

# Message Ten

## Drinking and Flowing the Water of Life in Resurrection

AY Hymns 811, 1198

Scripture Reading: Exo. 17:6; Num. 20:8; Psa. 46:4; 1 Cor. 12:13;  
John 4:10, 14, 24; 7:37-39; 19:34; 1 Cor. 10:4; Rev. 21:6; 22:1, 17

Exo 17:6	I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.
Num 20:8	Take the rod, and gather the assembly, you and Aaron your brother, and speak to the rock before their eyes, so that it yields its water. Thus you shall bring forth water for them out of the rock and give the assembly and their livestock something to drink.
Psa 46:4	There is a river whose streams gladden the city of God, / The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.
1 Cor 12:13	For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.
John 4:10	Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.
John 4:14	But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water springing up into eternal life.
John 4:24	God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.
John 7:37	Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.
John 7:38	He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.
John 7:39	But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
John 19:34	But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water.
1 Cor 10:4	And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.
Rev 21:6	And He said to me, They have come to pass. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give to him who thirsts from the spring of the water of life freely.
Rev 22:1	And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.
Rev 22:17	And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.

### **I. God's intention in His economy is to be the fountain, the source, of living waters to satisfy His chosen people for their enjoyment, with the goal of producing the church as God's increase, God's enlargement, to be God's fullness for His expression; the kernel of the divine revelation is that God created us and redeemed us for the purpose of working Himself into us to be our life and our everything— Jer. 2:13; Lam. 3:22-24; 1 Cor. 1:9:**

- Jer 2:13      For My people have committed two evils: / They have forsaken Me, / The fountain of living waters, / To hew out for themselves cisterns, / Broken cisterns, / Which hold no water.
- Lam 3:22      It is Jehovah's lovingkindness that we are not consumed, / For His compassions do not fail;
- Lam 3:23      They are new every morning; / Great is Your faithfulness.
- Lam 3:24      Jehovah is my portion, says my soul; / Therefore I hope in Him.
- 1 Cor 1:9      God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- A.    John 4:14b reveals a flowing Triune God—the Father is the fountain, the Son is the spring, and the Spirit is the flowing river, issuing in the totality of the eternal life, the New Jerusalem.
- John 4:14b      ... but the water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water springing up into eternal life.
- B.    The entire Triune God was involved in the water flowing out of the smitten rock for God's people to drink—God [the Father] was standing upon the rock, the rock was Christ [the Son], and the living water coming out of the rock signifies the drinkable and outflowing Spirit as the ultimate issue of the Triune God—Exo. 17:6; 1 Cor. 10:4; John 7:37-39.
- Exo 17:6      I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

- 1 Cor 10:4      And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.
- John 7:37      Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.
- John 7:38      He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.
- John 7:39      But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

C. Our drinking of the one Spirit in resurrection makes us members of the Body, builds us up as the Body, and prepares us to be the bride of Christ—1 Cor. 12:13; Rev. 22:17.

- 1 Cor 12:13      For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.
- Rev 22:17      And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.

## II. The striking of the rock is a clear, complete, and full picture of Christ's crucifixion—Exo. 17:6:

- Exo 17:6      I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.
- A. In this type, Moses signifies the law, and the staff represents the power and authority of the law.
- B. Hence, the striking of the rock by Moses' staff signifies that Christ was put to death on the cross by the authority of God's law—cf. Gal. 2:19-20a; 3:13.
- Gal 2:19      For I through law have died to law that I might live to God.
- Gal 2:20a      I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; ...
- Gal 3:13      Christ has redeemed us out of the curse of the law, having become a curse on our behalf; because it is written, "Cursed is everyone hanging on a tree";

## III. Christ as the living, spiritual rock was smitten by the authority of God's law so that the water of life in resurrection could flow out of Him and into His redeemed people for them to drink—Exo. 17:6; 1 Cor. 10:4:

