

## ~Kingdom of the Waters: Ezek 47:1-12~

The Kingdom is now and forever:

**Prov. 13:12** says, "*Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but desire fulfilled is a tree of life.*" Jesus promised to return in the first century. Because many of us think he hasn't returned yet, our hearts are indeed made very "sick." The Preterist view is a tree of life to those who hope to enjoy the blessings of Christ's Kingdom. We have that Kingdom now. It arrived in its fully established form when it was taken away from the unbelieving Jews of Jesus' generation and given to the Church. All of Jesus' parables about the nature and growth of that Kingdom apply now. **Isaiah 9:7** says, "*There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore.*" **Daniel 2** talks about the little stone that becomes a huge mountain and fills the whole world.

But I believe the best Biblical description of that on-going spread of the Kingdom's influence in the world is found in:

**Revelation 21-22**, where it says, "*The nations will WALK BY ITS LIGHT, and the kings of the earth will BRING THEIR GLORY INTO IT. In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed; and they will BRING THE GLORY AND THE HONOR OF THE NATIONS INTO IT; and NOTHING UNCLEAN, AND NO ONE WHO PRACTICES ABOMINATION AND LYING, SHALL EVER COME INTO IT, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS.*"

Notice the words I have put in ALL CAPS above. These are things that indicate the world is still in existence after the New Jerusalem has come down out of heaven to dwell among men. Nations are still walking by its light and bringing their glory into it. The unclean, abominable and liars are still in existence, but are outside and unable to come into this city. The nations are still in existence and continually being healed by the leaves of the tree of life. This passage clearly describes the on-going Kingdom and its healing effects on the nations and cultures of this planet.

**Ezekiel 47** talks about the little trickle of water that comes out of the new temple and eventually becomes a flooding river that baptizes all the nations. There is nothing said about that river of water ever diminishing back down to a trickle again. This is a very positive, optimistic and eternally long-term future for humanity. The futurists have nothing to compare with it.

Which gives God more glory? A finite number of people in heaven after the end of human life in the universe? Or a constantly growing number of saints coming into heaven throughout an eternity of human existence? *The Kingdom will keep on spreading.* Isaiah 9:7 says so! It tells us that the 'increase' of His kingdom will never end. Do you know what that means? The *increase* of it--ever growing. That means there will always be souls entering into and expanding it--causing it to increase! Our children will grow up and become leaders in the next generation. They will raise godly children who will become leaders in the generations after that. They will continue taking the Gospel to every nation, saturating the whole world with Biblical principles and Christian culture, so that eventually Christian principles will "take

every thought captive" in all the nations of the world the same way it did here in North America. (2 Cor. 10:5) No culture can resist it forever. Christ will conquer every stronghold for His Kingdom, just like Ezekiel 47 envisioned. The Church will continue winning souls, multiplying disciples and filling the whole earth with the knowledge of God "as the waters cover the sea." (Isa. 11:9)

**Ezekiel 47:1-12** "Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and **the waters came down from under from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar.**

**2** Then brought he me out of the way of the gate northward, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looked eastward; and, behold, **there ran out waters on the right side.**

**3** And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured **a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles.**

**4** Again he measured **a thousand, and brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees.**

Again he measured **a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins.**

**5** Afterward **he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over.**

**6** And he said unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen this? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river.

**7** Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very **many trees** on the one side and on the other.

**8** Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters **shall be healed.**

**9** And it shall come to pass, that every thing that lives, which moves, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they **shall be healed;** and every thing shall live whither the river cometh.

**10** And it shall come to pass, that the fishers shall stand upon it from Engedi even unto Eneglaim; they shall be a place to spread forth nets; their fish shall be according to their kinds, as the fish of the great sea, exceeding many.

**11** But the miry places thereof and the marshes thereof shall not be healed; they shall be given to salt.

**12** And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for **medicine.**

### Compare:

(Rev 22:1) Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the **healing of the nations.**)

As well as the various parables of Jesus, in the NT, such as the 'mustard seed' etc., the image of the trees and the river in Ezekiel preview the same scenes where the Kingdom expands ever deeper and bigger as years go on. In Revelation 22, we see, in the Kingdom of Christ, the leaves of the tree taking us back to the imagery in Ezekiel in his description of the Kingdom. There are 2 rivers, 2 trees, 2 healings.

Notice as well, the 'healing' (medicine) portrayed by Ezekiel in verse 11. Could this be the same healing given by the leaves of the tree in the Kingdom in Revelation 22? If so, then the new heavens and earth

will still have nations that need healing and will be healed (of sin) when they come into the body of Christ.

Thus, the Kingdom will forever be taking in sinners who become saints. They will be **healed** of their sins and cleansed. If this is true, then the Kingdom will always be increasing as the number of sinners who come into it will be endless. Compare this to Isaiah 9:6-7 which reads:

**Isa 9:6-7** *"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
7 Of the increase of his government and peace **there will be no end**. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this".*

*NOTE: The increase of His government will never end. Therefore it would have to be 1) Eternal and 2) Ever expanding.*