RIVER WITH FOUR HEADS
Continued, PART 15

THE WHOLE FAMILY SERIES

by Norene Nicholls

"And the name of the third river is HIDDEKEL: that is it that goeth toward the east of Assyria." Gen. 2:14

In continuing the study of the river with four heads as it relates to the Family of Yahweh, we now come to the third river which is representive of the SON, even Yehoshua, the Messiah. This river bears a strange name, HIDDEKEL, whose meaning has been rather difficult to find. Strong's Concordance gives no meaning, Young's Concordance says it means RAPID. In breaking that word down, Young's says part of it means LIVELY. If this be so, then lively would come from the word LIFE which surely does fit the picture of the Son of the Most High, for "in Him was LIFE, and the LIFE was the light of men." Also, "when Christ who is our LIFE shall appear...." We know His purpose in coming into the world was to give LIFE unto all men, so I appreciate the fact that at least part of the word HIDDEKEL means LIVELY, or FULL OF LIFE.

But two times is this word HIDDEKEL used in the scriptures, in the one quoted above and in Dan. 10:4, "And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the GREAT RIVER, which is HIDDEKEL; Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: his body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude....etc." We have seen that Yehoshua is life itself as indicated by the name HIDDEKEL, but in its further use in Daniel, it is plain to be seen that the Hiddekel is the place of spiritual revelation. So great was the vision given to Daniel beside Hiddekel that he was prone upon his face and left without any strength. So totally drained of strength to even speak was Daniel that three times he had to be touched by the supernatural to give him strength to endure the vision that was to be shown him concerning his people (Israel) in the latter days. He was also told about the great spirit battle in which the Prince of Persia and the Prince of Greece were involved. He was told that it took the great warrior MICHAEL and his hosts to withstand these opposing forces. All of this came by the side of the river of Hiddekel. It is through the SON signified by this third river that such great visions and battles are made known.

We are now living in time of which Daniel wrote, the time when Michael is standing up to fight for Israel, even the time when revelation and visions must become reality. And, it can only be reality as we stand beside Yehoshua the Messiah and become a part of Him in partaking of His very life and liveliness. Daniel beheld such marvelous and awesome things beside that river until he was totally without strength and had to be supernaturally strengthened to receive it. We likewise are being drained of all natural strength until it seems we cannot even live and act as if we are already dead, but this but leads into the comprehension of what is actually taking place. In weakness is His strength made known. The vision and the fulfillment do not come in weakness, but they do come by His gracious touch and impartation of life when we are at our weakest. Be encouraged in these days when weariness seems to be so heavily upon us all, for it is leading into the fulness of the vision and the reality of what has been promised.

This third river is described as going to the east of ASSYRIA. If you will look up that word ASSYRIA, you will find it means or comes from the Hebrew ASSHUR, not as translated, ASSYRIA. This is most interesting, for ASSHUR means HAPPINESS, PROSPERITY, BLESSING. The third river, or the SON, goes forward toward HAPPINESS, PROSPERITY, BLESSING. There is no thought here of cursing or unhappiness or deprivation. Is it not written that the SON of man came not to condemn the world but to save it? He, as the third river, is

the giver of LIFE, VISION and BLESSING.

Yet the word Assyria or really ASSHUR is predicated on the fact that the river goes to the EAST of ASSHUR or Assyria. That important word EAST is most significant. In position it means FRONT or ahead of. In other words, this third river signifying the SON is in front of or ahead of all the blessings, happiness and prosperity. Thus it is that LIFE and REVELATION stand at the head of happiness, blessing, prosperity. They are more important in position than the blessings. Too many are so involved with being blessed and prospered that they forget the more imporant things--LIFE and VISION.

The Hebrew word for EAST as far as TIME is concerned means ANTIQUITY or ETERNAL which is really age-abiding. Thus it is that the SON ever moves us eastward of the place of blessing and happiness into the timings of the past and future. In other words, it is greater to be able to dip into the past ages or the future ages or even the present age than to be filled with happiness and blessings. We are at the point of time where the past and future meet, and we are to be enlightened concerning what we were before the foundation of the world which leads into what we shall be in the future, the very near future. Thus this third river, or the SON, moves us backward and forward in knowledge and reality of who and what we really are. Time is made to be our servant rather than our master, and we remember what the ancient past was that we might really know our true destination. We pre-existed in spirit form with this marvelous Yahweh Family before the world was, and we were chosen in Him before the foundation of the world, and that choosing is to be fully manifest in a people who are fully changed into His likeness, not only in spirit and soul,but in body likewise.

On two different occasions, if you will pardon the personal reference, I have asked to REMEMBER what I was, not have a vision of it, but actually have it brought to my memory of those ancient times. And twice has this happened in just a split second of memory, and it amazed me. I only relate this to point up the fact that the third river is leading us backward into primeval times as well as forward into the fulness for which we so long. If we really remembered who we were and what we were, then we would be more able to grasp that into which He is bringing us.

This word EAST as far as PRIORITY is concerned means FIRST. It is written, "I am the FIRST and the LAST." And, for the sons and daughters of the Most High they are led into that position or priority they once held which is FIRST. They were altogeter at first with the morning stars (daughters) singing and the sons shouting for joy. It was promised to Israel that they were to be the HEAD or the FIRST in priority. When the headship takes it place, then the rest of the nations will fall into their rightful places. Indeed it is spoken and written without pride or preeminence that the pre-existent ones who have been manifest in a body of flesh on the earth must take their priority or firstness through the living water of the third river, the SON, and know who they really were and are and shall be.

Thus, let it be stated here: the third river representing the SON flows east of blessings, happiness, prosperity. It flows timewise into the past and future and the knowledge of such which is greater than blessings. It flows positionally in front of or ahead of the blessings and prosperity and happiness. The river speaking of LIFE and REVELATION is more important than the blessings. Priority-wise the river takes FIRST place--LIFE AND VISION are first whereas blessing, happiness and prosperity must take second place. Let us not get our priorities mixed up in these days when fulfillment is close at hand.

It might be well to add this word of advice: You who are of the sonship company need to be like HIDDEKEL--keep flowing eastward into the greater things, those things that far outweigh the blessings and happiness and prosperity. In fact, the true sign of a true son of the Most High would be that his vision and outlook is to greater things than just the blessings. Then the blessings will follow automatically without looking or seeking for such. The SON OF Yahweh is the pattern, and the SON of the Most High is flowing like that third river with life and vision which then will encircle and encompass the blessings and happiness!!!

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