

The River of God – Week 6

The River of God in the Book of
Revelation

The River in Revelation

[A] THE RIVER'S FLOW FROM ETERNITY TO ETERNITY

- **From eternity** – John 15:26: Spirit proceeds from the Father. This is the way God is.
- ‘and from the Son’ – Nicene Creed (western)
- **Into creation** – Genesis 1:2
- spiritual reality reflected concretely in Eden
- Earthly reflects the pattern of the heavenly (Heb 8:5)
- **Throughout OT and NT** – recap on weeks 1-5

The River in Revelation

[B] RIVER'S FLOW IN ETERNITY TO COME

- links with Gen 2: river; tree of life; bride/ groom.
- City – Gen 1:28 fulfilled; links with Psalms
- Links with John 4 and 7 – Rev 21:6; 22:17
- Links with Ezekiel 47
- Fulfilment/ consummation of OT and NT
- River of the Spirit: Trinitarian reference along with God=Father and the Lamb=Son

The River in Revelation

(a) Source. The Throne of God and the Lamb

- River from the temple? 21:22. Yes!
- From the throne – in OT: the Holy of Holies; ark=throne or footstool (throne in heaven)
- The Lamb – gospel in this name. Rev 5:6, 9f
- Connection between Cross and Pentecost

(b) Oneness of the River. 1 Cor 12:12f

- Implications for us today

The River in Revelation

[C] EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RIVER

(a) Produces Edenic Abundance (v 2)

- Imagery from Genesis 2 and Ezekiel 47
- Greater abundance from one tree – T of Life
- Continual harvest – abundant life. New Eden
- Healing and wholeness. Allusion to Ezek 47
- No longer just Judah. The nations
- Fulfilment of creation; and Abrahamic Covt.
- Healing comes from the slain Lamb

The River in Revelation

(b) Removes Any Trace of God's Curse Forever (v 3)

- Because curse is removed abundance is given
- Curse - Genesis 3:17f; borne by Lamb – crown of thorns
- No 'tree of knowledge of good and evil'
- Creation is healed (as Judah in Ezek 47)
- Humanity will work, as God works
- But no toil, pain
- In Christ more blessings than in Adam