

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Transparent - Joanne Donnelley
The River of God - Christina Wilson
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Transparent – Joanne Donnelley

The word I hear for today is transparent. In Revelation 21.21 the street of the city of the Jerusalem coming down from heaven is described as pure gold, like transparent glass. Revelation 22.1 refers to the river of the Water of Life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and the Lamb. Both of these depict an unobstructed, pure, unclouded substance. It also means everything in the city and around the throne is completely visible, nothing hidden. When I asked Holy Spirit what He wanted me to share this morning, what I was to bring to First Fruits, He said, "Be transparent". Transparent means without pretense or deceit. Lay open my heart, without veil. Open your mouth and release the words I give you. There is nothing insignificant in the sound of my life, how it impacts the body, the city and the region. I stand before You and these you have mingled me with and I will not hold back.

Song of Songs 8.1-7 TPT

¹ If only I could show everyone
this passionate desire I have for you.
If only I could express it fully,
no matter who was watching me,
without shame or embarrassment.

² I long to bring you to my innermost chamber—
this holy sanctuary you have formed within me.
O that I might carry you within me.
I would give you the spiced wine of my love,
this full cup of bliss that we share.
We would drink our fill until...

³ His left hand cradles my head
while his right hand holds me close.
We are at rest in this love.

⁴ Promise me, brides-to-be,
by the gentle gazelles and delicate deer,
that you'll not disturb my love until he is ready to arise.

The Bridegroom-King

⁵ **Who is this one? Look at her now!**
She arises out of her desert, clinging to her beloved.
When I awakened you under the apple tree,
as you were feasting upon me,
I awakened your innermost being with the travail of birth
as you longed for more of me.

⁶ **Fasten me upon your heart as a seal of fire forevermore.**
This living, consuming flame
will seal you as my prisoner of love.
My passion is stronger
than the chains of death and the grave,
all consuming as the very flashes of fire
from the burning heart of God.



**Place this fierce, unrelenting fire over your entire being.
7 Rivers of pain and persecution
will never extinguish this flame.
Endless floods will be unable
to quench this raging fire that burns within you.
Everything will be consumed.
It will stop at nothing
as you yield everything to this furious fire
until it won't even seem to you like a sacrifice anymore.**

On Sunday, Apostle Bob said from our bellies flow rivers of living water. Then He said, "Become the River".

I had a dream last year, while I was still driving my bus. In it, I was taking two of my Chaldean students on a picnic. I was honored to be at this level of trust by their parents. We were by a rushing river in a part of America they had not seen before. As we walked along the shoreline, I turned in conversation to Aneeta, and when I looked back to Isa, he was nowhere to be seen. Panic stricken, I began calling out to him, Isa, Isa! knowing full well there was only one place he could be. In the river. I screamed, ran up and down the bank, looked and looked, but I did not jump in after him. The torrents were too great! I would be carried under in a matter of seconds, as I was certain they had taken Isa. It was certain death. I woke in horror. I had lost Isa. Totally helpless, I questioned my actions over and over again. Holy Spirit recounted this dream to me many times over the last year, making it "crystal clear" that He wanted me IN that river. Fully, without hesitation. I would be swept under, pulled into the depths of the raging current. No control, no means of escape. Yep, this is where He wants all of us. Fully immersed in Him. But NOW, no longer just in the RIVER, WE ARE TO BECOME THE RIVER.



Detroit's name means Strait. Strait is defined as CONNECTING two large bodies of water. There are also many smaller waterways and creeks flowing under and through the city that have been enclosed in sewers, in order for development to take place. These were at one time navigable, and only one, named Bloody Creek, has any part of it exposed. This creek was named as a result of bloodshed between the English and the French in a battle over the land, resulting in so much bloodshed, the river was said to actually have run red. There is a movement to uncover more of these waterways; "daylight" for recreational and community use in the city again. We also have made a comeback from unsafe polluted waters to 31 miles of habitat called The "INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE".

I hear language in the city which represents more than an "ecological" miracle. John 7.38 says, If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, from his INNERMOST BEING will flow rivers of living water. He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive.

