

The Bulwark

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April 7, 2024

OVERFLOWING SUPPLY

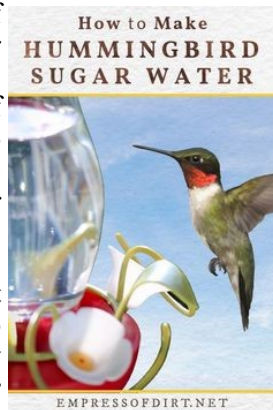
As of this writing, it has been spring for roughly two weeks. Yet, there is predicted a winter type storm due to hit in a few days. On the other hand, flower beds are awash with brilliant colors from flowering plants and shrubs. One could say that the earth is shaking itself awake from the slumber of winter. Birds of all sorts have returned to our backyard, chirping and cawing. Hummingbirds seem to have materialized from out of nowhere. Then it dawns on me, we have forgotten to hang the hummingbird feeders so they can be fed with the sugary-sweet water placed therein. Surely they have got to be famished, poor little birds. Without those feeders in place and full of “nectar”, what will they do? Then it hits me, they will do what they have done for millennia, allow God to feed them. *“Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns and your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?”* (Matthew 6:26)

Sometimes we forget that God supplies in abundance and as Jesus notes that man is the highest of His creation. It behooves us to keep in mind what David writes in the 8th psalms and verse four. *“What is man that Thou dost take thought of him? And the son of man, that Thou dost care for him?”* God does indeed care for us. When life seems to have sapped everything from us and our strength feels as if it is on life support, God remains a constant. He provides what we need most; nourishment for the soul.

In the 36th psalms, David writes in celebration of the lovingkindness of God after expressing the vileness of man in the first four verses. He weaves a tapestry showing how plentifully God provides for those who place their trust in Him. Notice what is found in verses eight and nine. *“They drink their fill of the abundance of Thy house; and Thou dost give them to drink of the river of Thy delights. For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light we see light.”*

“On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow

ivers of living water.” (John 7:37-38) Pay attention to the wording seen in the verse and the end result of turning to Him. Turning back to the 87th psalm the psalmist starts and ends with the picture of an overflowing supply of God’s lovingkindness and joy. Most certainly He is the fountain of life.



The woman who came to the well outside the city of Sychar in the region on Samaria, found a man waiting there. She soon came to realize He was much more than a mere man. As the conversation between the woman and Jesus unfolded, He pointed out the following. *“Everyone who drinks this water shall thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”* (John 4:13-14) The response she gave is one that all would do well to embrace today, *“Sir, give me this water...”*

The spiritual refreshment that is constantly needed, is available every day, as God richly supplies our needs. Noted denominational preacher, Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892) is cited as having written, *“The springs of my faith and all my graces; the springs of my life and all my pleasures; the springs of my activity and all its doings; the springs of my hope, and all its heavenly anticipations, all lie in Thee, my Lord.”* Solomon succinctly stated, *“The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, that one may avoid the snares of death.”* (Proverbs 14:27) An overflowing supply, of all things pertaining to both *“life and godliness”* (see 2Peter 1:2-4)

In a dramatic setting found in the book of Revelation, there is yet another assertion surrounding the bountiful blessings found only in a positive relationship with God. *“For the Lamb in the center of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them to springs of the water of life; and God shall wipe every tear from their eyes.”* (Revelation 7:17) Thinking back to the hummingbird feeder, the hummingbirds really didn’t need it inasmuch as God provides for them. Mankind needs to awaken to the overflowing supply He provides for us. Words of eternal life. (wbe)