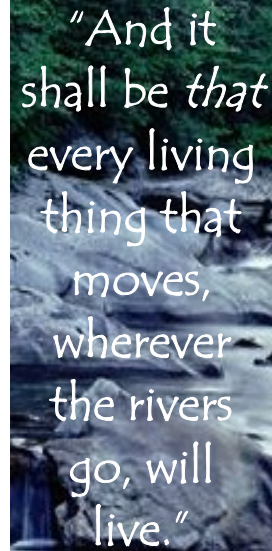




Thru the Scriptures 2006-08



Ezekiel 47:9a

Ezekiel 40-48

June 5th-11th, 2008

If you have questions during the week, please drop us an e-mail at jim@calvaryroswell.com or phil@calvaryroswell.com

For a digital form of this booklet, an mp3 version of the teaching and/or powerpoint slides from the teaching, visit our website at <http://www.calvaryroswell.com/biblestudies/index.htm>

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction,
for instruction in righteousness,
that the man of God may be complete,
thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Ti 3:16-17)

Ezekiel-

Here we must leave Ezekiel. His message will live on with us. Jerusalem has failed, and lies weeping in the dust; but Jerusalem's God drives on through the ages to the predestined consummation. He will not rest until the *new* Jerusalem becomes the queen city of a new order, inscribed with *JEHOVAH-SHAMMAH*—“The Lord is there.” The ravages of sin are still round us; but we have heard the chariot-wheels of God: we have seen a rainbow round about the throne: we have caught the vision of a temple and city which are yet to be. He has opened our eyes to His magnificent purpose, and we “rejoice in hope of the glory of God”!

Oh, blessed hope! with this elate,
Let not our hearts be desolate;
But, strong in faith, in patience wait
Until *HE* come!

Explore the Book, J.Sidlow Baxter (1960)

Helpful Study Links:

Additional Commentary: (Great Resource!)

<http://preceptaustin.org/hebrews.htm>

Sermon Links:

“Taught That We May Teach” by C. H Spurgeon

<http://spurgeongems.org/vols25-27/chs1578.pdf>

“Holiness, the Law of God's House” by C. H Spurgeon

<http://www.recoverthegospel.com/Old%20Recover%20the%20Gospel%20Site/Spurgeon/Spurgeon%201001-2000/1618.pdf>

Commentary:

The commentary used with permission throughout this
booklet is

With the Word Bible Commentary

by Warren W. Wiersbe.

ISBN 0-8407-9108-9

Daily Bible Study

Thursday, June 5th, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 40-41

Questions to Ponder

1. Why did God give Ezekiel the vision of the coming temple?
2. Some people contend that the temple is purely an allegory. What clues in the text show us that this is to be taken as literal? Think about how these chapters apply to us. What does God want us to see?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 40-43

The city of Jerusalem and the temple had been destroyed, the land had been taken over by the Babylonians, and the people had been scattered or exiled. It was not a time of good news. But Ezekiel did what God's people always must do in times of trial: he looked ahead to the glorious future God had planned. One day the scattered people would be regathered and the defiled people cleansed. The land would be restored to beauty and fruitfulness, and there would be a new city, a new temple, and a new priesthood serving the Lord in holiness.

This vision of a glorious land and temple was to be declared to the people (40:4) so that they would repent of their sins (43:10). We today do not understand the significance of all these details; however, Israel will understand them in that day, and their understanding will bring about a change in their lives.

The assurance of a glorious future helps to sustain God's people during the trials of life (John 17:22-24; 1 Pet. 1:1-9). It should also be a stimulus to holy living. (The word *holy* is used thirty-five times in chaps. 41-48.) For Christians, heaven is not simply a *destination*; it is a *motivation*. It should make a difference in your life today because you know you are going to heaven. Does it?

The temple will be a place of sacrifice and singing and a place where *God's glory will dwell* (43:1-5). Ezekiel had described how the glory left the old temple (11:22-23), and now he describes how the glory returns and fills the house (43:1-5; 44:4). The beauty and grandeur of the temple mean nothing if God is not present.

