
- Irrespective of who or where we are in this world, the grace of God is sufficient for everyone no matter what is the challenge (2 Cor. 12:7-10)
  - God’s love is exceedingly greater than tongue of pen can ever tell!! (1 John 4:8-10; Eph. 2:4, 5; etc.)
  - Jesus Christ came to give life and to give it more abundantly ... note:
    - Abundant Joys Psa. 36:8
    - Abundant Life John 10:10
    - Abundant Grace 2 Cor. 9:8
    - Abundant Power Eph. 3:20
    - Abundant Supplies Phil. 4:19
    - Abundant Entrance (Absolutely no hindrance!!) (2 Peter 1:11)

### Points Review

Main Point: **Living Water**

First Sub-Point: **Sent**

Second Sub-Point: **Subtle Reality**

### C. Spirit Filled

#### 1. Why is it that so many who profess Christ are not enjoying the abundant life?

##### (a) The Natural Man

(1) This is someone who has not received Jesus Christ.

- He or she lives a **Self-Centered Life**
- Some obvious traits:
  - Self is in-charge
  - Interests are directed by self, resulting in discord and frustration.
  - This is experienced because Jesus Christ is outside his or her life.

(2) **1 Cor. 2:14 KJV**

“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned.”

- Non-Christians cannot understand spiritual truths, and they cannot grasp the concept that the Holy Spirit lives in believers.
- They do not approve or understand when others decide to follow Jesus Christ.
- Keep in mind: Just as a tone deaf person *(I use that term with a sense of compassion and understanding for those in such condition physically)* cannot appreciate fine music, the person who rejects Jesus Christ cannot understand truths from the Holy Spirit.



- With the lines of communication broken, he or she won't be able to hear what God is saying to him or her.
- Here is a person who trusts in his or her own earthly wisdom and takes no account of God's help.

(b) **The Carnal Man . . . Carnal Christian**

- (1) This is someone who professes Christ but who lives in defeat because he or she is trying to live the Christian life in his or her own strength.
- (2) Some obvious traits . . . **The Self-Directed Life.**
  - Self is on the throne.
  - This person's interests are directed by self, often resulting in discord and frustration.
  - Christ is dethroned and not allowed to direct the life.
- (3) See 1 Cor. 3:1-3

*Time will not allow for a detailed study ... note a few pointers.*

- **Carnal Christians cannot experience the abundant fruitful Christian life.**
- Paul referred to the Corinthians as infants in the Christian life because they were not yet spiritually healthy and mature.
  - The proof was that they quarreled like children, allowing division to distract them.
  - Immature Christians are "worldly" control by their desire. He or she fails to draw upon the power of the Holy Spirit to live the Christian life.
- The Corinthians were behaving in such a way that they were not growing in grace, acting as if they were new converts who did not yet understand the full implication of salvation.
- **Although the Corinthians were Christians they were not fully spiritual (1 Cor. 3:1) they did not live in full obedience to the Holy Spirit.**
  - Neither were they mere natural men, people who did not know Christ.
  - Rather, they were **carnal Christians** (1 Cor. 3:1-3) who still lived in envy and divisions like the unsaved (1 Cor. 3:3, 4).

(c) **Spiritual Man**

- (1) This person is one who is directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit.
  - **This is "The Christ Directed Life"**
    - Christ is on the throne.
    - Interests are directed by Christ, resulting in harmony with God's plan.
  - Self is yielding to Jesus Christ.
- (2) **1 Cor. 2:15 Amplified Bible**

"But the Spiritual man tries all things [he examines, investigates, inquires into, questions and discerns all things] yet is himself to be put on trial and judged by no one [ he can read the meaning of everything, but no one can properly discern or appraise or get an insight into him]." Read also verse 16

- It must be clearly understood that a man becomes spiritual because he has received the Spirit of God and is living under the influence of God.
- Some things noted in Scriptures when anyone receives Jesus Christ as his Savior are:
  - He is born again by the Spirit of God (John 3:5-6; 1 Peter 1:23).
  - That he minds the things of God, not the things of the flesh (Rom. 8:5-6).
  - That he is in the Spirit and the Spirit dwells in him (Rom. 8:9; John 14:16-17).
  - That the Spirit imparts life to him (Rom. 8:10).
  - That the Spirit quickens his mortal body (Rom. 8:11; John 6:63).
  - That he can kill the sinful deeds of his body only by the Spirit (Rom. 8:13; Gal. 5:16).
  - That the presence of the Spirit's leadership in the man's life proves that he is a child of God. (Rom 8:16-17; Gal. 4:6; 1 John 3:24; 4:13; 5:6).

