

## 8-26-2026 – WACKY WORSHIP – Flowing Rivers

Things we see to remind us of God. We **need** reminders!

Rivers around us . . . places to swim, go tubing, boating, fishing.

After tonight, hope seeing a River will be a reminder.

Notable rivers:

1 - **Nile** River. Longest in world. Flows N thru Africa into Mediterranean Sea

2 - The **Red** River: Flows from Minnesota & N.Dakota into Canada.

**3 - St. Johns** River: 3 mi wide at 1 pt; flows **310 mi**. Starts at Blue Cypress Lake in Indian River Cnty., FL, just W. of Vero Beach. Ends when it empties into the Atlantic Ocean in Duval County just E. of Jacksonville

**Common? Flow N.**

**Jump in. Cool off; quinch thirst.**

**Also common - all have a thirst in life.** . . to be loved. To be known, remembered . . . to do something that matters . . . be important.

- That **thirst** is **quenched** only in **Jesus**. [Jesus & Samaritan Woman](#):
  - **John 4:13-15** - Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. **14 But whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a fount of water springing up to eternal life.** **15** The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water so that I will not get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”
- Woman was speaking of the **physical**, but Jesus spoke of the **Spiritual**.
  - **Jesus fully satisfies the deepest need of the human soul.**
  - **In Him** we’re fully known, fully loved . . . we matter.
    - **Thru Jesus, we’re reconciled** with God. Peace. Content.

**1 - Receiving Jesus** means we have a constant spiritual source in our lives.

- **That Source reminds us** of purpose. Life has meaning. We matter. Have an eternal home & a destination.
- **No need** to continue searching for salvation, meaning, or purpose apart from Him – it's all found in Jesus.

**2 - "Spring" or "fount" doesn't sit still; it bubbles up & moves continuously.**

- a. That **spring represents the Holy Spirit** who lives in us.
- b. H.S. is active; constantly at work in us.

**2 - The Fount doesn't run dry.**

**God's promise – Isaiah 58:11** – *"The LORD will always guide you and provide good things to eat when you are in the desert. He will make you healthy. You will be like a garden that has plenty of water or like a stream that never runs dry."*

- a. Just like the rivers continue to flow, Jesus' love never runs dry.
- b. His grace & mercy cannot be exhausted. Patience is unending.
- c. **"Fount"** comes from the **Latin word *fons***, which means a **spring or well**.
  - a. The **fount** doesn't run dry b/c it's connected to the **person** who gives **everlasting life**. The **spring** is connected to **eternity**.

**4 - Jesus offers us Living Water.**

**John 7:37-38** – "On the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood up and called out in a loud voice, 'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.

**38** Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said: 'Streams of living water will flow from within him.'"

- a. Streams of living water will **flow from believers** . . .
- b. Flows into us . . . flows from us.

**Eccl. 1:7** - “All the rivers flow into the sea, yet the sea is never full; to the place from which the streams come, there again they flow.”

- c. **Living water is moving, alive** with oxygen.
- d. **Stagnant** water has stopped flowing . . . lost oxygen . . . it becomes contaminated w/ harmful bacteria.
- e. **Question** is – is the **spring** that feeds your **soul alive? Stagnant?**

If the answer is not alive . . . the solution is in desire.

What do you want? **If you want to be alive . . . go to the river.**

**Psalm 42:1-2 - NIV** – “As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. . . .”

- A **deer** living in a dry land desperately searches for water because it **cannot survive** without it.

**5 - Jesus is the living water for us b/c we cannot survive without Him.**

- We can't spend eternity in Heaven w/o Him.
- Image of a **deer panting** for water **portrays more** than **casual desire**.
  - B/c Jesus is the living water for us, we ought to be more/casual.
  - A **deer** doesn't just **drink once**. Every day. Many times /day.
    - We need the same. . . be replenished spiritually, over & over.

**Closing:**

- We can't spend **eternity** in love & peace w/o Jesus . . . & we can't live a full & **abundant life** now w/o Jesus.
- He is our **Endless spiritual satisfaction** . . . **Jesus cures the soul's thirst**.
  - The way we love /work/ serve – all begins with a desire for God. . . for Him to guide us as Shepherd... to “lead us beside quiet waters; He restores my soul.”
- Every river has a starting point . . . Jesus is where we start.
  - We love others thru Him . . . b/c He loved us first.