Church in Campbell Weekly News

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SPRINGS, FOUNTAINS, AND STREAMS

Deuteronomy says that the land is good in water. Listen to the different terms that are used: "a land of brooks of water"—that means a land full of streams of waters—and a land "of fountains and springs" (8:7). Do you understand the difference between fountains and springs? The translation of J. N. Darby says that it is a land "of springs, and of deep waters." Let me illustrate: Suppose we have a well. With a well, there is always a spring. Underneath, at the bottom of the well, is a spring of water which feeds the well. The water issues from that spring and fills the well, and the well becomes the "fountain" or the "deep waters." Then from this deep water, there flows out a stream. You have the spring, then the deep water which is the fountain, and then the stream.

The spring, the deep waters, and the streams. Brothers and sisters, what is the meaning of these waters? We can immediately turn to the Lord's word for the answer. The Lord said that the water He gives will be in us a well of water, a fountain, springing up unto the life of eternity. These waters are types of the various kinds of supply of Christ's life. The life of Christ as the supply to us is just like the different kinds of waters. The Lord told us that out of the innermost part of those who believe on Him will flow rivers of living water. What is this? This is the supply of the life of Christ as living water. If you reflect upon your experience and consider it carefully, you will realize that in one aspect Christ is so spacious and exhaustless and in another aspect Christ is transcendent and in the heavens. Then, if you view it accurately, you will realize that the supply of the life of Christ is just as living water within you. Many times you are thirsty—not thirsty in your physical body, but thirsty in your spirit. When you come athirst to the Lord and contact Him, you have a certain sense within you. You feel refreshed, you feel watered. When you are thirsty, it means that your spirit, your inner man is dry. But when you contact the Lord Jesus, it is not long before you feel watered and your thirst is quenched. You are refreshed more by this drink than by any physical beverage. Then, if you contact the Lord more and more and even moment by moment, you will feel more than watered; there will be a stream flowing forth from within you.

You may ask what I mean when I speak of a stream flowing forth from within you. Do you not have such experiences? When you are dry and thirsty in the inner man, you come to the Lord, you contact Him and you are refreshed. Then the more you contact Him, you are not only watered, but you are filled, you are full of water. I believe that the moment you meet a brother, you will say, "Hallelujah!" What is this? It is a stream flowing forth from within you. Then in the evening when you come to the meeting, you will come singing, you will come refreshed. You will immediately offer praise or a prayer, which will be just like a living stream flowing forth from within you. All the brothers and sisters will be watered by your prayer. You

can tell them, "Brothers, how good it is! But this is only a stream. Do you know that there is a spring within me, and not only a spring, but a fountain of deep water? I am full of water; so something is flowing forth."

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THE VALLEYS AND THE HILLS

Deuteronomy says that these waters are flowing forth from the valleys and the hills. What is the meaning of this? Obviously, without valleys and hills, no water will be flowing. If all the land is a plain, there will be no flow of water. What are the valleys and the hills?

In II Corinthians 6:8-10, Paul mentions many contrasting things, many hills and valleys:

"By glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things."

"Glory" is a hill; "dishonor" is a valley. The "evil report" is a valley; the "good report" is a hill. "As sorrowful"—a valley; "yet always rejoicing"—a hill. "As poor"—another valley; "yet making many rich"—not only a hill, but a mountain. Some thought that Paul was a deceiver. But he was "as a deceiver, and yet true"; with the valley there was a hill. In these verses, there are at least nine pairs, nine valleys and nine hills. These are the places from which the water may flow.

If you are someone without any hills and valleys, if your life is just a plain, I am sure there will be no water flowing within you. The more you suffer, the more you will have flowing forth. The more you have been abased, the more evil reports are made about you, the more the water will flow.

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Whenever God ordains sorrow for you, be assured that rejoicing will follow. "As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing." "As poor, yet making many rich." "As having nothing, yet possessing all things." All these are the valleys and the hills. "I have learned," said the Apostle Paul, "how to be abased and...how to abound" (Phil. 4:11, 12). He learned the secret. He knew how to be filled and how to be hungry. What is the secret? Oh, the secret is that Christ Himself is flowing within! I have learned, I have been instructed, I have been initiated. I know the living Christ that is within me.

All the valleys are the experiences of the cross, the experiences of the death of Christ, and all the hills are the experiences of the Lord's resurrection. A valley is the cross; a hill is the resurrection. We must be one who always has some trouble, some valley, but also one who is always on the hills, always in the experience of resurrection. Whenever there is a valley, there is a hill. Whenever you experience the death of the cross, you

will experience the resurrection. The living waters flow forth from all these experiences.

Let us look more closely at the passage in Deuteronomy 8:7. It says there that the water is "flowing forth in valleys and hills." It does not say in the hills and the valleys, but in the valleys and the hills. First the valleys, then the hills. Why? Because the first place you contact the flowing water is in the valleys. Then, if you trace that stream up to its origin, you find that it springs from the hills. The stream is in the valley, but the spring is in the hills. If you would have something flowing out from within you to water others, you must be in the valleys.