(3) Three things are noted about the spiritual man, in 1 Cor. 2:15-16

- **The spiritual man judges or discern all things (1 Cor. 2:15a)**  
**NKJV:** "But he who is spiritual judges all things ..."  
**Amplified Bible:** "But the spiritual man tries all things [he examines, investigates, inquires into, questions, and discerns all things] ..."  
 ➤ The word "judges" (KJV and NKJV) means the very same thing as discern as used in verse 14
  - The general meaning of discern: to perceive or recognize something.
  - Discernment is the ability to notice the fine-point details, the ability to judge something well or the ability to understand and comprehend something.
  - Discerned or judge (1 Cor. 2:14 -15) the Greek usage is as the definitions given above: investigate, interrogate, determine, ask, examine, judge, etc.
- Anyone who believes in Jesus Christ experiences a most wonderful thing.
  - The Spirit of God enters and dwells within his body converting his body into a temple for God's presence.
  - See **Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19; 2 Cor. 6:19; Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:10.**
- The important thing to note here is: the man who is truly spiritual lives under the control of God's Spirit.
  - God's Spirit lives within his body (1 Cor. 3:16)
  - Therefore, it is the Holy Spirit who reveals the truth of spiritual things to the person (John 14:26; 16:13, 14)
  - **This is critically important to note: the ability to discern is not man's; it is the Holy Spirit within man.**

- Beloved, there is absolutely no room for super-spirituality in God's church, for all we have is of God, it is not of us.

*The subject of super-spirituality requires a separate study.*

- **The spiritual man is not understood by the natural man. (1 Cor. 2:15b)**

**NKJV:** "... yet he himself is rightly judged by no one."

**Amplified Bible:** "... yet he himself to be put on trial and judged by no one [he can read the meaning of everything, but no one can properly discern or appraise or get an insight into him]."

- Observe how the Scripture presents this fact: "Yet **he** himself is rightly judged by no one." (NKJV) ("**he**": *refers to the spiritual man*).
  - This statement has been abused and misused by many and in some cases become a stumbling block to the innocent.
  - Despite the abuse and misuse the meaning is perfectly clear when kept in the context of the passage.
- "... judged of **no man**" (KJV) ... "... judged by **no one**" (NKJV)
  - "no man" means the "natural man," mentioned in verse 14.
  - The natural man has little concern and little knowledge of Christ and God; therefore, there is no human way he can understand the spiritual man.
- "The blind cannot lead the blind!" Both Scripture (Matt. 15:14) and simple logics substantiate this statement ... although we are not strictly referring to physical blindness.
  - A man knows only that which he experiences and studies: common sense and honesty authenticates this fact.
  - There is no way a man can judge spiritual things unless he **experiences** spiritual things.
    - = Therefore, the natural man cannot understand why anyone would want to put his efforts and waste his time upon matters that are not worldly.
    - = Hence the natural man feels that our primary concern should be upon this world (this is true even with the religionists)
  - The natural man argues that a little though about spiritual things is acceptable, but not the focusing of a person's whole life.
- That which is critically important is: the natural man does not understand the spiritual man. To him the spiritual man is a fool for passing up this world and all the good things this world has to offer.

**NOTE**

The **spiritual** person is able to understand and evaluate **all things** – spiritual truth and human wisdom. But the person who does not have the Holy Spirit cannot understand or correctly evaluate the spiritual person.

As translated in the Amplified Bible: "... but no one (*natural man ... insert mine*) can properly discern or appraise or get an insight into him."

- **The spiritual man has the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16)**  
**NKJV:** "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ."  
**Amplified Bible:** "For who has known or understand the mind (the counsels and purposes) of the Lord so as to guide and instruct Him and give Him knowledge? But we have the mind of Christ (the Messiah) and do hold the thoughts (feelings and purposes) of His heart [Isa. 40:13]."  
  - The reason believers can discern spiritual things are that they have the **mind of Christ**.
    - This does not mean that the spiritual man knows all there is about Christ.
    - No one is so great that he knows the Lord's mind and is able to teach Him.
    - No one can know exactly what Christ is thinking (Rom. 11:33-36), but through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, believers have insight into some of God's plans, thoughts and actions
  - **"We have the mind of Christ" 1 Cor. 2:16b**
    - To have the mind of Christ means knowing His will and redemptive plan (1 Cor. 2:9-10).
    - It means appraising and seeing things the way God sees them, **valuing things the way He values them, loving what He loves and hating what He hates.**(1 Cor. 2:15; Heb. 1:9)
    - It means understanding the holiness of God and the awfulness of sin (1 Peter 1:15-16; 1 John 3:1-10)
  - **"The mind of Christ,"** emphasis being placed because of its importance.
    - Believers do not know **ALL** there is to know about Christ, but his (the spiritual man) mind is focused upon God and the things of God just as the mind of Christ was.
    - Only the spiritual person, by the help of the Holy Spirit, is able to understand the truth about Christ, and to see things from Christ's point of view.
    - The Spirit of God pulls, draws and stirs the mind of the genuine believer to spiritual things.
  - In summary I will close this very important point with some repetition
    - Receiving the Spirit and following the Spirit (1 Cor. 2:12) cause the believers values and worldviews to become radically different from the ways and wisdom of this age. (Phil. 2:5-8; Luke 9:23-24; Rom. 8:5-6).

