



# Living Waters - Dead Sea

*By F. T. Paterson*

Ezekiel's vision of a spiritual temple (Ezek 40-47) culminates with a river flowing out of the temple through the desert into the Dead Sea. This is a river of living water bringing life everywhere it goes. As the scripture says, first that which is natural and then that which is spiritual (1 Cor. 15:46). This spiritual river follows the same route as the Jordan river, which flows from the Sea of Galilee through the Jordan valley and empties into the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea is 1385 ft. below sea level, 1240 ft. deep, 42 miles long, 11 miles wide and is 8.6 times saltier than the Mediterranean Sea (from the Wikipedia Encyclopedia). It is lower than the Mediterranean Sea so water can flow in but it cannot flow out. Add to this evaporation and rainfall of only 2 to 4 inches per year and the result is a very stagnant body of water.

These two rivers mirror our spiritual walk. If the source is the natural it will end up in the stagnant waters of the Dead Sea; on the other hand, if the source is spiritual it will bring life and make the stagnant waters pure. In Ezekiel's vision, the waters issued out from under the doors of the temple; "This water flows toward

the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, where it enters the Sea. When it empties into the Sea, the water there becomes fresh" (Ezek 47:8, NIV). The water that issues out from us can be streams of life or stagnant pools of brackish water. When we hear the gospel and commit our lives to Jesus our lives are quickened and made alive by the Spirit of God. Our spiritual life is changed and we no longer need to obey the dictates of the god of this world and our carnal nature. "To you, who were spiritually dead all the time that you drifted along on the stream of this world's ideas of living, and obeyed its unseen ruler (who is still operating in those who do not respond to the truth of God), to you Christ has given life! We all lived like that in the past, and followed the impulses and imaginations of our evil nature, being in fact under the wrath of God by nature, like everyone else" (Eph 2:1-3, Phillips). Where the river ends up, the Dead Sea or healing waters, depends upon the source. If the source is the carnal nature then the river will flow into a sea of polluted water. If the source is the Spirit of God then it will bring healing and make the

polluted waters fresh. The source of the unregenerate life is the carnal nature, which is under the direction of the god of this world. When we commit our lives to Jesus, we receive a new nature which is the source that brings forth the river of life, but the old carnal nature is still with us. We have two natures within us, the old and the new, and there is a constant battle as to which will control our lives. The apostle Paul writes; "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me" (Rom 7:15-17, NIV). He cries out in anguish; "What a wretched man I am!

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Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God-through Jesus Christ our Lord!”(Rom 7:24-25,NIV). This is the answer to winning the battle that wages within us. Commit it to the Lord and let Him fight the battle for us. I have heard it said that whichever you feed, the carnal or the spiritual nature, will be the one controlling your life. The carnal nature is nourished by yielding to the carnal nature and the spiritual nature is nourished by yielding to the Spirit; “So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want” (Gal. 5:16-17, NIV). We feed the spiritual nature by feeding on the word of God, spending time in prayer and meditation and resisting the ways of the world. “Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.”(Ps 1:1-3, NIV).

After his passion and resurrection, Jesus gathered His disciples and spoke to them; “Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:”(John 20:21-22, KJV). This promise was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost when they were baptized in the Holy Ghost and fire. They were filled with the Spirit, the church was born and they were baptized into the body of Christ. “Each of us is a part of the one body of Christ. Some of

us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But the Holy Spirit has fitted us all together into one body. We have been baptized into Christ’s body by the one Spirit, and have all been given that same Holy Spirit.”(1Cor. 12:13, TLB). The Spirit was given to us that we might be witnesses to the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”(Acts 1:8, KJV) We are witnesses to the saving grace of Jesus and are meant to share that witness with those who are lost in sin. Jesus spoke to those crowded around Him; “On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.’ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.”(John 7:37-39, NIV). The river of living water flows out from us because the source is within us; “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?” (1 Cor. 6:19, KJV).