- Exo 17:6      I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.
- 1 Cor 10:4      And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.
- A. Christ is our begetting rock and the rock who is our salvation, strength, refuge, hiding place, protection, covering, and safeguard—Deut. 32:18; 2 Sam. 22:47; Psa. 95:1; 62:7; 94:22; Isa. 32:2.
- Deut 32:18      You have neglected the Rock who begot you / And have forgotten the God who travailed with you.
- 2 Sam 22:47      Jehovah lives; and blessed be my rock, / And exalted be God, the rock of my salvation,
- Psa 95:1      Come, let us sing for joy to Jehovah; / Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
- Psa 62:7      On God my salvation and my glory depend; / The rock of my strength, my refuge, is in God.
- Psa 94:22      But Jehovah has been my high tower, / And my God the rock of my refuge;
- Isa 32:2      And a man will be like a refuge from the wind / And a covering from the tempest, / Like streams of water in a dry place, / Like the shadow of a massive rock in a wasted land.
- B. Blood and water flowed out of the Lord's pierced side on the cross; the blood for our judicial redemption saves us from the guilt of sin, and the water of life in resurrection for our organic salvation saves us from the power of sin—Gen. 2:21-22; John 19:34; Zech. 13:1; Psa. 36:8-9; Rev. 21:6; *Hymns*, #1058, stanza 1.
- Gen 2:21      And Jehovah God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place.
- Gen 2:22      And Jehovah God built the rib, which He had taken from the man, into a woman and brought her to the man.
- John 19:34      But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water.
- Zech 13:1      In that day there will be an opened fountain for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for impurity.
- Psa 36:8      They are saturated with the fatness of Your house, / And You cause them to drink of the river of Your pleasures.

Psa 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; / In Your light we see light.  
 Rev 21:6 And He said to me, They have come to pass. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give to him who thirsts from the spring of the water of life freely.  
*Hymns, #1058, stanza 1*  
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee;  
 Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed,  
 Be of sin the double cure, Save me from its guilt and power.

#### **IV. The water that flowed out of the rock is the water of life in resurrection:**

- A. Resurrection denotes something that has been put to death and is alive again; it also denotes life that springs forth out of something that has passed through death.
- B. The water that flowed out of the smitten rock sprang forth only after the major steps of incarnation, human living, and crucifixion had been accomplished; hence, Exodus 17:6 is a profound verse, implying Christ's incarnation, human living, and death.  
 Exo 17:6 I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.
- C. The Spirit as the living water for us to drink and flow out could be received only after the Lord Jesus had been glorified, that is, only after Christ had entered into resurrection— John 7:37-39; Luke 24:26.  
 John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.  
 John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.  
 John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.  
 Luke 24:26 Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and enter into His glory?
- D. Actually, the water of life, the flowing water, is resurrection; resurrection is the Triune God—the Father as the source, the Son as the course, and the Spirit as the flow—John 5:26; 11:25.  
 John 5:26 For just as the Father has life in Himself, so He gave to the Son to also have life in Himself;  
 John 11:25 Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live;

#### **V. The source of the water of life is the throne of God and of the Lamb—the redeeming God; hence, the water of life is the Triune God flowing out to be our life—Rev. 22:1:**

- Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.
- A. The flow of the living water began from the throne in eternity, continued through the incarnation, human living, and crucifixion of Christ (John 4:10, 14; 19:34), and now flows on in resurrection to supply God's people with all the riches of the divine life (Rev. 22:1-2).  
 John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.  
 John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water springing up into eternal life.  
 John 19:34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water.  
 Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.  
 Rev 22:2 And on this side and on that side of the river was the tree of life, producing twelve fruits, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.
- B. When we identify ourselves with the smitten Christ, that is, when we are one with Him as the smitten Christ, the divine life as the living water flows out of us—Exo. 17:6; John 7:38; cf. S. S. 2:8-9, 14; Phil. 3:10.  
 Exo 17:6 I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.  
 S.S. 2:8 The voice of my beloved! Now he comes, / Leaping upon the mountains, / Skipping upon the hills.  
 S.S. 2:9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young hart. / Now he stands behind our wall; / He is looking through the windows, / He is glancing through the lattice.  
 S.S. 2:14 My dove, in the clefts of the rock, / In the covert of the precipice, Let me see your countenance, / Let me hear your voice; / For your voice is sweet, / And your countenance is lovely.  
 Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

C. The flowing of the water of life in resurrection is for the building up of the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13) and the preparation of the bride of Christ (Rev. 19:7), both of which will consummate in the New Jerusalem (21:9-10; cf. Eph. 5:23, 28-30).

