

# Upper Springs

by Charles E. Cowman

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of finding and relying on the upper springs of joy, comfort, and strength that come from God, which can be found in the midst of any situation.*

**Scripture:** Joshua 15:18, Psalm 84:6, Isaiah 41:18, John 4:14, Revelation 7:17

**Topics:** "Divine Provision", "Faith In Adversity"

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## Description

Charles E. Cowman preaches about the abundant blessings and refreshment that come from God, using the story of Caleb and Achsah to illustrate how God provides springs of water in the midst of dry and difficult circumstances. He emphasizes that these springs flow in various places of life, sustaining and nourishing us even in the most challenging times. Through examples like Abraham, Moses, David, and Habakkuk, he shows how faith in God's provision can bring joy and strength in the face of adversity, pointing to the martyrs and reformers as models of finding God's springs in times of persecution and conflict.

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## Transcript

"And Caleb said unto her, What wouldest thou? Who answered, give me a blessing; for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And he gave her the upper springs, and the nether springs" (Joshua 15:18, 19).

There are both upper and nether springs. They are springs, not stagnant pools. There are joys and blessings that flow from above through the hottest summer and the most desert land of sorrow and trial. The lands of Achsah were "south lands," lying under a burning sun and often parched with burning heat. But from the hills came the unfailing springs, that cooled, refreshed and fertilized all the land.

There are springs that flow in the low places of life, in the hard places, in the desert places, in the lone places, in the common places, and no matter what may be our situation, we can always find these upper springs.

Abraham found them amid the hills of Canaan. Moses found them among the rocks of Midian. David found them among the ashes of Ziklag when his property was gone, his family captives and his people talked of stoning him, but "David encouraged himself in the Lord."

Habakkuk found them when the fig tree was withered and the fields were brown, but as he drank from them he could sing: "Yet will I rejoice in the Lord and joy in the God of my salvation."

Isaiah found them in the awful days of Sennacherib's invasion, when the mountains seemed hurled into the midst of the sea, but faith could sing: "There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God. God is in the midst of her: she shall not be moved."

The martyrs found them amid the flames, and reformers amid their foes and conflicts, and we can find them all the year if we have the Comforter in our hearts and have learned to say with David: "All my springs are in thee."

How many and how precious these springs, and how much more there is to be possessed of God's own fulness! --A. B. Simpson

I said: "The desert is so wide!"

I said: "The desert is so bare!

What springs to quench my thirst are there?

Whence shall I from the tempest hide?"

I said: "The desert is so lone!

Nor gentle voice, nor loving face

Will brighten any smallest space."

I paused or ere my moan was done!

I heard a flow of hidden springs;

Before me palms rose green and fair;

The birds were singing; all the air

Did shine and stir with angels' wings!

And One said mildly: "Why, indeed,

Take over-anxious thought for that

The morrow bringeth! See you not

The Father knoweth what you need?"

--Selected

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