

CHAPEL 1. 12/2/58 (2/4)
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thousand, and it was a river that I could not pass over, for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over. And he said unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen this? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river. Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other. Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed. Well, let's skip down, just for lack of time, to verse 12, And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for food--the Old English meat, of course, we change to food, meat doesn't grow on trees--grow all trees for food--which is what the Greek actually is--whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed:--does that remind you of anything in the Psalm? Let me read this Psalm 1, verse 3, again, And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season, his leaf also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that, shall grow all trees for food, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed. What fruit will it have? It shall bring forth new fruit, according to his plan, because the waters have issued out of the sanctuary, and the fruit thereof shall be for food and the leaf thereof for medicine. Well, I think that may throw some light on the question. Is the Psalmist simply imagining any river at all, with any tree by it, or does he mean like the trees that will be by a certain river which is Ezekiel was privileged to see? Well, let's not give a conclusion to that question yet, let's see whether John saw this. Let's turn to the last chapter in the Bible. Revelation 22, verses 1, 2, and 17. Revelation 22, verses 1, 2, and 17. And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb, In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river--that's Old English of course, in modern English we'd say on both sides of the river, or perhaps with less change from the literal, on each side of the river, because one tree couldn't grow up on two sides of the river--on each side of the river, was there the tree of life--this of course is a collection, there were living trees on both sides of the river--which bare twelve