

The Great Supplier

But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

Life in this world is filled with needs. To maintain our physical wellbeing there seems to be a never-ending list of things we need. Food, water, and shelter are the three most basic things necessary to sustain our earthly existence. It is also important for us to distinguish between wants and needs, especially when addressing the Lord in prayer. God always knows what is best for us and promises to supply our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

In today's text the apostle Paul commends the Philippian church for fully supplying his needs while he was in prison. He reminds them that their abundant sacrifice will be reciprocated through the riches of the Lord Jesus. Paul compares their gifts to a sweet-smelling sacrifice that is well pleasing to God. Throughout the scriptures there are accounts that remind us of the benefits of sacrificial giving. The widow of Zarephath gave her last handful of grain to the prophet Elijah and afterwards was miraculously supplied with a barrel of meal that never emptied. An unnamed lad gave his five barley loaves and two fish to Jesus only to be resupplied with abundantly more than he gave. Here in Philippians 4 we are reminded that as we seek opportunities to supply the needs of others, so the Lord will supply abundantly for us.

There is great comfort when we reflect on the loving care of our Great Supplier. In the Garden of Eden, Adam was not created until after God had first put in place all that he would need. The Sermon on the Mount teaches us that God who provides for the fowls of the air will certainly supply our needs. The provision for our greatest need-the forgiveness of our sin debt- was set in place *before* the foundation of the world. And far beyond that God provides well for us - our daily bread, peace that passes all understanding, the purpose of His will in our lives, the presence of His Spirit, and a mansion in heaven, just to name a few. Whatever need may arise, we can rest assured that our Lord shall supply. – J. Ekis

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