Detroit, we hear the sound of your waterways, your rivers, coming into motion with the River of the Spirit. From your innermost being, what has been hidden, is now becoming transparent. Uncovered. The waters are stirring, converging into one mighty torrent of the Spirit, pulling into its depths all who inhabit. Detroit, you are an International City of Refuge – freeing those from unsafe polluted waters, to the pure water of the Spirit. The Spirit of Detroit, Holy Spirit.

Detroit, you are a transparent city. You show everyone the passionate desire you have for Me. You express it fully, no matter who is watching you, without shame or embarrassment.

You bring me to your innermost chamber, the Holy sanctuary I have formed within you. You carry Me within you, Detroit.

Look at you now, Detroit! Arising out of your wasteland, clinging to Me, your Beloved. When I awakened you under the apple tree, as you were feasting on Me, I awakened your innermost being with the travail of birth as you longed for more of Me. Detroit, you have fastened Me upon your heart as a seal of Fire, forevermore. This living, consuming flame will seal you, Detroit, as my prisoner of Love.

My passion for you Detroit, is stronger than the chains of death and the grave, all consuming as the very flashes of fire from the burning heart of God. This fierce, unrelenting fire I place over your entire being, Detroit. Rivers of pain and persecution will never extinguish this flame. Endless floods will be unable to quench this raging fire that burns within you, Detroit. Everything in you is consumed. It will stop at nothing as you yield everything to this furious fire, until it won't even seem to you like a sacrifice anymore!

The River of God – Christina Wilson

Detroit, you are my River that will flow to nations displaying My Glory. For I make you new, to show forth My Restorative Power. Detroit you are My jewel and you will shine as bright as the morning sun.

From Psalm 23

Detroit I am your shepherd, you shall not want. I lead you by (living) green pastures and quiet (peaceful) waters. I restore you Detroit, and guide you in the paths of righteousness for My name sake. Detroit you will fear no evil for I am with you. For I release My River of goodness and loving kindness over you Detroit.

Ezekiel 47.9 The Message

Wherever the River flows, life will flourish, where the River flows Life abounds.

Detroit, My River is flowing & new life, greater life is being released in you My river will flourish in and through you, life will abound in you Detroit

Apostle Bob said:

Become the River in the earth, that we are the River of God...

John 7.38 KJV

He that believeth on Me as the scripture have said out of His belly (innermost being) will flow Rivers of living water.

What are some benefits of a "River"

It brings Life, life, life.

Washes and cleanses (Naaman in 2 King 5.10).

Restore to the original intent.

Grows things and bring increase.



Refreshes, renews and bring relief even to a barren place.
A River carries a sound (Psalm 96.110 ...let the sea roar).

We are the sound of the River of God...
As we declare words of life, we release life and restoration.
As we delight ourselves in the word of God and meditate in His word day and night, we are promised.

Psalm 1.3a

He (you) will be like a tree firmly planted by streams (Rivers)
(we will yield fruit, ours leaves won't wither, we will prosper)

The River of God isn't just ordinary water (the woman at the well)

John 4.10

Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you 'Give me drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you "living water".

WE are that Living Water, WE are the RIVER of GOD!
The River of God saturates and penetrates to every very depth

Psalm 29.3a

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters (Rivers)



God's Declaration and Decree over Detroit
(some words taken from Isaiah 43.1 and Psalm 62.5-7)

Detroit you are mine, I have formed you. Do not fear to Rise in My River for I have redeemed you. I have Called you by name, Detroit. You are Mine! Detroit, I am your hope, I am your rock and salvation – your stronghold. You, Detroit will not be shaken; I am your Rock of strength, your refuge and you will become a refuge to many.

Revelation 22.1-2

¹ Then He showed me a River of the water of life, clear as Crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the lamb, ² 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.

Psalm 46.4

There is a River whose streams make glad the city of God,
The holy dwelling places of the Most High.

Psalm 47.1-4 NASB reworded

¹ O clap your hands, all Detroit;
Shout to God with the voice of joy.

² For the Lord Most High is to be feared,
A great King over all Detroit, over all the earth.

³ He subdues peoples under us
And nations under our feet.

⁴ He chooses our inheritance for us,
the glory of Detroit whom He loves.