1. **Intro:**
   1.1. Mark Ritter – sharing next week & I want him to wet your appetite for his topic.
   1.2. Ezekiel wrap up!

2. **WORSHIP REORGANIZED! (44)**
   2.1. Note the emphasis on the word “My”. (vs.7,8)
       2.1.1. My sanctuary; My house; My food; My covenant; My holy things.
   2.2. (15) Unfaithfulness in service can lead to loss of privileges, but faithfulness can mean bring able to draw near to serve the Lord.
   2.3. (10-31) Somebody must serve in the temple, so God gave Ezekiel instructions concerning the Levites & priests.

3. **FUTURE SACRIFICES! (45)**
   3.1. (18-25) Future sacrifices! – Since Jesus has fulfilled all the OT sacrifices in Himself, why would God reinstate them in future temple worship?¹
   3.2. [1] These sacrifices are not propitiatory! (designed to appease or win favor)
       3.2.1. It was certainly not for the purpose of dealing with sin, for Christ’s sacrifice did that once for all, & the blood of bulls & goats never did talk away sin (Heb.10:1-4).
   3.3. [2] These sacrifices are memorial!
       3.3.1. It seems that these future sacrifices, like the Lord’s Supper today, will be memorials of what Jesus did. They will teach the Jews the meaning of their ancient religion in the light of the cross.
       3.3.2. Remember, the Lord’s Supper is only for the Church age, “for as often as you eat this bread & drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.” – It will never be celebrated again, after the saint of God leave this earth.
       3.3.2.1. So it seems that the sacrifices will be the new memorial of the cross & the whole wonderful story of the redemption.
       3.3.2.2. And what a memorial these sacrifices will be! (how much more visual, & less sterol)
   3.4. [3] These sacrifices are not a reinstitution of the Levitical system!
       3.4.1. There are some similarities, but many differences.
       3.4.1.1. Temple doesn’t have the same dimensions; ark is absent; tables of the law are missing; as is Aaron’s rod; mercy seat; high priest; veil; showbread; lamp stand; & the feast of Pentecost & Atonement don’t exist.

¹ Warren Wiersbe; With the Word; pg.556
3.4.1.2. In view of these differences, these sacrifices cannot be a reinstitution of the Levitical System.

3.5. That’s why I called this “Worship Reorganized!”

4. **NEVER LEAVE AS YOU CAME!** (46)
4.1. (9) We should not return from worship as we came!
   4.1.1. Things should be different because we have met the Lord.