If there is no outlet for the Spirit to flow out through us, we can become like stagnant pools and even the source within us becomes polluted. As the river cascades out from us and flows through the wasteland to the Dead Sea there are hindrances and blockages that can stem the flow also. We can narrow and even dam up the channel of the river by our actions and carnal ways. These hindrances to our spiritual walk should be quite familiar to us as they are

well documented in the scripture and have been ministered many times. It is not for the purpose of repeating over and over or as some might say, “To keep beating a dead horse,” but to bring to the remembrance of our pure minds those things which are a hindrance to our spiritual life. It seems that this is the way we are instructed, by repeating it until it eventually sinks in and, if we allow, it will become part of our lives. Let us look seriously at these hindrances and cry out to God for deliverance from them if we find them lurking in the background of our spiritual lives. We are given the opportunity to do this when we partake of the Lord’s Table. “Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body”(1 Cor. 11:28-30, NKJV).

These are some of the things that can dam the stream:

#### 1. Bitterness

“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice”(Eph 4:29-31, NIV). We can unstop the stream by being “kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you”(Eph 4:32, NIV).

#### 2. Unforgiveness

“And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins”(Mark 11:25, NIV).

“Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have

against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity”(Col 3:13-14, NIV).

### 3. Our actions

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful”(Ps 1:1, KJV). We do not start out by walking in the counsel of the ungodly but rather by sitting in the seat of the scornful. To scorn means to reject or be disrespectful. In the context of this verse, to sit in the seat of the scornful may mean that we can accept some things as they pertain to our Christian walk but we cannot accept other things. There is a progression from being scornful to trying to walk with our feet in two paths; the path of the just and the way of the wicked; (Prov. 4:18-19). The lure of the way of the wicked is very strong and the tendency is to begin by sitting in the seat of the scornful. Thank God! There is a better way; “But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night”(Ps. 1:2-3, KJV). Scripture tells us that in the last days perilous times will come; “But you must realise that in the last days the times will be full of danger. Men will become utterly self-centred, greedy for money, full of big words. They will be proud and contemptuous, without any regard for what their parents taught them. They will be utterly lacking in gratitude, purity and normal human affections. They will be men of unscrupulous speech and have no control of themselves. They will be passionate and unprincipled, treacherous, self-willed and conceited, loving all the time what gives them pleasure instead of loving God. They will maintain a facade of “religion”, but their conduct will deny its validity. You must keep clear of people like this”(2 Tim. 3:1-5,

Phillips). We should not be surprised that this is happening in the world. We can see it happening all around us. We can also see it creeping into the church, as the King James Version says; “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.”(3:5). Today we see entertainment is substituted for the anointing and a holy walk is labeled restrictive, just as in the days of the judges when “every man did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 21:25).

Jesus gave us the promise of the Holy Spirit to guide us in our Christian walk.

“These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you”(John 14:25-26, KJV). “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come”(John 16:13, KJV). The Holy Spirit is resident within us to lead and guide us in our Christian life. If we follow His leading we will not go astray. We cannot expect to receive from God if we are living our lives after the ways of the world. God has given us many resources to help us in our Christian walk.

#### 1. Through the scriptures.

“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh”(Gal. 5:16, KJV)

“Live a life filled with love for others, following the example of Christ, who loved you and gave himself as a sacrifice to take away your sins”(Eph. 5:2, NLT).

“But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all

sin”(1 John 1:7, NKJV).

#### 2. Through Godly advice.

“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise”(Prov. 12:15, KJV).

#### 3. Through godly common sense.

Common sense is the ability to make proper choices according to the information that is available. We could also call it godly wisdom. Wisdom is the ability to apply knowledge, experience and understanding to the situation. We can have a great storehouse of knowledge, but unless we can use it properly, it is of little value. “Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding”(Prov. 4:7, NIV). God is the storehouse of wisdom and common sense and it is through Him that we receive wisdom and understanding; “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever”(Ps. 111:10, KJV). If we lack wisdom we can ask God who will give us abundantly from the storehouse of His wisdom so that we can have godly common sense.

