

from the Word of God, the water that comes from God. Now it is interesting that Rev. 22 doesn't just say that he saw this stream coming from God, he said, it proceeded out of the throne. And I can't help thinking that there is a purpose here in putting a little bit of stress on the importance of the throne of God, because there is great value and benefit for everyone of us in realizing the sovereignty of God. It comes from the throne of God. It comes because God provides it. It comes because God makes it available to us. It comes because it is part of his will and the knowledge of the understanding of God's will is a very vital thing in life. When Job lost practically everything, he said, The Lord has given, the Lord has taken away, blessed by the name of the Lord. And I think it is mighty valuable for us to get that spirit and that understanding what the Lord sends us as part of His plan is for our good, that His will is always best. Romans 8 tells us that God makes all things work together for good to them that love the Lord and to those that are called according to His purpose. The sovereignty of God is not a theological proposition to argue about and to make divisions between Christians over. The sovereignty of God is a great blessed act of God's universe which gives us encouragement and strength and understanding and help as we go forward, and it is vital that we have that understanding. It is much more vital that we have an understanding of this in our minds and our hearts and our attitudes that if we'd be able to express it exactly right in our theological terminology, though that also of course is important. It will seep out of the throne of God. The realization of the sovereignty of God and if what it means to us, realization that everything we have comes from him and is part of his will and is part of his plan, and that even if we don't understand, even if it isn't what we would want, if we are his people, it is His will for us. That is very important in the nourishment and strengthening of the one who is to be like a tree planted by the rivers of water. But now Rev. 22 doesn't stop here speaking of its coming from the throne of God. It adds a word. Proceeding out of the throne of God and of the lamb. And you wonder right away, Why add the phrase, 'of the lamb' here? 'The throne of God and of the lamb.' Is it to stress the deity of Christ simply?....end of S1