

Friday 13th November 2020

Isaiah 44:3 *"I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants."*

Acts 2:39 Peter said: *"The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call."*

When the land is thirsty and the ground is dry the seed does not grow and the fruit is lacking. But when water comes – and only then – things change and seed becomes fruit.

So it is with respect to faith and church. What there is due to water is here due to the Spirit of God. This means, for instance, that pressure on the church or contraction or marginalization is not in itself the sign or cause of dryness, but lack of Spirit is.

How, then, ought we to open our eyes to the manner in which God fulfilled and fulfils the promise of Isaiah 44 in Christ. *"Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.' By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive."* (John 7:38)

"Later" meaning after his cross and resurrection for the disciples, Pentecost for the church and now for all who ask in faith repenting of their sins. (Luke 11:13 / Acts 4:38)