“If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him”(James 1:5, NIV).

God pours His blessings into our lives that we in turn may flow out and share those blessings with others.

“Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah” (Ps. 68:19, KJV). “He frees us! He rescues us from death”(Ps. 68:20, TLB).

“Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits-- who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies

your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's" (Ps. 103:2-5, NIV).

We are more than conquerors through Jesus and neither sorrow nor death nor any other thing can stem the flow of God's blessing into our lives (Rom 8:37-39). We can negate these by complaining and feeling sorry for ourselves and thus hinder the flow of God's blessing into our lives. If we turn the blessings inward, nothing will flow out and we will become stagnant pools. If we live our lives after the concepts and counsel of the world we will become stagnant pools.

"The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:19-21, NIV).

If we walk according to the dictates of the Spirit, we will become a fast flowing river of life flowing out to the wilderness around us.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other" (Gal. 5:22-26, NIV).

It is not the fruits of the Spirit, as if these nine segments of the fruit of the Spirit were part of different fruits, but it is one fruit composed of nine different parts. A good example of this would be an orange or grapefruit. The fruit of the Spirit and all its segments will be resident within us if we are walking according to the

dictates of the Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit will be fresh if we don't stop up the stream, but rather let love, joy and peace and the rest of the fruit of the Spirit flow out through us to the world around us.

The very nature of love is meant to flow out to others; if it doesn't, it will become polluted and produce self-centeredness and pride. Love is an action word, which means doing loving things for others. Joy and peace are inward things that affect our lives, but the effect they have on us is contagious, bringing joy and peace to others. Joy and peace are not dependent on circumstance but are produced no matter what the circumstance.

"And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; 4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us" (Rom. 5:3-5, KJV).

The Jordan river, besides bringing living water into the Dead Sea, was also the end of Israel's wandering in the wilderness and was the fulfillment of the promise of entering into the Promised land. It was a type of leaving the old way behind and entering into newness of life. It was the place where Jesus was baptized and it signifies to us of entering into the death of Christ and being raised in newness of life.

"Do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:3-4, NKJV).

It must have been a momentous sight with over two million people standing on the banks of the Jor-

dan looking across the river to the promised land. After forty years of wandering in the wilderness, now at last they could actually see the promise. They were the second generation of those who had started out from Egypt along with some that were born in the wilderness. Their parents had stood at Kadesh-barnea some forty years before and refused to go into the land. God pronounced judgement upon them, declaring that none of that generation would enter into the promised land because of unbelief. Human nature, being what it is, I am sure that as they wandered in the wilderness they must have wondered many times if the promise was true or not. Now at last they could see the promise on the other side of the river, but I am sure there were still some doubts as to whether they would be able to enter into the land. As they stood by the banks of the river, I am sure many thoughts went through their minds. The river was an obstacle before them. It could either hinder them from entering into the promise or, if they went forward, it would become the way for them to enter in. That is often the way it is with us. In the face of obstacles, we get used to the wilderness and are afraid to follow the Lord beyond them. Then the orders came from Joshua, "So Joshua ordered the officers of the people: "Go through the camp and tell the people, 'Get your supplies ready. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the LORD your God is giving you for your own'" (Josh 1:10-11, NIV). I am sure there may have still been some doubts in the people but things were beginning to move. "Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you" (Josh. 3:5, NIV). In the hearts of the people there was great rejoicing for the promise was now tomorrow

instead of sometime. “When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests, who are Levites, carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about a thousand yards between you and the ark; do not go near it” (Josh. 3:3-4, NIV). Then finally the ark of the covenant began to move into the river, which was at flood stage, and a miraculous event took place; the water stopped flowing from the source and the people went through the river on dry land. “So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground” (Josh. 3:14-17, NIV).

