

September 8 Answers

- 1) In the Millennium, life-giving **water** will come from beneath the temple: half will flow **west** to the Mediterranean Sea, and half will flow **east** to the Jordan valley and the Dead Sea (Zech 14:8). The Dead Sea, which today is a symbol of barrenness and death, will be filled with fresh water and will teem with **fish**. This is a beautiful picture of the life and healing that comes from God's presence. God is the God of **life**—the source of all blessing and health! Ezekiel's vision ends with the giving of Israel's national **boundaries** and the allotment of the land to the tribes. Note that Israel will dwell in the land, but it will not be for them alone. Any **Gentiles** who settle among the tribes will inherit portions of land just like the natives (Ezek 47:21–23). This shows God's desire to incorporate "**strangers**" and "sojourners" into the nation of Israel (cf. Lev 19:34). What a compelling picture of the unity between Jews and Gentiles through Jesus Christ! In Him, we're **children** of Abraham and spiritual **Jews** (cf. Rom 9–11)! The book of Ezekiel ends with the words, "And the name of [Jerusalem] from that time on shall be, The **LORD** Is There (*Yahweh-Sammah*)" (Ezek 48:35b). This means that one day God will dwell with his people **forever**. Never again will they be separated from him because of sin. How wonderful to serve a God who **tabernacles** with his people! We need to ask ourselves: are we living in consistent **obedience** to God's will? Can it be said of our lives, "The LORD Is There"? If there's anything the book of Ezekiel teaches us, it's that **wickedness** will drive away the presence and glory of God.