Today, the bodies of God's people are His temple (1 Cor. 6:19-20), and so is His church (Eph. 2:19-22). Just as God has a beautiful plan for His future temple in Jerusalem, so He has a plan for His people individually (Eph. 2:10) and His church collectively. We are to be a holy temple, dedicated to Him alone; we are to radiate the glory of God

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary*
(Eze 40:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

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Daily Bible Study

Friday, June 6th, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 42

Questions to Ponder

1. What insights does this chapter give us about the priests who will serve in the future temple?
2. What special instructions are given concerning the priestly garments? How could this apply to you and me? Consider the dimensions of the temple complex. What is their significance?

With the word Bible Commentary

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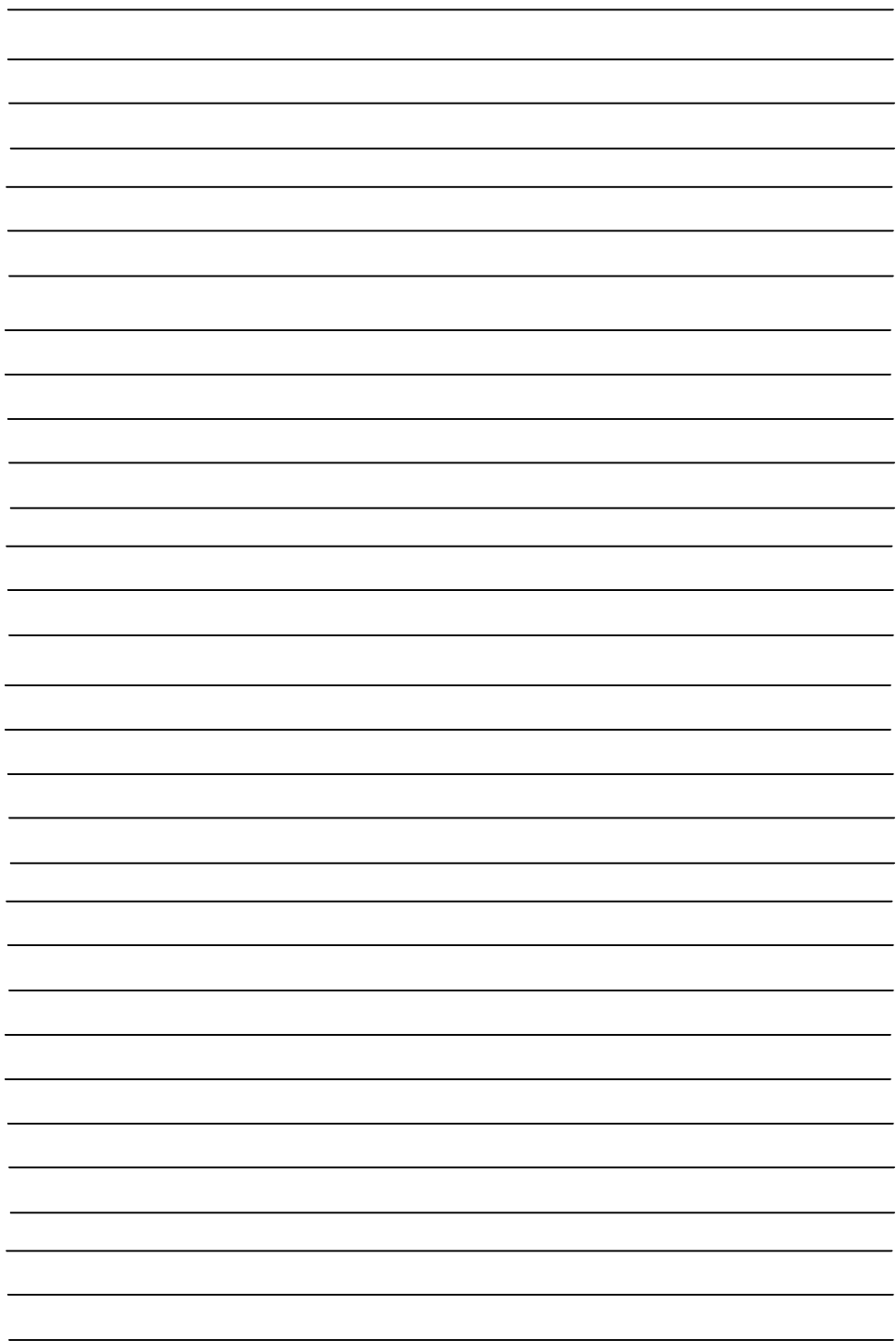
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Daily Bible Study