Rivers in scripture often speak of the flowing of the Spirit and bringing life to wherever it goes. It flows out from the presence of God to the wilderness and the desert will blossom like a rose (Isa. 35:1-2). “There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells” (Psalms 46:4, NIV). “The Lord says; “Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength and whose heart turns away from

the LORD. He will be like a bush in the wastelands; he will not see prosperity when it comes. He will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives” (Jer. 17:5-6). He who trusts in his own strength and in the arm of flesh will be like a scrub brush in the wilderness. He receives just enough water to keep from dying but not enough to grow and flourish, while the man who trusts in the Lord will be like a tree planted by that flowing river of God whose roots go deep into the soil and he will not be affected by drought or the harsh conditions around it but will prosper no matter what the conditions are. “But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit” (Jer. 17:7-8, NIV).

Praise God! The river is flowing out to the wilderness, bringing life to the parched soul. We don’t need to just stand on the banks of the river but we can get right into the stream. “As the man went eastward with a measuring line in his hand, he measured off a thousand cubits and then led me through water that was ankle-deep. He measured off another thousand cubits and led me through water that was knee-deep. He measured off another thousand and led me through water that was up to the waist. He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river that I could not cross, because the water had risen and was deep enough to swim in—a river that no one could cross” (Ezek. 47:3-5, NIV). In some ways this is an example of the spiritual walk of God’s people. Some just get in the river of blessing ankle-deep while others go on a bit further with water to the knees, some

to the waist, while others get right in the stream with water to swim in. Would it be that all of God’s people would not just splash around in the shallows getting their feet wet, but would launch out into the deep and learn to swim. There are so many of the deep things of God that we can enter into if we are not afraid to push away from the shore and get in the swimming pool of God’s blessing.

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God” (1 Cor. 2:9-10, KJV). The river of God, also called the river of life, has been flowing throughout history even though it has often been obscured, but now in these last days it is being revealed by revelation to those who have spiritual eyes to see what the Spirit is saying and doing in the church today. “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will - to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ” (Eph. 1:3-10,

NIV). Before the foundation of creation, God chose us to be holy and blameless in His sight. He chose us to be conformed to the image of His son (Rom. 8:29) and to be brought to maturity as His sons. He chose them to bring deliverance to creation and to rule and reign with Him (Rev. 5:10, Rev. 20:6, Rev. 22:5). “In my opinion whatever we may have to go through now is less than nothing compared with the magnificent future God has planned for us. The whole creation is on tiptoe to see the wonderful sight of the sons of God coming into their own. The world of creation cannot as yet see reality, not because it chooses to be blind, but because in God’s purpose it has been so limited - yet it has been given hope. And the hope is that in the end the whole of created life will be rescued from the tyranny of change and decay, and have its share in that magnificent liberty which can only belong to the children of God!” (Rom 8:18-21, Phillips). God is bringing forth sons to deliver the creation from change and decay, for wherever the river runs the curse will be removed and new heavens and earth will come forth because the former things are passed away. Everything that can be shaken will be shaken (Heb. 12:27) and out of the ashes of those things that are shaken will come forth that which is eternal which can never be shaken. “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 down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever” (Rev. 22:1-5, NIV).

“They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea” (Isa. 11:9, KJV).

“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest” (Heb. 8:10-11, KJV).

Oh! The glory of God’s plan and purpose. Oh! The magnitude of what shall be. Eye hath not seen neither hath ear heard the things that God has prepared for us who love Him

but He is revealing them to us by the Spirit. Our hearts are heavy many times because of the ravages of sicknesses and the deaths of those who are precious to us and we cry out to the Lord for deliverance. We need to raise the level of the Dead Sea in our lives so that there is a free flowing of the river of life. The river brings life to the wasteland of our lives and though we only see through a glass darkly now, in that glorious day we will see Him face to face. Though now we only know in part, in that day we will know even as we are known. “Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning” (Ps. 30:5). Though we see this age falling apart around us, remember what Jesus said; “When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh” (Luke 21:28, KJV).

Praise God, the river is flowing, wiping away the tears and bringing healing to the nations. The dead seas in our lives are being cleansed, restored and made fresh.

“So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?” (1 Cor. 15:54-55, KJV).

EVEN SO, COME, LORD JESUS.

