

A FLOWING SPRING

Joshua 15:18-19

“...Caleb said to her, ‘What do you wish?’ She answered ‘Give me a blessing...give me also springs of water...’ “

In the preceding verses of this chapter of Joshua, Caleb is described as a faithful servant of God, who gave his daughter, Achsah, in marriage to Othniel. The portion of land the couple had been given was ‘the south land’ and the south land was a dry land.

Achsah with her husband’s agreement, approached her father, who immediately responded to her with the words “*What do you wish?*”, to which Achsah replied, “*Give me a blessing; since you have given me land in the South, give me also springs of water*”. (v. 19)

Achsah had accepted the land assigned to her by her father, but she didn’t want it to remain a dry land, a place of unproductive barrenness, so, she asked of her father ‘springs of water’.

Caleb listened and graciously granted her request and gave her “*the upper and the lower springs*” (v. 19), on sloping land, so allowing the water to overflow and irrigate the whole of the land.

We all know that water brings forth vibrant new growth. Achsah’s dry land would become watered land, flourishing with new life, new growth, and productive. Achsah asked her father, making a specific request to him, and she asked in confidence that he would, indeed, listen to her request and that he would graciously meet her need according to his wisdom.

Achsah didn’t complain or rebel at the situation, but she confidently looked to her father to supply what was necessary in that circumstance to bring the life and growth needed.

We could think here of the words of Jesus in John 7:37-39;

“...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 rivers of living water. But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive...”

Achsah came to her father confidently trusting that He would only do her good. She asked her father because she knew her father.

The springs of water Achsah received would provide bountifully for both the immediate and the ongoing need, as long as Achsah kept both those springs flowing freely and not allowing them to get clogged up!

We don't have to live in a 'dry land' spiritually; let us keep a personal, daily communion with our Father, sharing our hearts and the matters of our lives.

Let us ask Him, as did Achsah, with confident trust that He knows and will do only what is good for us. Many times in the Gospels, we are encouraged to 'ask' in relation to our needs. God knows our needs and will graciously answer according to His fuller understanding of those needs and what is best in them.

If, by consistent personal communion with our Father, we keep our 'springs' from clogging up and so becoming 'dry', the rivers of living water of the indwelling Holy Spirit will flow out from us, changing the lives of those with whom we come into contact.