

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 28/05/2023

Text(s): Ezekiel 47

Sermon Title: And Into The Nations

Preachers: Rev Dr Jonathan Seet

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

Ezekiel 47:1–23 (NKJV)

1 Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar.

2 He brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gateway that faces east; and there was water, running out on the right side.

3 And when the man went out to the east with the line in his hand, he measured one thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the water *came up to my* ankles.

4 Again he measured one thousand and brought me through the waters; the water *came up to my* knees. Again he measured one thousand and brought me through; the water *came up to my* waist.

5 Again he measured one thousand, *and it was* a river that I could not cross; for the water was too deep, water in which one must swim, a river that could not be crossed.

6 He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen *this?*" Then he brought me and returned me to the bank of the river.

7 When I returned, there, along the bank of the river, *were* very many trees on one side and the other.

8 Then he said to me: "This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. *When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed.*

9 And it shall be *that* every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes.

10 It shall be *that* fishermen will stand by it from En Gedi to En Eglaim; they will be *places* for spreading their nets. Their fish will be of the same kinds as the fish of the Great Sea, exceedingly many.

11 But its swamps and marshes will not be healed; they will be given over to salt.

12 Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all *kinds of* trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine."

13 Thus says the Lord GOD: "These *are* the borders by which you shall divide the land as an inheritance among the twelve tribes of Israel. Joseph *shall have two* portions.

14 You shall inherit it equally with one another; for I raised My hand in an oath to give it to your fathers, and this land shall fall to you as your inheritance.

15 "This *shall be* the border of the land on the north: from the Great Sea, *by* the road to Hethlon, as one goes to Zedad,

16 Hamath, Berothah, Sibram (which *is* between the border of Damascus and the border of Hamath), to Hazar Hatticon (which *is* on the border of Hauran).

17 Thus the boundary shall be from the Sea to Hazar Enan, the border of Damascus; and as for the north, northward, it is the border of Hamath. *This is* the north side.

18 “On the east side you shall mark out the border from between Hauran and Damascus, and between Gilead and the land of Israel, along the Jordan, and along the eastern side of the sea. *This is* the east side.

19 “The south side, toward the South, *shall be* from Tamar to the waters of Meribah by Kadesh, along the brook to the Great Sea. *This is* the south side, toward the South.

20 “The west side *shall be* the Great Sea, from the *southern* boundary until one comes to a point opposite Hamath. *This is* the west side.

21 “Thus you shall divide this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel.

22 It shall be that you will divide it by lot as an inheritance for yourselves, and for the strangers who dwell among you and who bear children among you. They shall be to you as native-born among the children of Israel; they shall have an inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel.

23 And it shall be *that* in whatever tribe the stranger dwells, there you shall give *him* his inheritance,” says the Lord GOD.

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

- 1. The scene of Ezekiel moving further and further away from the river bank gives us a picture of God telling us to move into the community and the nations. Have you participated before in a PMC community project such as the Family Day project on 28 May or in a mission trip to a foreign country? What did you do and experience in the project or mission trip that you participated in?**
- 2. Jesus says we are to let our light, our good works, shine before men to the glory of our Father in heaven. Apostle Paul says we are God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works. What has God been putting in your heart to do in the community and in the nations? What are some things you think we can do together as a life group?**

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect and apply God’s word to our daily lives)

- 1. The preacher shared how the spread of the Gospel in the early years moved more towards west of Jerusalem. From Europe it then went to Africa and the Americas. There was little success in bringing the Gospel to the east except in the last 100 years. Now there is a movement to bring the Gospel from the east back to Jerusalem. Singapore, being part of Greater India, has an important role to play in this movement. How does it make you feel knowing that we at PMC can be part of this movement? What thoughts ran through your mind when you were hearing all this in the sermon?**

2. **What this Back to Jerusalem movement will bring about is the preparation of the church to be the Bride of Christ. What is your understanding regarding the church as the Bride of Christ? How has God been preparing and equipping us, and how can we at PMC prepare ourselves for this?**

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for monthly guide)

- Pray for one another to grow in our understanding concerning the plans and call God has for us individually and how we can contribute in outreach and missions.
- Pray for our life groups and our church to grow in our understanding concerning the movement to bring the Gospel back to Jerusalem and be determined to play our part in this movement as we prepare ourselves as a Body of Christ to be the Bride of Christ.