WHAT DO THE "RIVERS" AND THE "SPRINGS OF WATERS" SIGNIFY?

(Excerpt from my book, "The Book of Revelation Decoded", pages 292-294)

In Revelation 8:10, we read:

"And the third angel trumpeted. And a great star fell out of heaven burning like a lamp. bAnd it fell onto the one-third of the rivers, cand onto the springs of waters." (AT)

Explanation of verse 10^b

"And it fell onto the one-third of the rivers,"

What do "the rivers" refer to? In Revelation 12:15, it says:

"And the serpent threw water out of his mouth like a river after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried off by the river."

From the above verse, we realize that the water which came "out of the mouth" of the serpent like a "river", symbolizes the spoken word of the serpent! We do find other allegories in the Bible of different things which "come out of the mouth" of different entities and which point to the same conclusion. Let us observe a few cases:

a) "And out of His mouth goes forth a sharp sword, that with it He might smite the nations. And He will shepherd them with an iron rod. And He treads the winepress of the wine of the anger and *of the wrath of God Almighty.*" (Revelation 19:15; compare with Hebrews 4:12)

- b) "and having in His right hand seven stars; and a sharp, two-edged sword proceeding out of His mouth, and His face shining as the sun in its power." (Revelation 1:16; compare with Hebrews 4:12)
- c) "But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked." (Isaiah 11:4)
- d) "And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:" (2 Thessalonians 2:8)
- e) "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are spirits of demons doing signs, which go forth to the kings of the earth, even of the whole habitable world to assemble them to the war of that day, the great day of God Almighty." (Revelation 16:13,14)

In the above case, although we observe three demon spirits coming out of the mouth of the foregoing entities, it is easily understood that they will accomplish their task through trickery and **misleading** words. After all, is this not the trademark of false prophets? (Matthew 24:11,24)

What does it mean that the star "fell onto the one-third of the rivers" only?

In the explanation of verses 8,9 above, we read Paul's prophecy about the coming of those "grievous wolves" who would speak "perverted things, in order to draw away the disciples after themselves" (Acts 20:27-31). Thank God that all the preachers of the gospel were not corrupted and the truth of the gospel is still around us to-day!

Explanation of verse 10^c

"and onto the springs of waters."

What do the "springs of waters" refer to?

The symbolic term "springs of waters" refers to the authors of the misleading words --- to the source! In the foregoing verse, Revelation 12:15, as "the water like a river" comes out of the mouth of the serpent, makes the serpent the source or the spring of that river!