



Pastor's Comments

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Why Rivers?

Jesus promised “rivers of living water” to the “**thirsty!**” John 7:37-39 says He was speaking of the Holy Spirit given at Pentecost (Acts 2). **Why** would “rivers” be given? He gives “rivers of living water” to not only **abundantly satisfy** our spiritual thirst, but also to **give us the sufficient capability** to fulfill His command to “preach the gospel” to everyone (Mark 16:15). It is through the baptism of the Holy Spirit that believers are given:

- **Power and boldness to witness**, “But ye shall receive **power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be **witnesses** unto me...unto the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). “They were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with **boldness**” (Acts 4:31).

- **Enablement to live a pure life** filled with godly character as a persuasive testimony to the world of the reality of Christ (Matt. 5:16, Phil. 2:15), “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance” (Gal. 5:22-25).

- **Supernatural gifts to minister to needs** of those in the church and others: “But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man...word of wisdom...word of knowledge...faith...gifts of healing...working of miracles...prophecy...discerning of spirits...divers kinds of tongues...interpretation of tongues” (1 Cor. 12:7-11).

Read more about these “rivers of living water” on our website. See “**Thirsty?**” at: www.NAOG.ws

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