Saturday, June 7th, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 43

Questions to Ponder

1. What is the key principle in this chapter? Why is it so significant?
2. Why did God want Ezekiel to describe the temple to the house of Israel?
3. In light of Christ's fulfillment of the law, why do you think sacrifices are prescribed? (See also Hebrews 10:1-18)

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 40-43

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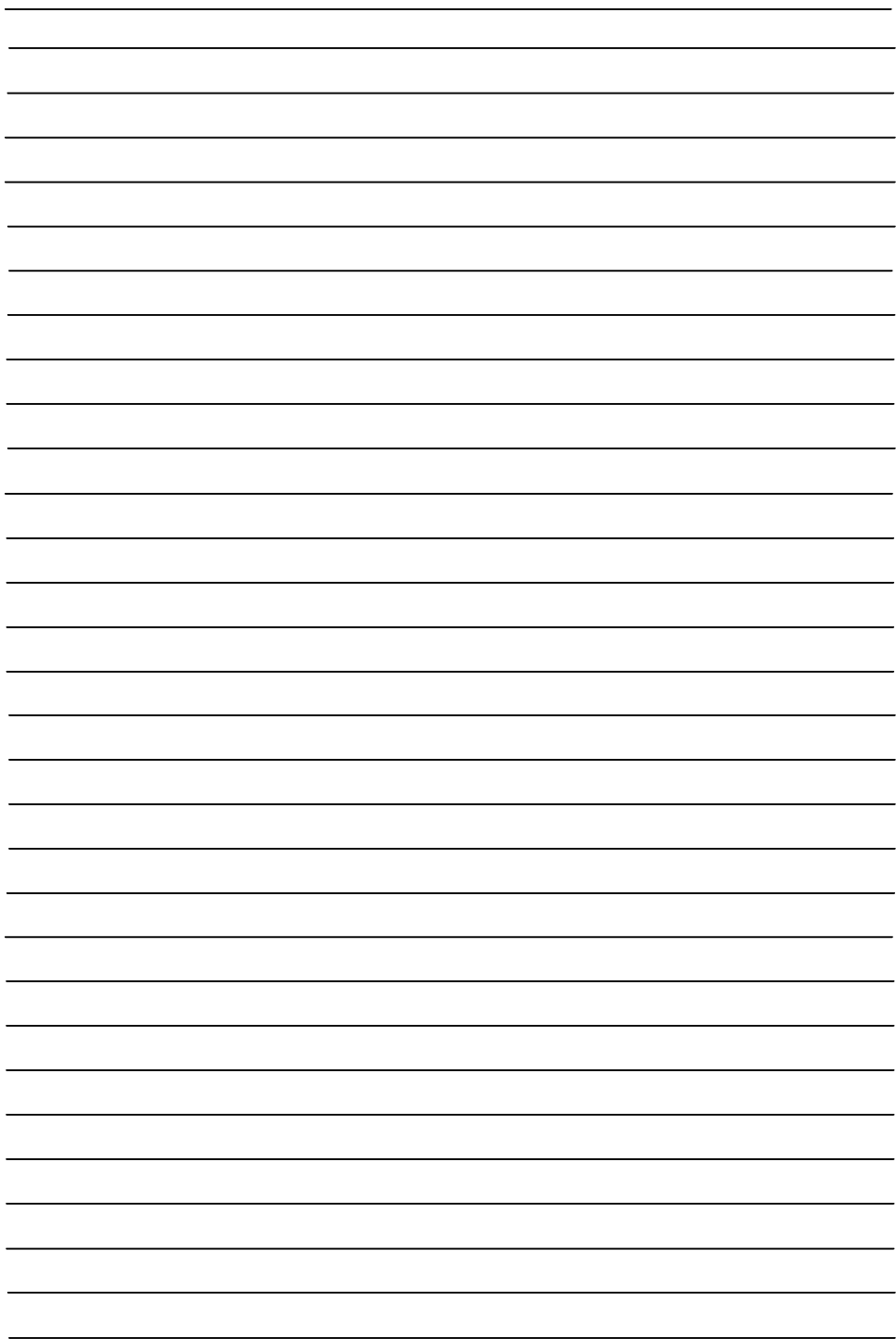
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(Eze 40:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



