

Cleaning House
Ezekiel 43:1-12

Review:

1. Ezekiel's Temple is a visual representation of what the Church, the true Temple of God, should be like: a place of pure worship as well as a source of blessing to those not yet trusting in Christ.
2. When we compare our individual lives and our congregations to Ezekiel's vision of the Temple, we can see how we fail to measure up to the Law of the House, God's plan for His Church
3. While it is the Holy Spirit Who makes us holy, we must participate in the process of sanctification by putting the remnants of sin to death in our personal lives as well as in our congregations

Reflect:

1. Has the sin in someone else's life ever made you less willing to worship with him or her? What did it take for you to overcome your misgivings?
2. What might you be doing that others might consider to be a barrier to their participation in the life of the Church? How can you bring that part of your life into greater conformity with God's Word?

Go Further: Read Ezekiel 47:1-12; 48:30-35

1. According to Ezekiel 47:1, where does the river he describes begin? In what direction does it flow?
2. According to verse 3, how deep is the river after it flows 1000 cubits (500 yards)?
3. According to verse 4, how deep is the river after the next two measurements of 500 yards?
4. According to verse 5, how deep is the river after it flows yet another 500 yards?
5. According to verse 7, what does Ezekiel see growing on the banks of the river?
6. According to verse 8, what effect will the river have on the Dead Sea?
7. According to verse 9, what will be able to live in the Dead Sea?
8. According to verse 12, for how much of the year will the trees' leaves and fruit last?
9. What will the fruit and leaves be used for?
10. According to 48:30-34, each side of the new Jerusalem will be 4500 cubits (2,250 yards or about 1.3 miles) long. How many gates will be in each side of the city wall? How will these gates be named?
11. According to 48:35, what will be the new name of the city?

Read Revelation 21:9-14, 25-27; 22:1-5

12. According to Revelation 21:9, what does the angel promise to show John?
13. According to 21:10, from where does the holy city come?
14. In 21:11, how does John describe the appearance of the city?
15. According to 21:12, how many gates will the city have? What are the names of these gates?
16. How does 21:13 describe the location of these gates?
17. How many foundation stones does 21:14 say the city will have? Whose names are on those stones?
18. According to 21:25, how long will the gates of the city remain open?
19. What will be brought into the city?
20. What will not be allowed into the city? Who are the only people allowed to enter the city?
21. How does 22:1 describe the river John sees? Where does this river begin?
22. According to 22:2, what is growing on each side of the river?

23. How does 22:2 describe the fruit of this tree? What will the leaves of this tree be used for?
24. What does 22:3 insist will not be in the city? In contrast, Whose throne will be there?
25. What shall the Lord's bondservants do for Him?
26. How does 22:4 describe the relationship between the Lord and His servants?
27. Why does 22:5 insist that no light of a lamp or even the sun will be needed in the city?
28. Who does 22:5 say will reign forever?

Summary and Application:

1. Compare Ezekiel and John's visions of the City of God. What characteristics do you find to be similar?
2. How can we bring our individual lives, our congregations and the wider Church into greater alignment with these visions today, even while we wait for Christ to return and complete the purification of His Church?