5. **COME ON IN...THE WATERS FINE!** (47)
5.1. (1-12) Similarities between this event & Rev.22 yet they are distinct.
   5.1.1. Rev deals with the eternal state; Ezekiel deals w/the millennium.
5.2. Q: Remember learning how to swim? (I was 10, late)
5.3. Q: Remember the 1st time you went in the deep end of the pool? (fear, faith, trust)
5.4. This river speaks of the healing & life giving power of the H.S. of God.
   5.4.1. Let’s look at its Source, Course, & Force!
5.5. **[1] SOURCE!** – From under the threshold of the Temple. (vs.1a)
5.6. Jerusalem had no natural river (like most ancient capitals); but here a supernatural river is seen flowing from the house of God.
   5.6.1. Doesn’t the Holy Spirit flow down to us as rivers of living water?
      5.6.1.1. Read Jn.7:37-39 (esp.39)
   5.6.2. This river speaks of the healing & life giving power of the H.S. of God.
5.7. **[2] COURSE!** – Toward the East. (vs.1b)
5.8. Why eastward? – Toward the east country is the desert & the Dead Sea (explain).
   5.8.1. Which needs to be healed (1 from its barrenness & 1 from its bitterness!)
   5.8.2. The barren will become fruitful & the bitter to be healed.
   5.8.3. Barrenness becomes Loveliness & Sterility becomes Productivity!
   5.8.4. What a picture of the Spirit-filled, & Spirit-controlled Christian life!
5.9. **Illustration:** In Blythe it’s mostly farmland. They have many cement water troughs that surround their fields. At each turn they have a “sluice-gate” (flood-gate) that controls the flow.
   5.9.1. Jesus opened the Spirit-gate at Pentecost. And as water seeks its own course, He seeks to channel His course through consecrated believers, so as to communicate new life & abundance in the midst of surrounding spiritual death & unfruitfulness!
5.10. **[3] FORCE!** – ankles, knees, waist, swim. (vs.3-5)
5.11. 1st it reaches his ankles, then knees, then waist, then deep enough to swim in.
   5.11.1. To the babes in Christ, there are the shallows for wading.
   5.11.2. For others, the waters are knee deep, enough for splashing.
5.11.3. Then there are **waters up to the waist**, for those learning to swim.
5.11.4. And finally, the **deep waters** for the well-trained swimmers.
5.12. God wants us to be **swimmers** not “puddlers”!
5.12.1. **We must** grow up to full Christian manhood/womanhood until we can live in the **deep waters of the Spirit**.
5.12.2. **Q:** How can you learn to swim if you avoid the water?
5.13. No matter **how deep** you want to go into the things of God the opportunity is there.
5.13.1. It’s tragic that too many linger in the **shallows** when they could be enjoying the **depths**.
5.14. Some **young believers** are swimming in the deep end right away!
And unfortunately some **older Christians** are only up to their ankles!
5.14.1. The **fullness** is for you just **down stream** a little bit!
5.14.2. Another words, the **deeper the channel** through our **hearts & lives**, the more **deeply** the Holy Spirit will **flow through us**.
5.14.3. It’s not **claiming** it, it is **yielding** to it.
5.14.4. You can’t **commandeer** these waters, so stop asking, claiming, praying, begging, & start yielding. **Let them start having their ways in us.** There is no restraint on the part of the Holy Spirit.
5.15. The **fresh-flowing, ever-deepening, heart-gladdening, life-transforming** river is there for us! Oh that we might find those waters to **swim in**.
5.16. (13-23) Borders – The divisions & geographical changes in the land.
5.16.1. **Israel** was **promised the land** under the **Abrahamic Covenant**.
5.16.2. It was **unconditional** – its fulfillment was based on God’s promise alone. (reiterated in Deut.30:1-10)
5.16.3. It is **divided equally** between the 12 tribes, with **Joseph** receiving a **double portion** through his sons (Ephraim & Manasseh)

### 6. **Jehovah Shammah!** (48)
6.1. God assigns **our inheritance** & He will keep his covenant to Abraham & give Israel her land.
6.2. The important thing about the land is not the **river** or the **border** but the **glorious presence of God**.
6.3. (35) Jehovah Shammah **(The Lord is there)** is one of 9 special names of God in OT.
6.3.1. Jehovah Jireh “The Lord will **provide**/see to it” (Gen.22:14);
Jehovah Rophe “The Lord who **heals**” (Ex.15:26);
Jehovah Nissi “The Lord our **banner**” (Ex.17:15);
Jehovah M’Kaddesh “The Lord who **sanctifies**” (Lev.20:8);
Jehovah Shalom “The Lord our **peace**” (Judges 6:24);
Jehovah Tsidkenu “The Lord our **righteousness**” (Jer.23:6);
Jehovah Rohi “The Lord my **shepherd**” (Ps.23:1);
Jehovah Sebaoth “The Lord of **hosts/armies**” (Ps.46:7).
6.4. Jehovah Shammah – The Lord had departed from Jerusalem because of the sins of the people, but He will return to dwell with them & bless them.
6.4.1. Jehovah Shammah emphasizing the Lord’s preeminence & presence in millennial Jerusalem.

6.5. As we’ve consider God’s name we see His magnificence.
6.5.1. We’ve been introduced to the God who created us and desires to have a relationship w/us.
6.5.2. We’ve been forced to think rightly of Him!

6.6. Story: Pastor Harry Fosdick often counseled w/students from Columbia University. One evening, a student told him that he could no longer believe in God. Dr. Fosdick asked the student to describe the God he didn’t believe in. When the student finished sketching his idea of God, Dr. Fosdick stated, “Well, we’re in the same boat. I don’t believe in that God either.”

6.7. Look up suffering Christian! Rejoice discouraged believer! Jesus Christ is coming again, & He will institute righteousness, comfort every believer, & wipe away every tear.
6.7.1. Joy, peace, comfort, & gladness will belong to all believers – for eternity!