

IN THE LATE 700S B.C. THE PROPHET AMOS was tasked by God to warn the Israelites of coming judgment. It was a time of great prosperity, but also corruption and idolatry. God sent multiple catastrophes to encourage people to turn back to Him: famine, drought, blight, mildew, locust, plagues like He sent to the Egyptians, war that killed their young men until the stench of death overwhelmed them—“yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.”

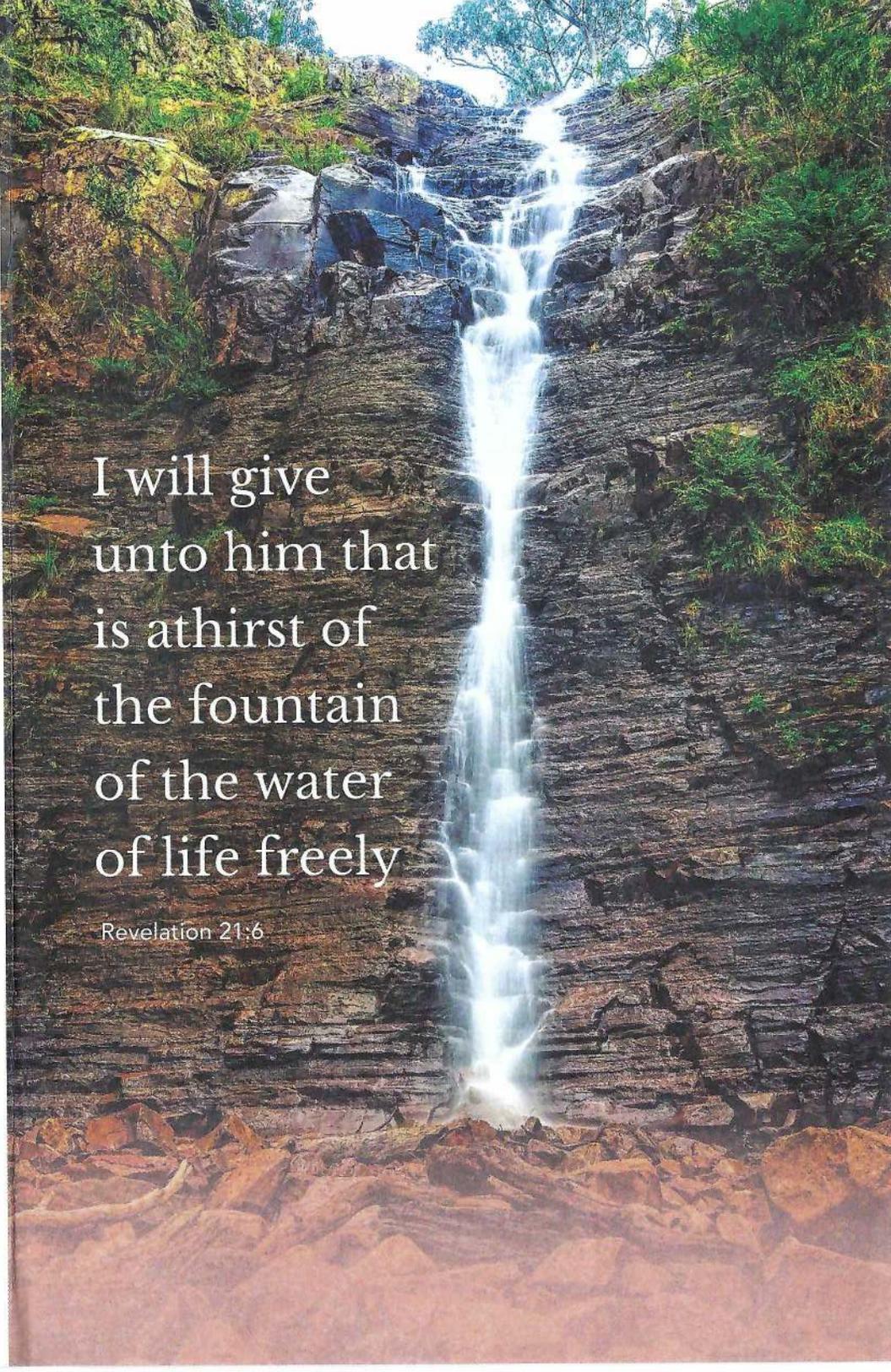
Fast forward to the 2020s. South Florida set 120 days of record heat. In one week’s time, three EF4 tornadoes struck in Mississippi within a forty-mile area. Australian wildfires charred over 20% of its forests and killed an estimated one billion animals. The rarity of twin hurricanes pummeled the Gulf of Mexico. Seven cyclones reached landfall in the continental United States before the end of August. Wildfires in western states wiped entire towns off the map. Thousands of people had to evacuate and lost everything as they watched their neighborhoods reduced to rubble because of the inferno. Toxic smoke wreaked havoc states away. Numerous places around the globe suffered riots and vandalism and shootings.

Most of these catastrophes happened during the worldwide coronavirus pandemic. This deadly disease affected us all in some way—job losses, school closings, quarantines, scarcity of needed supplies, even death. Perhaps the Lord is saying once again, “yet have ye not returned unto me.”

Amos said, “Seek the LORD, and ye shall live . . . Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name” (Amos 5:6, 8). The people in the time of Amos did not listen. Will we?

Lucinda J. Rollings

Silverband Falls, Australasia, ©Tracie Louise/Stock • Printed in USA



I will give
unto him that
is athirst of
the fountain
of the water
of life freely

Revelation 21:6

Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16th Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

August 21, 2022

Call to Worship

Sounds of Hope

Invocation

Ron Marks

Sing Unto the Lord

Hymn # 515 Since I Have been Redeemed

Welcome and Announcements

Ron Marks

Recognition of Guests

Mission Moment

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Worship in Song

Hymn # 208 Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So

Hymn # 209 This is the Day

Offertory Prayer

Michelle Miller

Offertory

Rose Morgan

Special Music

Sounds of Hope

Sermon:

*Noah Wilbanks
FCA*

Hymn of Benediction

#580 Through It All

Pastor Don Mauldin

352-262-5349

Covenant News

Covenant's ministry for August is the Food4Kids Backpack Program. Thousands of area students depend upon free lunch programs for the majority of their meals. On weekends and holidays when school isn't in session, these kids often go hungry - and they return to class too undernourished to focus on learning. Food4Kids sends these students home with food to help them bridge that gap, be it a standard weekend or the long summer break. Because when hunger ends, learning begins.

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Thanks to Julie Seeto

11-14-2002

**WHY DON'T YOU STOP WONDERING WHAT'S
WRONG WITH THE WORLD AND READ THE MANUAL**