



A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers.

(Genesis 2:10)

THE RIVERS OF THE GARDEN OF EDEN

WHERE are the ancient centers of civilization according to the Bible? The answer to this is hinted at in the description of the four rivers emerging from the Garden of Eden. It is natural that the ancients should believe the rivers of Eden to be those flowing through the lands most abundant in water, the foremost being the Tigris and the Euphrates in Mesopotamia. The Pishon and the Gihon have not been identified and may have merely been symbolic. But since Havilah is one of the regions of Cush (Gen. 10:7), it would seem that the two major branches of the Nile (the Blue and the White) are intended.