1 Cor 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.  
 Rev 19:7 Let us rejoice and exult, and let us give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.  
 Rev 21:9 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.  
 Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,  
 Eph 5:23 For a husband is head of the wife as also Christ is Head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the Body.  
 Eph 5:28 In the same way the husbands also ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his own wife loves himself.  
 Eph 5:29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ also the church,  
 Eph 5:30 Because we are members of His Body.

## VI. As believers in Christ, we need to see the way, the “science,” of drinking and flowing the water of life— John 4:10, 14; 7:37-39; cf. Prov. 11:25:

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.  
 John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water springing up into eternal life.  
 John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.  
 John 7:38 He who believes into Me, as the Scripture said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.  
 John 7:39 But this He said concerning the Spirit, whom those who believed into Him were about to receive; for the Spirit was not yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.  
 Prov 11:25 The blessing soul will prosper, / And he who waters will also be watered himself.

A. We have been positioned to drink one Spirit—1 Cor. 12:13.

1 Cor 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

B. To drink the water of life, there is the need of thirst—Exo. 17:3a; Psa. 42:1; John 7:37; Rev. 21:6.

Exo 17:3a So the people thirsted there for water, and the people murmured against Moses and said, For what reason did you bring us up out of Egypt; ...  
 Psa 42:1 As the hart pants / After the streams of water, / So my soul pants / For You, O God.  
 John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.  
 Rev 21:6 And He said to me, They have come to pass. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give to him who thirsts from the spring of the water of life freely.

C. We need to come to the Lord— John 7:37; Rev. 22:17.

John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.  
 Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.

D. Now that Christ as the rock has been smitten, crucified, we simply need to speak to the rock; when we speak to Him, He will give us the living water, so we need to practice speaking with the Lord constantly—Num. 20:8; Phil. 4:6-7, 12; *Hymns*, #255, #248.

Num 20:8 Take the rod, and gather the assembly, you and Aaron your brother, and speak to the rock before their eyes, so that it yields its water. Thus you shall bring forth water for them out of the rock and give the assembly and their livestock something to drink.

Phil 4:6 In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;  
 Phil 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses every man's understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.  
 Phil 4:12 I know also how to be abased, and I know how to abound; in everything and in all things I have learned the secret both to be filled and to hunger, both to abound and to lack.

*Hymns #255*

1	O Lord, breathe Thy Spirit on me, Help me pour into Thy bosom	Teach me how to breathe Thee in; All my life of self and sin.
<i>Chorus</i>		
	I am breathing out my sorrow, I am breathing, breathing, breathing,	Breathing out my sin; All Thy fulness in.
2	I am breathing out my own life, Letting go my strength and weakness,	That I may be filled with Thine; Breathing in Thy life divine.
3	Breathing out my sinful nature, Breathing in Thy cleansing fulness,	Thou hast borne it all for me; Finding all my life in Thee.
4	I am breathing out my sorrow, Breathing in Thy joy and comfort,	On Thy kind and gentle breast; Breathing in Thy peace and rest.
5	I am breathing out my sickness, I am breathing in Thy healing,	Thou hast borne its burden too; Ever promised, ever new.
6	I am breathing out my longings I am breathing in Thy answers,	In Thy listening, loving ear; Stilling every doubt and fear.
7	I am breathing every moment, Breath by breath I live upon Thee,	Drawing all my life from Thee; Lord, Thy Spirit breathe in me.

*Hymns #248*

1	Fainting in the desert, At the rock of Kadesh. Speak to the Rock, Strike not its bosom Speak to the Rock,	Israel's thousands stand Hark! the Lord's command, Bid the waters flow, Opened long ago. Till the waters flow.
<i>Chorse</i>		
	Speak to the Rock, Doubt not the Spirit, Take what He waiteth, Drink till its fullness	Bid the waters flow, Given long ago; Freely to bestow, All Thy being know.
2	Blessed Rock of Ages, Thy blest Holy Spirit Still Thou dost say, Call for the Spirit, Speak to the Rock	Thou art open still; All our being fill; Wherefore struggle so? Whisper soft and low, Bid the waters flow.
3	Oh, for trust more simple, Oh, for hearts more childlike, E'en as a babe, So on Thy bosom Filled with Thy life,	Fully to believe; Freely to receive; On its mother's breast, Let my spirit rest, With Thy blessing blest.