Daily Bible Study

Sunday, June 8th, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 44

Questions to Ponder

1. The Levites lost the privilege to minister near to God. Why? What consequences are given for their unfaithful service? What are the important qualifications given for those who will serve the Lord?
2. Note that the eastern gate was shut. Why? What does this teach us about the Lord?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 44-46

Somebody must serve in the new temple, so God gave Ezekiel instructions concerning the Levites and priests and the manner of worship He wanted. Note the emphasis on the word *My*: My sanctuary, My food, My covenant, My holy things, My table, and so on. One reason the temple was destroyed is that the priests and Levites forgot it was the house of God, and they did in it whatever they pleased.

What a privilege it is to minister for the Lord! You wonder why people would want to give their privileges to others, especially men who were not qualified (44:4–9). Never lose the wonder of belonging to God and being asked to serve Him (Mal. 1:6–2:9). Such an attitude always leads to sin.

Unfaithfulness in service can lead to loss of privileges (44:10–14), but faithfulness can mean being able to draw near to serve the Lord (44:15ff.). The priests had to be careful what they wore, what they ate and drank and how they looked. How could they teach the people to have discernment (44:23) if they did not practice discernment?

The prince will worship only at the threshold of the gate and the people only at the entrance (46:2–3), but we have the great privilege today of entering into the presence of God (Heb. 10:19–25). However, like the prince, we should not return from worship as we came; things should be different because we have met with the Lord (46:9). And we must not forget the daily burnt offering (46:13; Rom. 12:1–2).

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Daily Bible Study

Monday, June 9th, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 45

Questions to Ponder

1. What is the significance of setting apart a holy district of the land for the Lord? What applications can we draw from this?
2. What was God's complaint concerning the leaders of Israel? What does God require? What feasts are prescribed in chapter 45? Why do you think certain other feasts are not mentioned here?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 44-46