# The New Wine

*By John Levson and Sajith Matthews*

We have come a time in our history where it seems that the Lord is calling us to press into His presence. In His Holy scriptures we read in Matthew’s gospel 9:17, “We can’t

pour new wine into old wineskins.” He is calling us to yearn for a new wine (spiritual) outpouring from heaven.

We have enjoyed the new wine

that He poured out in North Battleford in 1948, but He is ready and willing to pour out new wine today for us. He desires to raise up a people who have been energized,

enthused and filled with His Spirit and ready to do a work for His kingdom. He is calling a people to yearn for His sweet presence. In John 4:14 we read, "To Him who is thirsty, I will pour water." He wants us to thirst for this new water. Without the infilling of the Holy Spirit, without the Spirit flowing out from and through us, we will largely be working from our strength. This is a finite source and can cause a debilitating self-reliance. But the Lord wants to do a great and mighty work through us by His Spirit. We cannot be drinking old wine and expecting to be strengthened. We need to drink of the New wine that He is pouring out today.

We limit ourselves when we define an outpouring to just revivals. Revivals certainly are outpourings, but outpourings can be defined even more broadly. We can receive this outpouring and be filled with His spirit and walk in His might in our own personal lives, in this present day and in this very hour. Praise God! A few of us can attest to having witnessed genuine revival. Many among us have only heard firsthand accounts of revival. But we don't have to wait for the revivals that are defined as the spectacular, the historic, and the ones that attract the crowds. Let's look for an outpouring that occurs in our personal lives. We know by faith that many have experienced revival in their lives and by the knitting together of the Holy Spirit, we will see God's kingdom here on earth.

We can receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit if we haven't yet received it by asking the Lord to fill us. This is the New Wine! We believe when we begin to drink of the new wine, our thinking and actions begin to change. We realize that the thinking that once fit the old wine no longer fits with the new wine. Instead we replace our thinking to have New wineskins! In such a way,

we have our minds renewed by the Spirit (Romans 12:2).

But we will never see the need to have our thinking, our thought patterns, or our habits change if we are still drinking from the old wine. Instead, we must first drink of the new wine to realize that for us to keep drinking and experience the richness and the fullness of the Spirit, we have to, and must, change. We have to be transformed. Somehow this seems to be the reality of a dynamic life changing experience that comes only by the divine Spirit. He is the only one who is willing to pour out His spirit on whoever is thirsty. Do we not want this, saints of God?

I desire the fresh water. He has been gracious and has poured it abundantly. We can all experience this freshness and newness. For too long we have only dreamt of the reality of walking in the power of the Sons of God. But perhaps the day has come that the dream can turn into a reality. Let us begin to thirst for His new wine and let us begin to drink of this new wine in our own hearts and minds.

It seems to satisfy the deepest need of our soul. It strengthens the inner man. It empowers us. It energizes us. We begin to see possibilities in our God given ministry that we once never imagined. We begin to see the hand and way of God among people to whom we are ministering that we never saw before. "You shall see greater things than that" (John 1:50).

You see, the eyes of the inner man begin to be opened when we begin to drink of the Spirit. Our world begins to change. Though we live in this natural world, there is a spiritual realm that is present, which we can access by the Spirit. It is the natural man that doubts, that is fearful and weak, that is unwilling to seek with expectation for God to move, show miracles, break the chains, empower

the church and heal the sick. How exciting it will be to see all the gifts in full operation! But the spiritual mind is able to see well beyond the darkness. You see, the natural man can only see the eclipse. He can only see the darkness that prevails at this time. But the spiritual man can see well beyond the here and now.

He knows of a day that is coming when this darkness will be replaced with a new day. Praise God! It begins as just a small glimmer, then it seems to disappear. Then that glimmer reappears, but a bit brighter. Then there seems to be a war between the old eclipsing darkness and the newly emerging bright light. Hold on to the glimmer Saints! Soon the light begins to burst forth. The eclipse begins to pass away. Then, in the noon day sun, as we rejoice in the bursting day, the old darkness will have been just a memory; a bad dream. Yet we must be grateful for the despair and dissatisfaction that we feel with the present, without which we will never have been inspired to seek the new, to seek the light, to seek the fresh new wine.

