

## Rivers

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Carl Thomas

Genesis 1:2; Isaiah 9:2; Jeremiah 31:33; Matthew 9:35–10:1; Luke 3:16; John 7:38; Acts 2:38; Colossians 1:13; 1 John 4:13

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## Joy

Matthew 9:35–10:1 (NASB95)

**35** Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

**36** Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

**37** Then He \*said to His disciples, **"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.**

**38** **"Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."**

**10:1** Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

- We live in the busiest time in human history.
- More information
- We are bombarded with information from every angle and problems from every corner of the world.

- Advertisers and social media competing for our attention
- Constant onslaught of pressures fighting heart
- We are desperate for the information we need to live a life of safety and protection
- We try to research every possible disaster, option, outcome, and position so we won't fail at life.
- We are desperate to succeed and we feel the walls closing in through financial pressures, relational needs, social ques, and emotional needs.
- And Jesus sees it all.
- And He sees what we don't see.
- Our enemies plotting our destruction
- The devil trying to destroy us
- Demons trying to terrorize us
- The demonized trying to torture us physically, mentally and emotionally.

9:36 Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

- We talked about this last week
- Distressed & Dispirited
- Σκύλλω καί ρίπτω
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- Skylo kai rhipo – Skeelo Ke Rheeto
- Harassed abused rejected and discarded like trash.
- Cosmic forces at work against us.
- Some from the Satan, some through people.
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- He had compassion on them.
- Jesus was one man. He got to the end of his compassion

10:1 Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

*If we have so many things going on in our world, why would Jesus give us another burden? Why would he ask us to take on other people's problems?*

When you live in God's purpose you walk in God's power.

- Anxieties about things God has told us he would take care of.
- We would do this in the power of Holy Spirit.
- This is the power of God.

Jeremiah 31:33 (NASB95)

33..., "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

We would have the Holy Spirit directly interacting with our hearts

If we set apart time for God, he would speak in the midst of the noise.

Where there is chaos, darkness and confusion, you will find God the Holy Spirit waiting to come in.

Genesis 1:2 (NASB95)

2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

- It's the promise of God. When you are stuck, fearful, confused and anxious he is waiting to shine a new path.

Isaiah 9:2 (NASB95)

2The people who walk in darkness

Will see a great light;

Those who live in a dark land,

The light will shine on them.

Colossians 1:13 (NASB95)

13For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

- When we get saved, we go from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light by being born again and receiving the Holy Spirit.

On the day of Pentecost Peter talked about the darkness they were walking in when they put Jesus to death. They asked how to get out of darkness

Acts 2:38 (NASB95)

38Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

This is the plan of Jesus. This was the plan all along.

John the Baptist said.

Luke 3:16 (NASB95)

16John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

- This is what your soul craves. To be filled with His Spirit.

- But back to our text.
- Jesus saw the people hurting. And he was ready to send out his apostles. But they have issues of their own.
- Wherever you tell your Jesus story prepares for Jesus to show up.
- In the beginning the Spirit hovered over the darkness
- Now you go in the darkness and the Holy Ghost is there.
- Jesus is not asking you to do anything in your own strength.
- We are to go in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the authority of God.
- As you go, your faith increases. Because now HS is working not just in you but through you.
- We need to get God's word in us.
- Then get it out of us.
- Do you want more of the Spirit of God in your life? Speak what God has spoken to you.

1 John 4:13 (NIV)

13 This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit.

That is the Holy Ghost for you.

Lets you now you are right with God.

But as you pay attention, you have the Holy Ghost for others.

John 7:38 (NASB95)

38 “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’ ”

God has given you living water the people around you.

- Pray for a fresh baptism in the Spirit
- When you open your bible, ask God to breath on your study time.
- Tell your story to others.
- Divine appointments

God is here now to meet your need.