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If you can experience Christ in times of trouble and trial, how much you will have flowing out to others! How blessedly you will water others! It is not in peaceful times or in happy days that you can do this. It is in the days of sorrow, the days of sickness, the days of trouble. It is by your experience of Christ in these times that you may have the living flow to water others. Each situation of death may bring forth a greater outflow of refreshing water. Not only the hills, but also the valleys; not only the valleys, but also the hills. We need many experiences of the Lord's death and many experiences of the Lord's resurrection; then we will be full of the springs, the fountains, and the streams.

These are indeed sweet verses. It is a good land, a land of water brooks, of springs, and of deep waters, flowing forth in the valleys and the hills. And it is by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report, as deceivers and yet true, as unknown and yet well known, as dying and yet we live, as sorrowful and yet always rejoicing, as poor and yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing all things. Try to experience Christ and apply Christ when you are in all kinds of suffering; then you will have something which not only refreshes yourself, but also flows forth to water others. This is but a part of the unsearchable riches of Christ; this is just one item of the riches of the good land. The land is good in the riches of water: in brooks, in springs, and in deep waters, flowing forth in valleys and hills.

THE EYES OF THE LORD

From where does all this water come? It flows forth in the valleys and the hills. But from where do the valleys and hills get the water? Deuteronomy 11:11 and 12 says that this land "drinketh water of the rain of heaven." The hills and the valleys are not the source. Heaven is the source! All the living waters, all the streams, come from heaven. The source is in heaven. Why does it come from heaven? We are told in this same passage that this land is a land after which the Lord is seeking: "A land which Jehovah thy God careth for [Heb.—seeketh after]." God is seeking after this piece of good land. "The eyes of Jehovah thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of • the year even unto the end of the year." Oh, you can realize, when you are contacting Christ, when you are enjoying and experiencing Christ so that His life is flowing forth from within you, what a deep sense of the presence of God you will have! The presence of God will be so real to you. You will realize that you are one after whom God is seeking and one for whom God is caring. You will experience His eyes upon you from the

beginning of the year to the end of the year, simply because you are in Christ, you are enjoying Christ, you are experiencing Christ. Because you are practically joined with Christ, you will not only experience Christ as the living water, but you will enjoy the presence of God. The eyes of God will be upon you all the time. What God is seeking after is this piece of good land. You have to live within this good land and enjoy its riches; then you will obtain the presence of God with the eyes of God.

When you are not happy with me, you turn your eyes away from me. God does the same. But when you are enjoying Christ as such a land, the eyes of God will be upon you from the beginning to the end; you will enjoy God's presence continually. The presence of God will be with you because you experience Christ as your living water, because you are in the good land.

The land is rich in waters. It is a land of water brooks, springs, and deep waters, flowing forth in the valleys and the hills.

Excerpt from: The All-Inclusive Christ, Ch 4 THE GOODNESS OF THE LAND - ITS UNSEARCHABLE RICHES, I. WATER

Burdens for Church Prayer

- 2024 renew our consecration and new beginning.
- Establish a prayer life individually and corporately to seek God's desire for all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.
- Building up a healthy life practices and opening our homes to raise up our next generation.
- Pray for the campus work and for the remaining fruit at West Valley College.
- Pray for our reaching out to Campbell community.
- Pray for the saints in Hua Lien, Taiwan, who were affected by the 7.4 magnitude earthquake, and their financial needs.

Announcements

- Life-study of Second Corinthians 13&14
- HWMR: 2023 Winter Training. Week 4
- 4/23 (Tue.) 7:30pm Prayer meeting at Campbell meeting hall
- 4/19 (Fri.) NorCal Spring YP conference. Fremont. \$50/ea..
- 4/27 (Sat.) 10:30am -noon, South Bay Churches Blending: 2024 Spring ITERO respeaking, Church in Cupertino.
- 5/1 Semiannual Training (July 1-6) Registration by 5/1 Registration link:
 - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NeCFV45CB5IKbE3Abex5UrYrfyHRdqras7x- AxQ3h0/edit#gid=0
- 5/4-5/5 North America West Coast Korean-speaking blending conference

5/4 Sat.. 6:00pm-9:20pm. 5/5 Sun. 9:00am-12:30pm

[Zoom Link]

http://tinyurl.com/2024westcoast Meeting ID: 832 3050 1236

- 5/25-27 Memorial Day Conference will be held in Bellevue WA at Hyatt Regency Hotel (900 Bellevue Way NE). Registration is required for children service by 5/1.
- Financial Giving:

 Church in Campbell on-line donation account:
 PayPal/Venmo/Zelle: churchincampbell@gmail.com
 Church in Campbell book room account (PayPal):
 churchincampbellbooks@gmail.com