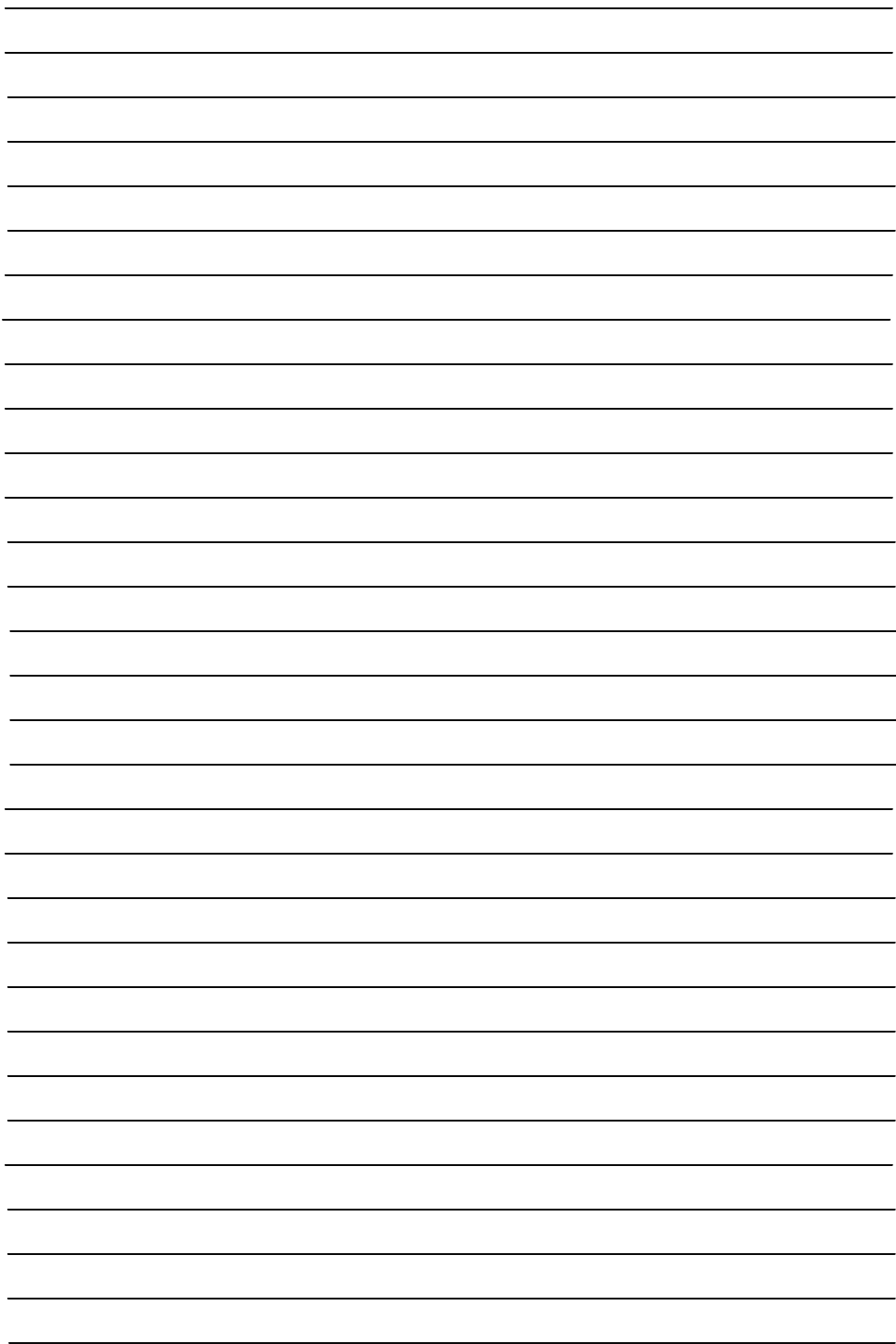
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Daily Bible Study

Tuesday, June 10th, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 46

Questions to Ponder

1. Try to picture the worship that takes place in this chapter. What things are specifically pointed out? Why is this significant?
2. What order do they take place in? Why?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 44-46

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Daily Bible Study

Wednesday, June 11th, 2008

Passage for today: Ezekiel 47-48

Questions to Ponder

1. As you consider this river, how does it resemble the River of the Holy Spirit promised by Jesus in John 7? What kind of impact does it bring? What is significant about its stages of depth? What is the application for us?
2. What is the final description that Ezekiel leaves us with concerning this city? Why is this vital for Ezekiel's hearers? How would this encourage them? How does it apply to us?

