

The Holy Have a River of Life

Jn 7:37-39 — Our Master said that whoever has received the Holy Spirit will have a river of life flowing out of him (his innermost being). So what should one do who claims to have received the Holy Spirit? Just as sure as He ascended and sent the Holy Spirit in Acts 2 will one have a river of life flowing out of him if he has received the Holy Spirit.

So what should one do if he *claims to see* or to have received the Spirit but does not have the river of life flowing out of him? Should he sit down and figure how one should be if he actually did receive the Holy Spirit and does have this river of life? Should he begin to *imitate* others who have the river of life, doing what they do? But how genuine and real can one lay down his life daily (Lk 9:23) as 1 Jn 3:14,16,17,23 for all the days of his life? It will be hard to fake, even to *truly* encourage his brothers daily (Heb 3:13). This is the proof of the *life-giving* spirit which pours forth *daily* in the Body of Messiah from all who are “saved and they know it, and their life surely shows it!”

Jn 7:38 — One *must* believe in Him “as the scriptures say;” *if not*, he cannot be entrusted with the Holy Spirit, and *if not*, then how can rivers of life flow out of him as verse 39 says? (1 Cor 6:17; Jn 4:10,14).

Jn 4:14 — Everyone born of the Spirit has a river of life flowing out of him, giving eternal life to others (Mt 10:40-41) by breathing on them (Jn 20:21-23), getting close enough to them so that they can *tell* the message is of God (Jn 7:17) and *recognize* that the messenger is righteous (verse 18). When they receive you (Jn 13:20), they receive His Holy Spirit and are reconciled to the Father. “*Faith*” — the Holy Spirit — comes by hearing (Jn 5:24; Rom 10:17). One must be drawn close enough to be *breathed* upon — to trust that what you are saying is *of God* (Jn 7:18) and not of man (2 Cor 11:3,4,13-15, by which is Christianity). No one receives *faith* without receiving the Holy Spirit and being sealed with the Spirit in baptism.