

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
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November 25, 2025, to November 30, 2025

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Theme Unit: Judah, from Isaiah to the Exile

Unit III: Ezekiel and the Exile of Judah

Subject: Hope Floats! (Doubt Sinks)!

Printed Text: Ezekiel 47: 1-9, 12

Key verse:

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 (Ezekiel 47: 12 KJV).

Lesson Pointers:

- 1) The Source of Living Waters (Ezekiel 47: 1-2)
- 2) The Deepening Journey (Ezekiel 47: 3-6)
- 3) The Promise of Restoration (Ezekiel 47: 7-9, 12)

Introduction:

Now do understand that there are effects of environmental injustice, health disparities, and spiritual drought that impacts African American neighborhoods. Many would say that the black American behavior is due to their environment; but this is not so, black Americans have seen again, and again vibrant areas that once flourish decline, and become dried-up streams in parched land. But just like our ancestors we too found strength, and hope in the waters of baptism, and we drew courage from the old black hymns like “Wade in the Water.” So when we think of Ezekiel’s vision of healing waters flowing from the temple of GOD’S it speaks powerfully to our contemporary experience or encounters. Ezekiel prophecy gives us a glimpse of GOD’S promise of restoration, not only for individuals, but for the entire communities. This vision of Ezekiel’s helps us to connect to our modern day struggle for spiritual renewal, environmental justice, and community healing, which offers hope and direction for those seeking to be agents of GOD’S restorative work in this world.

Lesson Pointer # 1

- The Source of Living Waters (Ezekiel 47: 1-2)

Ezekiel’s vision opens up with Ezekiel returns to the temple entrance, where Ezekiel witnesses water flowing from beneath the threshold of GOD’S house toward the east. Ezekiel positioning shows a deep spiritual significance in understanding GOD’S purpose for renewal. Noting that the waters came from below the temple’s right side, which shows strength, and favor in the Hebrew culture, suggesting that GOD’S blessing is divine initiative, and shows how the water running down from the right side of the house, and south of the altar, is the connection between worship, sacrifice, and spiritual renewal (Ezekiel 47: 1). Ezekiel said that HE (GOD) brought him out of the way of the gate northward, and led him about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looketh eastward; and, behold, there ran out waters on the right side (47: 2). Now this shows how GOD moves from the place of worship into the broader world, shows how the churches can serve as conduits of divine grace for the surrounding communities. Jesus Christ the source of Living Water;

John 4: 14 says, “But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst: but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”

Lesson Pointer # 2

- **The Deepening Journey (Ezekiel 47: 3-6)**

Now Ezekiel was led by a divine presence (GOD) eastward, and with a measuring line in hand, the guide marked off a distance of a thousand cubits, which introduce Ezekiel to encounter ankle deep water (Ezekiel 47: 3). Now, Ezekiel, was led by the Spirit into knee deep water, which signifies a commitment that requires more from the individual; and highlights the transition from participation to a profound submission to GOD’S greater purposes for HIS called prophet or pastor, and teacher. It require a deeper faith and trust that goes beyond the surface (Ezekiel 47: 4). Now Ezekiel is led to waters that transforms into a river that is far too deep to cross by walking; this requires complete reliance on GOD’S sustaining power and grace. This shows grace that moves beyond personal capabilities into a realm of divine abundance; simply, put, this river you cannot cross on your own, you need divine help, GOD’S grace (Ezekiel 47: 5-6). The deepening journey is a journey that we cannot bear to travel on our own, it is a journey of faith and trust in Jesus Christ that will bring us through to the other side. You must have faith and trust in GOD.

Hope Floats! (Doubt Sinks)!

- **The Promise of Restoration (Ezekiel 47: 7-9, 12)**

Ezekiel saw the abundance of trees lining on both banks of the river, which is a powerful image of flourishing life in Jesus Christ (Ezekiel 47: 7). The Spirit of god said to Ezekiel, these waters that issues out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the Dead Sea: When the waters empties into the sea, the waters shall be healed; simply, saying, salt water will become fresh (Ezekiel 47: 8). And the Spirit of GOD said to Ezekiel, that it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, 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 (Ezekiel 47: 9). Whither the river flows speaks to GOD’S power to bring life into a hopeless situation. The Spirit of GOD said to Ezekiel, by the river beside the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, according to his months (seasons), because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine (Ezekiel 47: 12). Here the metaphor represents the supernatural abundance, and the healing properties of the leaves tells us of GOD’S provision for both sustenance and healing. Now, do note that the water that flows from the sanctuary reinforces the connection between divine presence and lasting transformation.

Hope Floats! (Doubt Sinks)!

Nuggets of the Lesson:

- 1) **The Source of Living Waters comes from Jesus Christ; John 4: 14 says, “But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst: but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”**
- 2) **Having an encounter with Jesus Christ strengthens our of faith and trust for the Journey.**
- 3) **GOD is our provision for both sustenance and healing.**
- 4) **Trust and Obey for there is no other way, to be happy in Jesus, but to Trust and Obey.**