



## Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 1 May 2022



Receiving the Spirit's Living Water

### Please read John 7.37-39

The Festival of Tabernacles or Sukkot was a festival at which the Jews remembered God's daily provision for them during the forty years of wilderness wandering.

Throughout this festival they erect and live in fragile, temporary tents, or "sukkot" - a reminder that dependence upon God was still necessary even when the Promised Land was reached. Throughout the Festival there was a daily ceremonial water-pouring ceremony in which the priests drew water from the pool of Siloam and poured it out on the Altar. This act anticipated the promised Outpouring of the Holy Spirit prophesied in Isa 44. Joel 2 and Ezekiel 47. In these prophecies God promised that the living water of the Spirit would be poured out on the land and on His people, bringing in a fresh and fruitful new day of spiritual reality.

On the last or "greatest" day of the festival, the water pouring ceremony reached its climax. The priests circled the altar seven times and then poured out the water with great pomp and ceremony – shouting Hosanna – Come Lord!

1. Why are Jesus' loudly spoken words on this last day of the festival (**John 7.37-39**) so relevant and so powerful?
2. 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink' – What kind of thirst is Jesus talking about here?
3. Jesus says that the Living Water of the Spirit will be given to those who 'come to me to drink'. What does Jesus mean by this? (**Read John 4.7-14**)

### Please read Isaiah 44.2-4

4. Do you feel like a thirsty land or dry ground in need of the living water of the Spirit? Jesus says, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.' – how will you respond?

### Please read Joel 2.28-29

5. Do you thirst for the kind of spiritual vitality the prophet anticipates here? Jesus says, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.' – how will you respond?

### Please read Ezekiel 47.12

6. Do you thirst for the kind of spiritual fruitfulness that 'flows from within them' (John 7.38) and overflows in the Spirit's blessing and healing for others?

### Romans 15

**13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**