E. We need to ask the Lord to give us the living water— John 4:10; 7:37; Rev. 22:17.

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.  
 John 7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.  
 Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who is thirsty come; let him who wills take the water of life freely.

F. We need to contact God the Spirit in our human spirit and in truthfulness— John 4:23-24.

John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.  
 John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

G. We need to joyously draw water from the springs of salvation by speaking to the Lord, by the Lord, for the Lord, in the Lord, and with the Lord—Psa. 46:4; Isa. 12:3-6:

Psa 46:4 There is a river whose streams gladden the city of God, / The holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.  
 Isa 12:3 Therefore you will draw water with rejoicing / From the springs of salvation,  
 Isa 12:4 And you will say in that day, / Give thanks to Jehovah; call upon His name! / Make His deeds known among the peoples; / Remind them that His name is exalted.

- Isa 12:5 Sing psalms to Jehovah, for He has done something majestic! / Let it be made known in all the earth!
- Isa 12:6 Cry out and give a ringing shout, O inhabitant of Zion, / For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
1. We need to confess our sins— John 4:15-18; 1 John 1:7, 9.
 

John 4:15 The woman said to Him, Sir, give me this water so that I will not thirst nor come here to draw.

John 4:16 He said to her, Go, call your husband and come here.

John 4:17 The woman answered and said, I do not have a husband. Jesus said to her, You have well said, I do not have a husband,

John 4:18 For you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly.

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
  2. We need to praise the Lord—Phil. 4:4; Heb. 13:15; Psa. 119:164.
 

Phil 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Heb 13:15 Through Him then let us offer up a sacrifice of praise continually to God, that is, the fruit of lips confessing His name.

Psa 119:164 Seven times a day I praise You / For Your righteous ordinances.
  3. We need to thank the Lord—Eph. 5:18, 20.
 

Eph 5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissoluteness, but be filled in spirit,

Eph 5:20 Giving thanks at all times for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God and Father,
  4. We need to call on the name of the Lord—Acts 2:21; 1 Cor. 12:13, 3; 1 Thes. 5:17; 1 Cor. 1:2; Judg. 15:18-19; Lam. 3:55-56.
 

Acts 2:21 And it shall be that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

1 Cor 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

1 Cor 12:3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking in the Spirit of God says, Jesus is accursed; and no one can say, Jesus is Lord! except in the Holy Spirit.

1 Thes 5:17 Unceasingly pray,

1 Cor 1:2 To the church of God which is in Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, the called saints, with all those who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place, who is theirs and ours:

Judg 15:18 And he was very thirsty, and he called on Jehovah, saying, You have granted this great victory by the hand of Your servant. And will I now die of thirst and fall into the hand of the uncircumcised?

Judg 15:19 But God broke open the hollow place that is in Lehi, and water came forth from it. And when he drank, his spirit returned and he was revived; therefore he called the name of that place En-hakkore, which is in Lehi to this day.

Lam 3:55 I called upon Your name, O Jehovah, / From the lowest pit.

Lam 3:56 You have heard my voice; do not hide / Your ear at my breathing, at my cry.
  5. We need to sing to the Lord—Eph. 5:18b-19; 1 Kings 6:7; 1 Chron. 6:31-32; 2 Chron. 20:21-22.
 

Eph 5:18b ... but be filled in spirit,

Eph 5:19 Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and psalming with your heart to the Lord,

1 Kings 6:7 And the house, when it was being built, was built of finished stone, cut at the quarry, so that neither hammer nor ax nor any iron tool was heard in the house when it was being built.

1 Chron 6:31 And these are they whom David set over the service of song in the house of Jehovah after the Ark was at rest.

1 Chron 6:32 And they ministered before the tabernacle of the Tent of Meeting with singing until Solomon built the house of Jehovah in Jerusalem; and they attended to their service according to their order.

2 Chron 20:21 And when he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed them to sing to Jehovah and give thanks in holy array as they went out before the army and say, Give thanks to Jehovah, for His lovingkindness endures forever.

2 Chron 20:22 And when they began to shout in song and to praise, Jehovah set ambushes for the children of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who were coming out against Judah; and they were struck.

