

PASSING THROUGH THE VALLEY OF BACA. Psalms 84:6

INTRODUCTION: A good sub-title might be: LIVING WATER FROM HIDDEN SPRINGS.

THE IMAGE IN OUR LESSON TEXT

1. The image of a company of pilgrims going toward the holy city: Jerusalem; Heaven for us.
2. It seems to be the way of a dry, desolate, sterile valley. Lessons:
 1. In that "dry and thirsty land" many a traveler has fainted with thirst.
 2. On those rugged rocks many a feeble or heedless foot has slipped.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF BACA

1. No one knows for sure the exact location of this valley. In fact it may show most any place.

THE EXPLANATION OF THE VALLEY OF BACA

1. Some say that it means "wet, marshy places;" while others say it means "dry sandy places."
2. Clearly it means something trying and difficult for pilgrims.
3. Some valleys through which pilgrims must pass.
 1. The valleys of unrelieved want; desert places.
 2. Valleys of weeping and valleys of sorrow.

LOOKING BEYOND THE VALLEY OF BACA

1. If life has its dangers and deserts, weary wastes, gloomy gorges, perilous passages; it has too:
2. Its sunny uplands and smiling valleys, fields of happy fruitful labor, quiet resting-places, all cheered by bright hopes, warm affections and pleasant memories.

THE EFFECT OF THE WORK OF THOSE PASSING THROUGH BACA

1. They did not leave as they found it. (not litter)
 1. They were not litter bugs strowing trash and debris along the way.
2. They make it a well. What this means:
 1. A well means refreshment-renewal. 2 Cor. 4:16-18
 2. A well leads to rejoicing.
 1. A well of water springing up into eternal life. John 4:14
 2. Living fountains of water. Rev. 7:17

OTHER WELLS...NOT LIVING WELLS

1. All wells are not good wells.

1. Water of some wells contaminated. May appear harmless.

2. There are wells without water. 2 Peter 2:17;
Of some false

teachers Peter said;

1. These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved forever.

THOSE WHO WORK SUCH WONDERS...MAKE THEM WELLS: And the rain filleth the pool.

1. Those who love God's house. Verse 4: "Blessed are they that dwell in thy house..."

2. Those who receive strength from God. Verse 5:
"Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee."

3. Those who have hearts right before God. Verse 5:
"Whose hearts are the ways of them."

1. Those who dwell in God's house; whose strength is in God, and in whose heart are the ways of them.

CONCLUSION:

Such people as love God who receive their strength from God and whose hearts are right before God are going to make the wells and God is going to fill the pools.

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