In both, the Lord is sovereign. He is calling us to drink afresh of His new wine. He wants to fill us with His Spirit. Oh dear brothers and sisters, what a grand and glorious day it will be when the people of God will walk this land with the power and might of the Spirit! When His people will be filled with His love and joy and all the fruit of the Spirit and will minister to the church and the world generously. He wants us to give. Freely we have received of His spirit; freely He wants us to minister by His spirit! (Matthew 10:8). We pray this will stir inside our hearts and cause us to continue to hunger after Him. He wants us to be filled! He wants us to know what it means to have the power of His resurrection! Let us believe that He will do this and do this mightily among His saints.

### North Battleford Young People's Camp December 30, 2009 - January 3, 2010

We will begin with the supper meal Wednesday, December 30 and run through until after the noon meal on Sunday, January 3.

Bring your usual things: bedding, towels, personals, warm clothing, musical instruments, bibles, notebooks, skates and hockey gear, gym clothes and footwear.

Baking and similar offerings would be gratefully received. Thank you.

(If the Elders feel to send any financial help from their churches, it will be greatly appreciated.)

This invitation is extended to teenagers, older singles and newly married couples. We would also appreciate voluntary help with duties as required.

Please have someone from your assembly forward names of those hoping to attend.

**Mail to:** Sharon Schools  
c/o New Year's Camp  
Box 878, North Battleford, SK S9A 2Z3  
or email at [globalinc@sasktel.net](mailto:globalinc@sasktel.net)

**Registration Fee:** \$25.00 per person

### Indiana Young People's Meeting December 2009

Sunday evening, December 27 thru Thursday noon, December 31, 2009

Mt. St. Francis Retreat Center, Mt. St. Francis, Indiana, 47146 Phone (812) 923-8817.

**Location** just 10 miles from downtown Louisville, KY. All under one roof, gym, recreation rooms, 400 acres of woods and hills to hike on.

**HOW TO GET THERE:**

**From West:** (St. Louis, etc.) 1-64 East to US 1-50 West, go 2 miles on US 1-50 to the 3rd stop light, the center is on the left. **From North:** 1-65 South to 1-265 West 10 miles to US 1-50 exit, 2 miles on US 1-50 to the 3rd stop light, the center is on the left.

**From South and East:** 1-64 West across the Ohio River to US 1-50 West, go 2 miles on US 1-50 to the 3rd stop light, the center is on the left.

Come one and all, bring your friends and let's have a great time learning and sharing together.

**BRING:** Bibles, notebooks, pens, pencils and personals.

**CONTACT:** Bob Wood, 7 N 933 Pharlap Dr., St. Charles, IL 60175

**PHONE:** 630-513-6642 or email [sandrakwood@aol.com](mailto:sandrakwood@aol.com)

**COST:** Adults \$65, Teens \$54 (11-17) Children \$32 (2-10)

### IMPORTANT DATES

Hidden Acres (Ontario) Family Camp..... September 4 - 7, 2009

Winkler (Manitoba) Family Camp ..... September 4 - 7, 2009

Park Valley Young People's Camp ..... September 4 - 7, 2009

Nebraska Meetings..... September 25 - 27, 2009

New York/New Jersey Camp..... October 2 - 4, 2009

Pinelaw (Spokane) Family Camp ..... November 6 - 9, 2009

North Battleford Young People's Camp ..... Dec. 30, 2009 - Jan. 3, 2010

Indiana Young People's Camp ..... Dec. 27 - 31, 2009

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### CALLED HOME

**Ludwig (Louie) Schalm**  
(Elder)

June 18, 2009

Bapaume, SK

**Virginia Smither**

July 13, 2009

Winston-Salem, NC

RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO:  
**Sharon Children's Homes and Schools**  
Box 878, North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada, S9A 2Z3

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