- Through the Holy Spirit, we can begin to know God's thoughts, talk with Him, and expect His answers to our prayers.
- The challenge is: "Are you spending enough time with Christ to have His very mind in you?"
- Beloved, an intimate relationship with Christ comes only from spending **quality time consistently in His presence and His Word.**
- **Phil. 2:5 Amplified Bible**  
"Let this same attitude and purpose and [humble] mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus: [Let Him be your example in humility;]"
- **Eph. 5:1 Amplified Bible**  
"Therefore BE imitators of God [copy Him and follow His example], as well-beloved children [imitate their father]."  
The Holy Spirit will be there to help you in every way in your pursuit to be more and more like Jesus Christ in all sincerity. **Here is a note of caution:**  
**1 Thess. 5:19 Amplified Bible**  
"Do not quench (suppress or subdue) the [Holy] Spirit."

## 2. The Spirit Filled Life is Characterized by Abundance

*"Abundance" has been highlighted in the closing pointer for the second sub-point (Subtle Reality) and will be easily seen in our final sub-point (Source of Pentecost). The following pointers are briefly presented.*

### (a) The spiritual life is characterized by abundance because its source is Jesus Christ.

- (1) It is upon Christ that the Church (Universal) is built (Matt. 16:13-20, NB Vv. 17-18).
- (2) Jesus Christ is the "Smitten Rock" from which flows the **life stream.** (Num. 20:28; 1 Cor. 10:4)
- (3) Jesus is the source of Living Water which is available to all (John 4:10-14)
- (4) Note the following in regards to the "Living Water."
  - **Issuing from God's House** (Ezek. 47:1-12)
  - **Unaffected by Time and Season** (Zech. 14:8)
  - **Christ is the Source** (John 4:10)
  - **Satisfies the Deepest Needs** (John 7:37, 38)
  - **The Supply is Inexhaustible** (Rev. 7:17)
  - **Makes Life Fruitful** (Rev. 22:1, 2)
  - **Universal Call to Partake** (Rev. 22:17)

### (b) Abundant because its outflow is to reach every man and every nation.

- (1) Christ's Commission and Promise is seen in Luke 24:44-49 (*Details not possible at this time*)
  - "Ye are witnesses" (Luke 2:48 KJV)

- They (the apostles) had firsthand account of Christ and His redemptive outreach (1 John 1:1)
  - After Pentecost they would have the required purity and power necessary for this charge.
  - All of this must be crystallized in a divinely appointed mission, **“Ye are witnesses.”** (*You are evidence or proof or testimony, etc. of this fact of the goodness of God*).
  - **The important point is: They were to evangelize with power from on high.**
- “And that repentance ... forgiveness of sins should be preached in His name to all nations ...” (Luke 24:47 Amplified Bible)
    - Jesus Christ, Himself institutes Christian mission as a holy mandatory task of the Church.
    - Mission is a main theme in both the OT (Gen. 22:18; 1 Kings 8: 41-43; Psa. 72:8-11; 45:22-25) and the NT (Matt. 28:19; Acts 1:18; Eph. 2:14-18).
- (2) The universal outreach with the gospel is clearly seen through the Scriptures for example in the “Parable of the Great Supper” (Luke 14:15-24, NB Vv. 21-23).

#### Points Review:

Main Point: **Living Stream**

First Sub-Point: **Sent**

Second Sub-Point: **Subtle Reality**

Third Sub-Point: **Spirit Filled**

#### D. Source of Pentecost

##### 1. The Last Day of the Feast

*As noted in the introduction*

*John 7:1-52 ... I have entitled “A New Outpouring*

*John 7:37-39 I have entitled “Living Stream”*

- (a) **The account (John 7:37-39) prefigures (*foreshadow, foretell, symbolize, etc.*) that because of Jesus Christ Pentecost would be realized.**
- (1) The whole symbolism of the Feast (The Feast of Tabernacles), beginning with the completed harvest for which it was a thanksgiving, pointed to the future . . . . . one outstanding feature of this feast was **the ceremony of the out-pouring of water which was considered of such vital importance as giving the whole festival (feast) the name “House of Out-pouring,” was symbolic of the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit.**
- (2) The message of the Holy Spirit’s outpouring is the obvious intention of the writer John (John 7:39).
- (3) The Living Water Symbolized!!