With the word Bible Commentary

Ezekiel 47-48

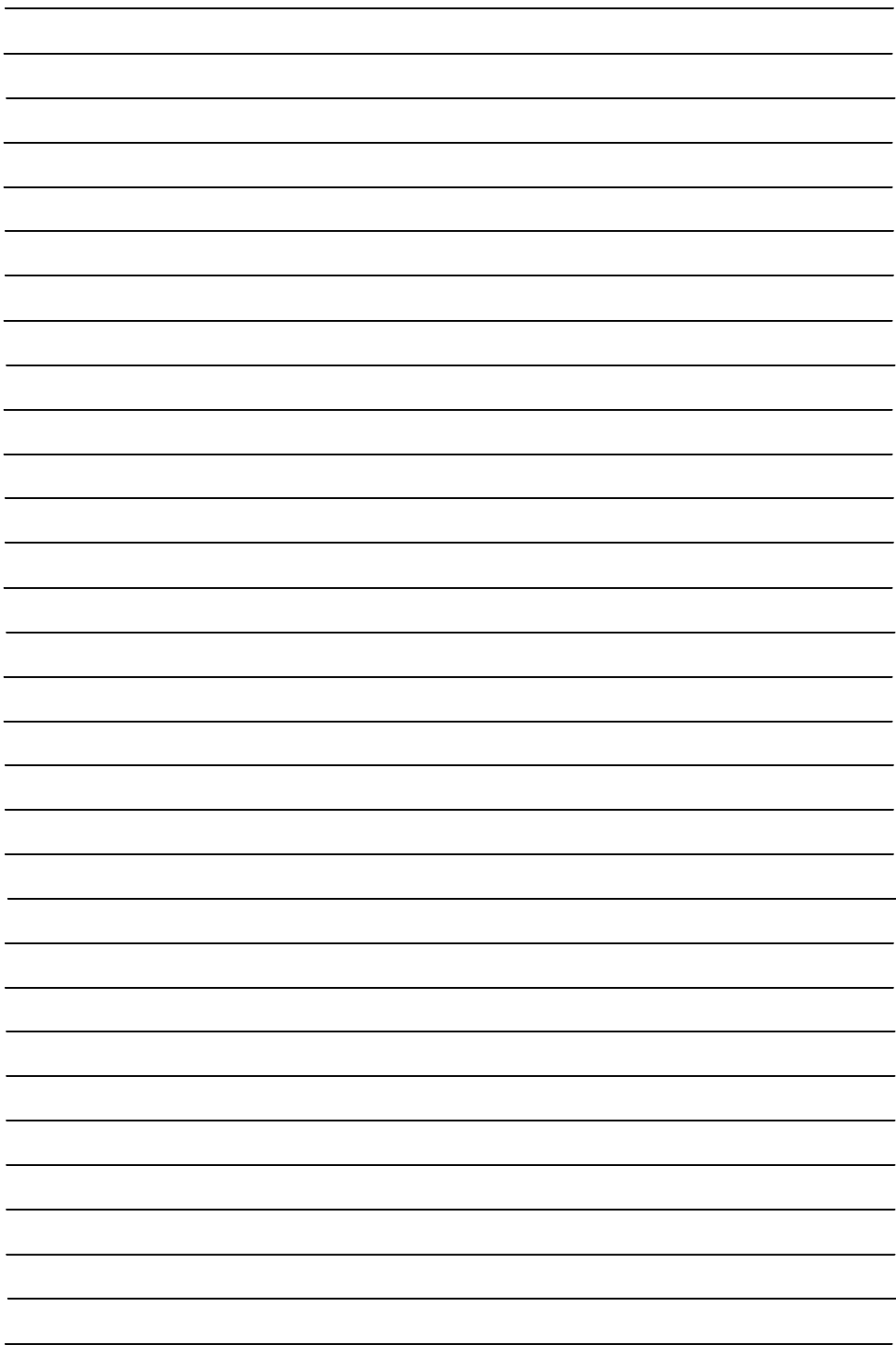
Depths (47:1–12). This river speaks of the healing and life-giving power of the Holy Spirit of God (cf. John 7:37–39; Zech. 14:8). No matter how deep you want to go into the things of God, the opportunity is there. It's tragic that too many linger in the shallows when they could be enjoying the depths.

Dimensions (47:13–48:34). God assigns our inheritance (Ps. 47:4), and He will keep His promise to Abraham (Gen. 13:14–17; 15:17–21) and give Israel their land.

