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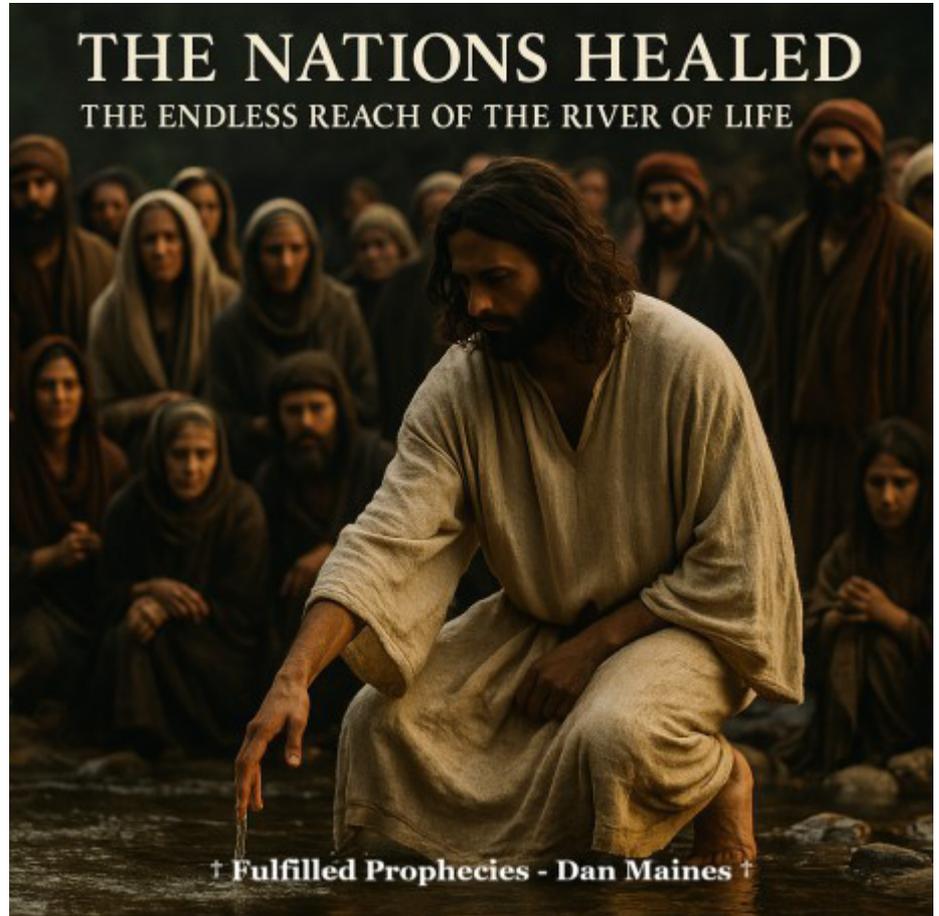
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The Nations Healed: The Endless Reach of the River of Life



By Dan Maines

The Nations Healed: The Endless Reach of the River of Life

Revelation 22:1-2

Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

† The river of life flows from the throne of God and the Lamb, symbolizing the Spirit's continual presence and power.

† The tree of life on both sides of the river represents the fullness and accessibility of God's eternal provision.

† The healing of the nations shows the redemptive reach of the gospel to all peoples.

† This vision is not future but present, the kingdom's life is flowing through the world now.

Ezekiel 47:8-9

Then he said to me, "These waters go out toward the eastern region and go down into the Arabah; then they go toward the sea, being made to flow into the sea, and the waters of the sea become fresh. It will come about that every living creature which swarms in every place where the river goes, will live. And there will be very many fish, for these waters go there and the others become fresh; so everything will live where the river goes."

† Ezekiel saw the same river centuries earlier, a prophetic picture of life flowing from God's dwelling place.

† The sea becoming fresh represents the transformation of the nations, the salty, lifeless becoming living again.

† "Everything will live where the river goes" declares the unstoppable power of the gospel.

† The fulfillment of this prophecy began when Christ sent the Spirit, the living water, into the world.

Zechariah 14:8-9

And in that day living waters will flow out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and the other half toward the western sea; it will be in summer as well as in winter. And the Lord will be king over all the earth; in that day the Lord will be the only one, and His name the only one.

† Zechariah's vision foretold the day when the Lord's rule would extend across all creation.

† The living waters flowing year-round show an unending source of divine life.

† The universality of this flow means no part of the world

remains untouched by Christ's reign.

† The fulfillment came when Christ's kingdom was established and His Spirit poured out to all nations.

Acts 10:34-35

Opening his mouth, Peter said: "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him."

† Peter's realization marked the visible beginning of the healing of the nations.

† The gospel broke through the walls of Israel's exclusivity, reaching all peoples under heaven.

† The Spirit's outpouring in Acts confirmed that the river of life had begun to flow beyond Jerusalem.

† The healing promised in Revelation became reality as the Gentiles entered the kingdom.

Psalms 46:4-5

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy dwelling places of the Most High. God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

† The psalmist spoke of this river as the source of gladness and stability for God's people.

† This river represents divine presence and continual renewal within the city of God, the Church.

† The morning dawn reflects the new creation light that never fades.

† God's help is constant because His Spirit never departs from His people.

Isaiah 55:1-3

Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money come, buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why do you spend money for

what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and delight yourself in abundance. Incline your ear and come to Me; listen, that you may live.

† The invitation to drink freely was always God's plan, salvation without cost through His grace.

† The waters of life are not earned or purchased; they flow freely from His throne.

† To "listen and live" means to receive His word, which brings eternal satisfaction.

† The healing of the nations is accomplished by the continual invitation to come and drink.

John 4:14

But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.

† Jesus offered the living water of the Spirit long before John's vision of Revelation.

† The promise was personal but with global impact, every believer becomes a source of life.

† The well within each heart connects to the river flowing from the throne.

† The nations are healed as this living water flows from believer to believer throughout the earth.

How it applies to us today

† The river of life has no end, it flows through the body of Christ to every generation.

† The nations are still being healed through the gospel's transforming power.

† We are the carriers of that living water, bringing life to every place we go.

† The throne of the Lamb is the source, and His people are the channels of divine healing.

† The endless reach of this river ensures that the kingdom's expansion will never cease.

† **This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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Source Index

† Revelation 22:1-2; Ezekiel 47:8-9; Zechariah 14:8-9; Acts 10:34-35; Psalm 46:4-5; Isaiah 55:1-3; John 4:14

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book 5

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3

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