- As noted before, no water was poured out on the eight day or “the last day, that great day of the feast” (John 7:37). It was at that time of the feast that Jesus made the statement in John 7:37-38.
- In essence Jesus was saying: **He is the Fountain of Living Water!**

(b) **The Compulsion of Pentecost**

*Please note carefully two things in Luke 24:47-49: First ... “The Divine Commission” (Vv. 47-48). Second ... “The Divine Command (v. 49)*

- (1) As we saw earlier in the lesson, we must take the message of salvation (deliverance) obtained through Jesus Christ and available to all men and all nations.
- (2) **Promise of My Father!!** (Luke 24:49)
  - The promise of My Father “that will bring power from on high” (v. 49), refers to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that began at Pentecost (Acts 1:4; 2:4)
  - We find this promise recorded in the Old Testament (Isa. 32:15; 44:3; Ezek.39: 29; Joel 2:38) and in the New Testament (John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7; Acts 2:33, 38-39)
  - The disciples devoted themselves to prayer as they waited for the fulfillment of the promise (Acts 1:14). The believer today, seeking the baptism in the Holy Spirit should do the same.
- (3) The task of obeying the commission (Luke 24:47-48) requires readiness!! If we are not properly equipped we are not ready!!
  - Mission work is fundamentally important and it is a matter of compulsion for ALL BELIVERS but not without Pentecost!!

**Luke 24:49 KJV**

“And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but **tarry** ye in the city of Jerusalem **until ye be endued** with power from on high.

  - This was the Divine Command which until its fulfillment must take precedence over the Divine Commission (Luke 24:47-48; Matt. 28:19-20)
  - The fulfillment of both the promise and command seen in these verses (Luke 24: 47-49) came on the day of Pentecost (Acts 1:8; 2:1-4; etc.).

*I am way beyond the time scheduled for this lesson and will be as brief as possible with the following pointers.*

2. **The Holy Spirit Promised!**

**NOTE:**

*This subject has been discussed before and can clearly be seen in the references listed (without discussion) below.*

*The take away factor here is: “God is not slack concerning His promises ... (2 Peter 3:9; Psa. 89:1; 1 Cor. 1:9; 2 Cor. 1:20; 2 Peter 1:4; Heb. 6:18)*  
**Heb. 10:23 Amplified Bible**

*“So let us seize and hold fast and retrain without wavering the hope we cherish and confess and our acknowledgment of it, for He who promised is reliable (sure) and faithful to His word.”*

*The fact remains that God has not only promised the Holy Spirit but He, the Holy Spirit, has come and His fullness can be experience by every believer(This I must emphasize that all who receive Jesus Christ received the Holy Spirit at conversion but needs the **“Baptism in the Holy Spirit”** this subject require separate study)*

**NOTE: THE HOLY SPIRIT’S OUTPOURING PROMISED**

- (a) Upon the Young and Old (Joel 2:28)
- (b) Jesus Christ is the Giver Matt. 3:11
- (c) Bestowed in Answer to Payer Luke 11:13
- (d) Through Waiting Upon God Luke 24:49
- (e) Empowers for Service Acts 1:8
- (f) Must be Preceded by Personal Cleansing Acts 2:38

**Luke 11:13 NKJV**

*“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”*

**3. The Holy Spirit Lives in Believers**

(a) There are considerable differences between the Old and New Covenants, for example under the New Covenant the Holy Spirit dwells in believers. This I have time to briefly note: In the OT, the Holy spirit was given selectively and temporarily to indwell individuals for special ministries. We now have the grand and glorious privilege of having the Holy Spirit living in us (John 14:16-17; etc.)

(1) Again this can only be briefly stated at this time: The Old Testament was a foreshadowing of the New, a foundation of what was to come. The Old Testament pointed forward to a Messiah or Savior. The New Testament describes the fulfillment of God’s promise by Jesus Christ.

(2) Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone of the Church (Psa. 118:22-23; Mark 12:10-11); and has brought in effect the New Covenant (Matt. 26:28; 1 Cor. 11:25; etc.).

