



LIVING LOGOS
MINISTRIES

The Living Logos

Teaching Newsletter

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My Cup Runs Over ~ Pastor Trey Dickerson

For some time now in our monthly teachings, we have been looking at the 23rd Psalm, which I see as a good description of the good life the Lord wills for all of us to live. And this month, I would like for us to turn our attention to the statement King David made in the 5th verse—“My cup runs over!”

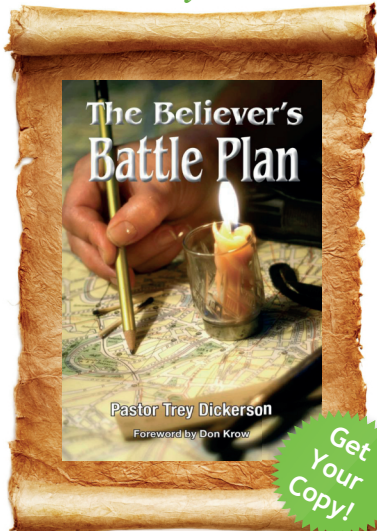
Now, when it comes to this phrase “My cup runs over,” the idea is that David was saying, “My cup overflows with blessings.” And the picture we have painted here is of a cup that is not just filled full to the brim, but a cup that is actually overflowing and spilling over with more than enough. Hallelujah! From a spiritual point of view, it describes having so much peace, joy, God’s presence, etc., that you are more than fulfilled in your heart. From a financial sense, it describes having “more than enough money”— more than you need, more than you can spend, and extra to give. Whatever example you want to use— our cup running over describes a life spilling over with the goodness of God! Glory!

Now the first name God ever used to reveal Himself to mankind described this very characteristic that we are talking about here:

He appeared to Abram in Genesis 17:1 and revealed one of His names as, “Almighty God.” The Hebrew word that He used here was “El Shaddai.” The word “Shaddai” was derived from the word “shad” which means “breast” and the word “el” which was a word that described God as mighty, strong, and powerful. So, when you combine these two words together, they describe God as the One who is able to supply and provide every need that we have. But if you look a little deeper into the meaning it carries the idea of Him being “All-Sufficient,” or you could say, “more than enough!”



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A WORD FROM SHANNON

In First Kings 17:4, God told Elijah, “Get away from here ... I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.”

Notice that in this verse, Elijah’s place of provision was not where he was, but where God told him to go— there!

Let me give you a sports illustration of this. A quarterback has receivers

who he throws the ball to. When those receivers run pass routes, the quarterback does not throw the ball where they are; he throws the ball where they are SUPPOSED to be.

My brothers and sisters, provision has been commanded where you’re supposed to be, not necessarily where you are right now.

Always remember: your provision is in your place. That’s right: your grace is in your place.

("My Cup Runs Over" continued)

You see, God's nature is to not just be our sufficiency, but to be our all-sufficiency! In other words, His tendency is to not just meet our needs, but to meet them in abundance! As I've heard my father in the faith, Andrew Wommack, say time and time again, "God is El Shaddai, not El Cheapo!" God is too much!

Now many Christians do not embrace this as an aspect of God's nature because of their belief that Jesus' life and ministry teaches us differently. Yes, they believe that the Lord was poor and that He taught us to be poor as well. But let's look at a couple of examples from His ministry and see if we can see any of the nature of "El Shaddai" in the Gospels.

First of all, we should consider the miracles of Jesus multiplying the loaves and the fishes for the thousands. In both of these accounts (where He fed the 5,000 men & then the 4,000 men), we are told that they ate and were filled, and also took up twelve baskets full and seven baskets full, respectively, of leftover bread and fish (see Mark 6:42-43 & Mark 8:8).

Now let me ask you a question: Did God miscalculate how many people there were in both of these accounts? Did He just multiply some extra bread and fish in case there were more people than He anticipated? I think not! No, El Shaddai knew exactly how many people were there, yet He gave them more than enough.

How about In Luke 5:1-10, when Jesus called His fisherman to come follow Him? This was, of course, when Jesus used Simon Peter's boat to teach those following Him. So, in what was likely Jesus blessing Peter for the use of His boat, He told him to "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch" (Verse 4). Then we are told that they caught such a great number of fish that their net was breaking. This resulted in Simon and his brother calling for their partners to come and help them and after they had come and filled both the boats, the boats began to sink.

But again, did the Lord know how much their nets would be capable of holding without breaking? Did He know how many fish both of their boats could hold without sinking? Sure, He did! He didn't just command as many fish as He could to come get in their nets. The Lord is much more specific and methodical than that. So, why did they have "too many" fish? It's because it is simply God's nature!

Let's look at one other example in the life of Jesus, because it correlates with this one we just looked at: In John chapter 21, after Jesus was raised from the dead, He appeared to His disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, but they didn't recognize them. He speaks to them from the shore, asking them if they had caught anything. So, when they answered Him that they hadn't, He told them to cast the net

on the right side of the boat and they would find *some*. Now, the word "some" is not in the original text, and that is because they didn't wind up catching just *some*; we are told that they caught a *multitude*! In this case, they had to drag the net to land because it was full of 153 large fish. However, the net did not break! (see John 21:1-11)

Now the interesting part of this story to me is that they initially didn't recognize Him. For some reason, their eyes were constrained from knowing that it was Him just like those disciples on the Road to Emmaus. But it was when they experienced yet another miraculous catch of fish that they recognized Him, saying, "It is the Lord!" In other words, they recognized His goodness!

And, church, this is what it all boils down to—can we see His goodness! In other words, are we able to the Lord as the cup overflowing God that He is? I tell you the truth, the primary reason that many believers do not receive from El Shaddai is because they don't know El Shaddai. No, I am not saying that they do not know the Lord in regard to Him being their Savior. I am simply saying that they do not know this aspect of His nature.

It's time for us to get a bigger cup, saints! And we do this by seeing God in this light and taking the limits off of Him—for once we recognize our cup-overflowing, net-breaking & ship-sinking, bread and fish-multiplying, too much God, we are ridding ourselves of the "sippy cup" and getting a "BIG GULP cup," able to contain more of His goodness! Glory to God!

Victoriously,



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