

# The DAILY JESUS NEWS #147

## Stage VI. Jesus' Later Judean Ministry

### B. Jesus' Ministry at the Feast of Tabernacles

#### 1. Jesus' First Teaching at Tabernacles: "Rivers of Living Water"

##### iv: Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit (#147)

John 7:37-39

37 On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice,

*"If anyone who is thirsty, I command him or her to keep on coming to me and continually drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow out from within them."*

39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

=====

NOTE: We use superscript identification of the source gospel in "blended texts" as follows: Matthew = <sup>MT</sup>, Mark = <sup>M</sup>, Luke = <sup>L</sup>, John = <sup>J</sup>, Acts = <sup>A</sup>. This "superscript ID" is inserted at the beginning of the quoted text, identifying that Bible book until a different superscript appears. In addition, *red italics identify the words of Jesus*. Old Testament quotations are CAPITALIZED.

	CONTEXT DIGEST
Location	The Temple Courts in Jerusalem
Timeline	September (Month 31)
Jesus' Life Context	Stage VI: Jesus' Later Judean Ministry
	B. Jesus' Ministry at the Feast of Tabernacles
	I. Jesus' First Teaching at Tabernacles: "Rivers of Living Water"
Title	iv. Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

#### COMMENT:

God miraculously gave life-sustaining water to his people in their 40 years in the desert. In commemoration, every day during the Feast of Tabernacles the priests would draw water from the pool of Siloam, fill the vessels in the Temple Court, and pour them out. On the seventh and climactic day of the Feast the outpouring of water was the most prolonged and dramatic of the entire week.

Jesus chose this spectacular moment in the Feast to stand up and make his astounding promise regarding the Holy Spirit. It was brilliant timing.

John the Immerser had proclaimed the dawning of a new Messianic age of the Spirit. The Messiah would *"immerse with the Holy Spirit and with fire."* The anointing of the Holy Spirit on Jesus would be so intense that he would be able to immerse everyone who believed in him into the presence of the Spirit, in the way John was immersing his followers in the Jordan river. This was a prediction of incredible spiritual abundance and power bestowed by the Messiah.

Jesus took John's prophesy and multiplied it infinitely. He promised that he would give the Spirit to those who believe in him to such an extent that they would not just be plunged into the Spirit like being immersed in a river;

## The DAILY JESUS NEWS #147

rather, they would be so endowed with the Spirit that multiple rivers would flow out of every believer in all directions--rivers that would flow without end. When we multiply the rivers by the number of believers in the world, we see that Jesus was promising an outpouring of the Spirit throughout the earth on a scale that makes the Flood look small.

Jesus commanded those who thirst for His Spirit to *“come and keep on drinking.”* This command fulfilled what he had promised the Samaritan woman in JN 4.10 and 4.13. We “come” to Jesus by faith, and simply ask. Because Jesus commanded us to do so, we know that fullness of his Spirit is his will for us. We can be certain he will give us what he commanded us to receive from him. So it is as simple as *“ask..believe...receive...”*

This was a massive promise from Jesus, and therefore an equally huge claim to be God. Only God can impart His Spirit on this kind of scale. The ability to give this kind of abundance in the Holy Spirit to everyone who believes in him is therefore the proof that Jesus is truly the Messiah. Filling us with his Spirit glorifies Jesus--so ask!

### APPLICATION:

Jesus promised the abundance of the Holy Spirit to a degree that only He can produce. It is not about your worthiness; it is all about HIS ability to give you the Spirit without limit, or measure.

*Are you asking for, believing in, and receiving the ministry of the Holy Spirit on the scale Jesus promised here? When will you?*