Distinction (48:35). The important thing about the land is not the river or the borders but the glorious presence of God. The new name for the city of Jerusalem will be *Jehovah-Shammah*—"the Lord is there!" The Lord had departed from Jerusalem because of the sins of the people, but He will return to dwell with them and bless them. When you are discouraged about the way things are going on earth, lift your eyes to heaven by pondering Revelation 21:1–8.

Just think of it: we shall live forever *where the Lord is!* Are you looking by faith for that future city (Heb. 11:13–16)?

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). With the word Bible commentary (Eze 47:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson



Overall Outline

I. Ezekiel called to serve God (1-3)

II. The Condemnation of Judah (4–24)

1. A disobedient nation (4–7)
2. A departed glory (8–11)
3. A disciplined nation (12–24)

III. The Condemnation of the Gentile Nations (25–32)

IV. The Restoration of Israel (33–48)

1. Return of Israel to the land (33–39)

2. Restoration of Israel in the Kingdom (40-48) ← *This Weeks Study*

This Week's Outline

2. Restoration of Israel in the Kingdom (40-48)

- A. The Plan of the New Temple (40-42)
- B. Regulations for the New Temple (43- 44)
- C. The Holy District in the Land (45:1-8)
- D. Regulations for Offerings (45:9-46:24)
- E. A Life-giving River (47:1-12)
- F. Boundaries and Allotment of the Land (47:13-48:29)
- G. The City Gate (48:30-35)

“And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live.”

