

Things that are Never Satisfied

Pastor Tom Hendershot

¹⁵ *The leech has two daughters—Give and Give! There are three things that are never satisfied, four never say, “Enough!”: ¹⁶ The grave, the barren womb, the earth that is not satisfied with water—and the fire never says, “Enough!” (Prov. 30:15-16)*

There is something eerie about the grave. Sometimes when I am in a graveyard it dawns on me that we were really never meant to die. Death is an enemy of humanity. The grave never seems satisfied. In one day it can scope up a hundred thousand people with a tidal wave or other disaster. One would think that it would be satisfied and take a year or two off. But it never does. It is always hungry for more. It doesn't care how old or young its victims are. Its grassy fingers reach up from the ground always trying to pull more and more folks down into its grip. It never says, “Enough!”

We are no strangers to floods in Marietta. I think we have paid our dues over the last hundred years or so. However, the anxiety of a flood is always a reality to us here. Surely we have flooded enough. Shouldn't we be able to say to the flood waters, “Pass us by from now on, we have already received enough flood waters in this town.” But that can never happen. Why? Because the flood waters never have their fill! They will flood and ruin people's homes and lives. They don't care who or what they destroy. More and more of them keep on coming. They never say, “Enough!”

Sometimes I love to feed a fire. If we are camping it feels good to sit by the fire and occasionally throw another log onto it. We had a fireplace in our house in Colorado Springs. I cut down several large cottonwood trees and we fed the fireplace on the wood of them for over four years. The more wood we fed the fire, the more it consumed. It was never satisfied.

There are probably few things as terrible as when fire destroys property or takes lives. Once it starts through a neighborhood or forest it keeps eating up everything in its path. It doesn't care who its victims are. As long as it gets fed it keeps on consuming. It never says, “Enough!”

Along with the grave, the flood, and the fire in this text is the barren womb. There were many barren women mentioned throughout the Scripture. Sarah was barren. She conceived in her aged state and gave birth to Isaac through the promise of God. Hannah was barren. She prayed and God blessed her with Samuel, who became a mighty prophet of God. There are several others.

Rachel cried out to God, “Give me children or else I die.” Joseph and Benjamin were given to her. She refused to be denied. She would not be satisfied childless. Jacob blessed her with many things but they were not enough. She was barren and cried, “Give, give!” We learn in Scripture that this is the attitude that God blesses.

No womb was more barren than the Virgin Mary's since she had never been with a man. Yet God brought life to all humanity through her barren womb. When the promise was given to her, she received it and it produced the Savior of the world.

The leader that makes a real difference is someone who is not satisfied easily. While others say, “Enough already!” the leader that makes a real difference in his world says, “Give me more!” “Give, Give!”

It seems that God never blesses the status quo much. The leader whom God blesses is the one who is always looking for ways to make things better. He is like the leech that will draw with its two suckers and cry, “give, give!” While everyone around says, “You've done enough,” “You've helped out a lot,” the leader God blesses says, “We can do more.” “We can do better.”

Some things can be destruction as they demand more and more. The blessed leader is not like the fire or the flood, but is like the barren woman who wants to impart into the next generation. While most will be satisfied with the blessings we already have, the Godly leader wants more of the good things we all need so they can pass prosperity and blessing on to the next generation. May God grant us to be those leaders who want more of the right things and refuse to be unfruitful!!!! May He grant us the gift of Divine dissatisfaction! May God grant us to be good stewards of the things He has put under our charge! Amen.

Our Father, give us the desire to do even better in 2014 than we have ever done before. Give our Mayor and his team the blessings they need to have their best year ever. Bless their families with health and peace.

Our Father, bless now we pray, these who give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may serve all men, including the suffering, the friendless; and the needy and work to make this community a better place to live and work than it has even been before.

Merciful Creator, we know your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us, we pray, ever thankful for your loving providence and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty.

Lord Jesus, in your earthly life you shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with your people in this community where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this city and surrounding area responsive to your will; and give to us all a pride in what we do, and a just return for our labor.

Lord God, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of this community a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, and the light of your truth that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will, to the glory of your holy Name. *Amen.*