6. We need to preach the gospel, making known to others what Christ has accomplished—Rom. 1:16; John 4:32-34.
  - Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes, both to Jew first and to Greek.
  - John 4:32 But He said to them, I have food to eat that you do not know about.
  - John 4:33 The disciples therefore said to one another, Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?
  - John 4:34 Jesus said to them, My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.
7. We need to function in the meetings of the church—1 Cor. 14:4b, 26.
  - 1 Cor 14:4b ... but he who prophesies builds up the church.
  - 1 Cor 14:26 What then, brothers? Whenever you come together, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.
- H. We need to give the Lord the preeminence in our being—Rev. 22:1; Col. 1:18b.
  - Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.
  - Col 1:18b ...He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
- I. We need to do everything according to the divine nature— Rev. 22:1; 2 Pet. 1:4.
  - Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.
  - 2 Pet 1:4 Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

**VII. Since Christ has been crucified and the Spirit has been given, there is no need for Christ to be crucified again, that is, no need to strike the rock again, that the living water may flow; in God's economy Christ should be crucified only once—Heb. 7:27; 9:26-28a:**

- Heb 7:27 Who does not have daily need, as the high priests do, to offer up sacrifices first for his own sins and then for those of the people; for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.
- Heb 9:26 Since then He would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world. But now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested for the putting away of sin through the sacrifice of Himself.
- Heb 9:27 And inasmuch as it is reserved for men to die once, and after this comes judgment,
- Heb 9:28a So Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, ...
- A. To receive the living water from the crucified Christ, we need only to “take the rod” and “speak to the rock”—Num. 20:8:
  - Num 20:8 Take the rod, and gather the assembly, you and Aaron your brother, and speak to the rock before their eyes, so that it yields its water. Thus you shall bring forth water for them out of the rock and give the assembly and their livestock something to drink.
  - 1. To take the rod is to identify with Christ in His death and apply the death of Christ to ourselves and to our situation.
  - 2. To speak to the rock is to speak a direct word to Christ as the smitten rock, asking Him to give us the Spirit of life based on the fact that the Spirit has already been given— cf. John 4:10.
    - John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.
  - 3. If we apply the death of Christ to ourselves and ask Christ in faith to give us the Spirit, we will receive the living Spirit as the bountiful supply of life (Phil. 1:19).
    - Phil 1:19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
- B. Instead of speaking to the rock, Moses called the Lord's people rebels and struck the rock twice—Num. 20:9-11:
  - Num 20:9 And Moses took the rod from before Jehovah, as He had commanded him.
  - Num 20:10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said to them, Listen now, you rebels: Shall we bring forth water for you out of this rock?
  - Num 20:11 Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his rod twice; and abundant water came forth, and the assembly and their livestock drank.

1. Moses condemned the people as rebels, but Moses was the one who rebelled against God's word—v. 24; 27:14.
 

Num 20:24      Aaron shall be gathered to his people, for he shall not enter into the land which I have given to the children of Israel, because you rebelled against My word at the waters of Meribah.

Num 27:14      Because you rebelled against My word in the wilderness of Zin, in the strife of the assembly, and failed to sanctify Me at the waters before their eyes. (These are the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin.)
2. In being angry with the people and in wrongly striking the rock twice, Moses failed to sanctify God—20:12:
 

Num 20:12      And Jehovah said to Moses and Aaron, Because you did not believe in Me, to sanctify Me in the sight of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.

  - a. In being angry when God was not angry, Moses did not represent God rightly in His holy nature, and in striking the rock twice, he did not keep God's word in His economy; thus, Moses offended both God's holy nature and His divine economy.
  - b. Because of this, even though he was intimate with God and may be considered a companion of God (Exo. 33:11), Moses lost the right to enter into the good land.
 

Exo 33:11      And Jehovah would speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his companion. And Moses would return to the camp, but his attendant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart out of the tent.
  - c. In all that we say and do concerning God's people, our attitude must be according to God's holy nature, and our actions must be according to His divine economy; this is to sanctify Him; otherwise, in our words and deeds we will rebel against Him and offend Him.
  - d. Moses should have simply spoken to the rock, telling it to flow forth with water (Num. 20:8); if we deal with the contending of God's people in this way today, the church life will be glorious.
 

Num 20:8      Take the rod, and gather the assembly, you and Aaron your brother, and speak to the rock before their eyes, so that it yields its water. Thus you shall bring forth water for them out of the rock and give the assembly and their livestock something to drink.