Ezekiel 47:9

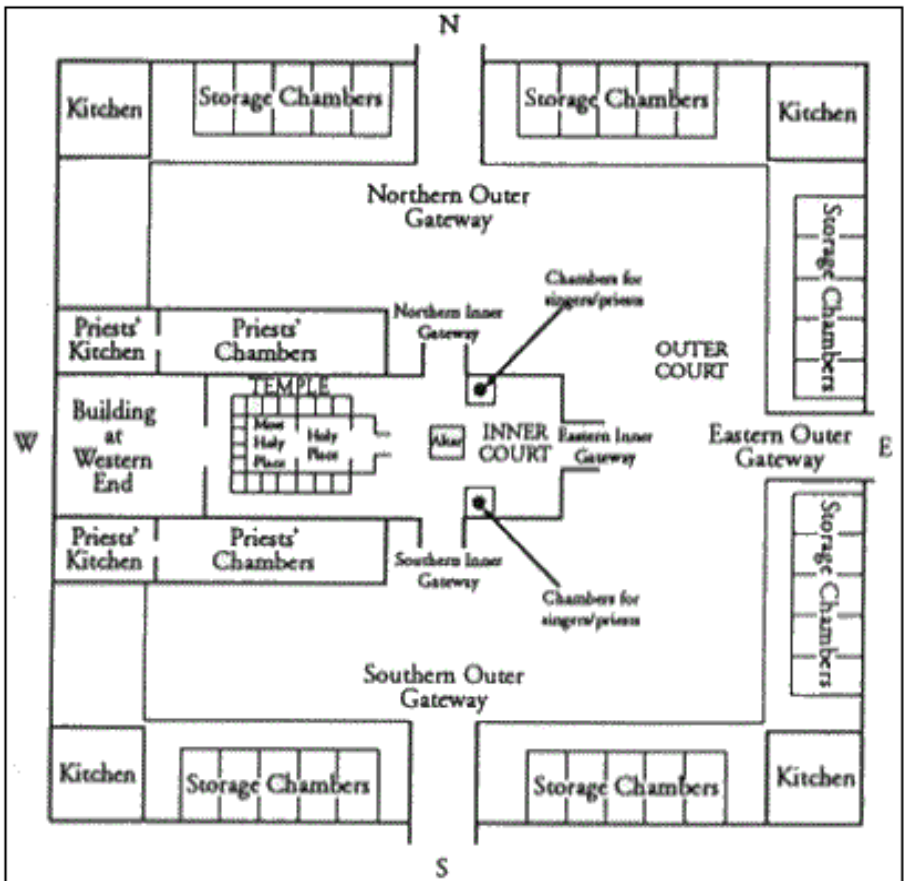
Devotional From *Faith's Checkbook*

By C H Spurgeon

The living waters, in the prophet's vision, flowed into the Dead Sea and carried life with them, even into that stagnant lake. Where grace goes, spiritual life is the immediate and the everlasting consequence. Grace proceeds sovereignly according to the will of God, even as a river in all its windings follows its own sweet will; and wherever it comes it does not wait for life to come to it, but it creates life by its own quickening flow. Oh, that it would pour along our streets and flood our slums! Oh, that it would now come into my house and rise till every chamber were made to swim with it! Lord, let the living water flow to my family and my friends, and let it not pass me by. I hope I have drunk of it already; but I desire to bathe in it, yea, to swim in it. O my Savior, I need life more abundantly. Come to me, I pray Thee, till every part of my nature is vividly energetic and intensely active. Living God, I pray Thee, fill me with Thine own life. I am a poor, dry stick; come and make me so to live that, like Aaron's rod, I may bud and blossom and bring forth fruit unto Thy glory. Quicken me, for the sake of my Lord Jesus. Amen.

Ezekiel's Temple

Chapter 40 presents a detailed plan for a new temple complex in Jerusalem. Some interpret this prophecy as an exact blueprint of a physical temple to be constructed in or near Jerusalem during a future millennial (thousand-year) period. Others view Ezekiel's restored temple not as a blueprint, but as a vision that stresses the purity and spiritual vitality of the ideal place of worship and those who will worship there. Thus, it is not intended to refer to an earthly, physical fulfillment, but expresses the truth found in the name of the new city: THE LORD IS THERE (48:35).



Thomas Nelson Publishers: *Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps & Charts : Old and New Testaments*. Rev. and updated ed. Nashville, Tenn. : Thomas Nelson, 1996

“THE LORD IS THERE”

Ezekiel 48:35

Jehovah = “The existing One”, YHWH = “I AM”

Sam or Shammah = “There”, “The Place Where”

Is there any greater thing to say of a city—“THE LORD IS THERE”? The city could have been called River of Life or Fountainhead of Healing Waters. It could have been named Bountiful Arbor or Luscious Orchard. It could have been named Most Holy Abode or Dwelling of the Servants of God. This marvelous and holy place could have been named after any of its wonderful features. But the Lord Himself has said that it will be named THE LORD IS THERE.

Think of it for a moment—God will dwell with man. If people could make a pilgrimage today to a place where the Lord truly dwelt, we would think there would be a mass journey taking place to His city (or maybe not?). In fact, many today make pilgrimages to Jerusalem, Rome, Mecca or other supposed dwelling places of God seeking to meet with God or receive a blessing from being in a geographical location. But God is not contained by any region or city or building. In the days to come that are written of here at the end of Ezekiel’s book of prophesy, there truly will be a city where the throne of the Lord will be and where the soles of His feet will rest among the children of Israel forever (Ezek. 43:7).

What is the significance of such a name for this city of God? Israel had rebelled and turned cold toward the Lord; as a result, the glory of the Lord had left their city (Ezekiel 11). The glory that once filled the place where the Lord chose His name to dwell – Jerusalem – is now, at this moment today even, gone. Their sin caused them to lose the most valuable and blessed thing in the entire universe – God’s presence. But here, we find that the Lord indeed has plans to dwell with His people once again. He will give them new hearts to follow Him and He will provoke holiness among them. He will dwell in their midst.

As Christians, we are the Temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19). God dwells in us. From one looking in on our lives, could it also be said of us, THE LORD IS THERE? Today, if you are a new creation in Christ, the Lord is in you! He is present. Your sin has been washed away and now He has made His home in You (John 15; 1 John). It is most certainly true of you that “the Lord is there” in you. Are you living in the

[illegible]