*You are encouraged to study the Book of Hebrews where we see the superiority of Jesus Christ. At this time I will note three ways Jesus Christ is superior to the Old Covenant (Enjoy the exploration of the Book of Hebrews).*

- Jesus Christ is superior to Moses
- Jesus Christ is our High Priest forever.
- Jesus Christ’ sacrifice was once for all; perfecting believers for eternal life.

(b) **Written on the hearts not on tablets of stones!!**



- (1) In the Old Covenant the Ten Commandments were written on two tablets of stone; under the New Covenants the will of God is engraved within the believers.
- (2) Another great study that is relevant to our current emphasis is Ezek. 36; I am highlighting the things from Vv. 25-32 (*you are encouraged to study the chapter*).
- The promise of spiritual regeneration is noted in verse 26, where God promises “a new heart” and “a new spirit.”
  - The sinful heart, which I term a stony heart, would be replaced as promised as seen in these verses. That promise has become a possibility today ... **“To God be the glory!!”** See also Jeremiah 31:31-34, note carefully v. 33. Note also here was the promise of the Holy Spirit (Ezek. 37:14; 39:29; Joel 2:28-29).
  - **ONLY the Holy Spirit can empower man to fulfill the Word of God!!**
- (c) The experience of the Holy Spirit is an infusion (endowment ... Luke 24:49) of God’s Spirit that enables humans to live victorious and effective lives, to the glory of God. Herein the believer has guardian deity who watches over him or her.
- (1) **The Holy Spirit in us**, we are the temple, in which He dwells (1 Cor. 3:16) and uses us to the advancement of the kingdom of God (Acts 1:8; etc.)
- (2) The Holy Spirit working in us. (*Some highlights*)
- He is the great agent of the purification of man’s soul (Acts 2:1-4; Rom. 15:16; 2 Thess. 2:13)
  - We are cautioned not to suppress (censor, curb, silence, overthrow, etc.) the work of the Holy Spirit. (1 Thess. 5:19)
  - He is our source of daily victory through Jesus Christ (John 16:1-16, NB Vv. 8-14). If we live consistently contrary to God’s will (habitually sinning) means the Holy Spirit is not in control of our lives and we have fallen short (1 John 3:1-10; 1 John 5, NB Vv. 1-12).
  - The Holy Spirit is our Teacher, therefore, He gives us knowledge and wisdom (John 14:26)
  - The Holy Spirit is our Guide, therefore He leads us in the right path (John 16:13).
  - The Holy Spirit is our Comforter, sent to be our companion as we continue our pilgrimage home (John 14:15-26, NB Vv. 16-18).

#### 4. The Holy Spirit Bears Witness to Our Adoption

*For this pointer, I will present some references. You should find them in your Bible, read them in their context and make notes relevant, to as used in the context:*

- (a) Rom. 8:16 (b) Gal. 4:6 (c) 1 John 3:24 (d) 1 John 4:13 (e) 1 John 5:6

**The following is a Brief Comparison of the “Ceremony of the Out-pouring of Water with “The Living Stream.”**

*As a reminder this took place the first seven days of the Feast of Tabernacle but not on the eight day.*

<b>The Ceremony of the Out-Pouring of Water</b>	<b>The Living Stream</b>
Water was from an external source	Jesus' supply flows within
Water was limited quantity (taken in a pitcher)	Jesus' supply flows continuously
This was a Jewish rite – limited to the Jews	Jesus' supply to all people (every nation)
Rite done by a priest	Jesus the supplier ... The Great High Priest
This was natural spring water	Jesus supply is the "Living Water"
The water was poured out at the altar in the Temple	Jesus' supply upon all nations... wherever man is found!!
Was not poured out on the last day (8 <sup>th</sup> day)	Jesus' supply available anytime, anywhere ...
Was not able to adequately satisfy man's innermost needs	Jesus' supply transforms, liberates, refreshes, etc. without losing its value

**John 7:37b-39 Amplified Bible**

“... If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink! He who believes in Me [who cleaves to and trust in and relies on Me] as the Scripture has said, From his innermost being shall flow [continuously] springs and rivers of living water. But He was speaking here of the Spirit, Whom those who believe (trusted, had faith) in Him were afterward to receive. For the [Holy] Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified (raised to honor).”

**The Hymn: Pentecostal Power**

First verse

Lord, as of old at Pentecost  
 Thou dist Thy pow’r display,  
 With cleansing purifying flame  
 Descend on us today.

Refrain

Lord, send the old-time pow’r, the Pentecostal Pow’r!  
 Thy floodgates of blessing on us throw open wide!  
 Lord, send the old-time pow’r, the Pentecostal pow’r,  
 That sinners be converted and Thy name glorified!

**2 Tim. 2:15**

**KJV**

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

**Amplified Bible**

“Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.”