Matthew 6:25-34

"Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they

toil not, neither do they spin:

29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was

not arrayed like one of these.

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

- 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?
- 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that

ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

God's Ravens

F. B. Meyer

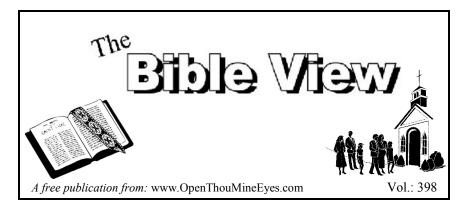
A little boy, having read with his mother the story of how God fed Elijah by the ravens, sat on a wintry night in a fireless room beside a bare table. With a simple, child-like trust, he asked his widowed mother if he might set the door open for God's ravens to come in.

"I feel sure they must be on their way," he said. The trustful mother granted the request.

The mayor of the German town, passing by, was curious by the sight of the open door, and entered, inquiring the reason it was open. When he learned the reason he said, "I will be God's ravens!" He met their needs then and long afterwards.

SIGN-UP for the free, weekly, e-mail version of <u>The Bible View</u> at:

www.OpenThouMineEyes.com



Just Enough

Bill Brinkworth

After two months of being led out of the bondage in Egypt, the people of Israel complained (Exodus 16:2) about not having the food they liked. They ignored the fact that they were mistreated in slavery, God delivered them from their bondage, and that they daily could see God's leadership and provision as they traveled through the wilderness. God, however, heard their complaints and met their needs.

God rained "bread" from heaven every morning for the people. The sweet, small bread was also called "the corn of heaven" and angel's food (Psalms 78:24-25). Six days a week the manna rained down, just enough for every man, woman, and child to eat. Each family gathered what they could eat: about one omer (3.6 liters). After the sun burned hot, there was no manna left. The manna melted. They had just enough for that day!

If the people did not trust that God would provide the "bread" the next day, and tried to hoard it, it would stink and turn to worms.

They had no choice but to trust that God would provide their daily needs. To compound God's

miracle of provision, on the day before the Sabbath, when they Continued on Page 2

God Provided

Dr. J. Campbell

- Abraham's knife lifted up to kill his son; an angel appeared.
- Lot was near destruction; angels intervened.
- Hagar and her son were dying; an angel showed them water.
- Moses was trapped from escaping his enemy by the sea: God parted the waters.
- Rabshakeh insulted God; his army was destroyed in twelve hours.

Just Enough

Continued from Page 1 were not to work, God rained down a two-day's supply of manna. The bread gathered that day would last two days. God gave them just enough food every day for the next 40 years, until they ate corn in the land (Joshua 5:12) that God had led them to.

All through the Bible there are examples of God's meeting the needs of His own. Jacob had a son, Joseph, in the right position to provide his family food during a drought. God provided just enough food to meet all Israel's needs when they were in the wilderness. The widow's miraculously-refilling barrel of meal and the cruse of oil were iust enough to meet Elijah's and the widow's needs. Jesus told the disciples to reach the world with the Gospel and not carry anything extra. In all cases, God provided just enough. were not to have extra, because they were to trust in God, and see what He would do for them on a daily basis.

Man's distrusting nature relies too often on his own provision. There needs to be a correct balance about saving for a "rainy day" and amassing as much a one can get because he thinks that only he can provide. We are

"When you're down to nothing, God may be up to something." to be wise and good stewards of what we have, but not dependent only on what we do. It is often forgotten that God wants us to trust him for everything, including our daily needs.

Most people have long forgotten, or never given any thought or trust, that it is God that is the one that ultimately provides all we have. It is not a government's foodstamps, or its welfare that we should be relying on. It is not our big barns of storage, as the "fool" in Luke 12:16-21, trusted in. It would not take much for a government to collapse, especially these days, or "barns" of investments or savings accounts to fail; and then where would those people be, that are relying on them.

My wife and I have learned a long time ago that God will meet our daily needs. We saved what we could, sometimes only ten dollars a week, and have been frugal with our purchases, but still tithed (gave to the Lord through the local church). We soon learned that God honored his promises and did provide our "daily bread" (Mat. 6:11). We have always had enough to pay our bills. When in desperate need of housing, God allowed us to have just enough money from an insurance claim to fix-up an old house. When our house was in desperate need of paint, the paint I found was just enough to cover the job and just "happened" to be the right color. Without planning, I purchased

seeds for the garden, and they were just enough to cover the available space. Repair jobs around the house are often met by having just enough materials laving around the house. Food prepared happens to be just enough to meet the needs of all the unexpected guests that dropped in for dinner. Clothes given to us, just happened to fit exactly our sizes. On and on, I could go of 30+ years of God's precise provision. Sometimes we had a little extra, only to find, in a couple of days that it would be just enough to replace a damaged tire or meet the needs of another emergency. After thousands of examples of just having enough, we quickly learned it was not coincidence, but God's provision.

If we had had a surplus, we may not have been reliant and appreciative of God's provision. If we had had everything we wanted, we may have been like the wealthy man I visited one time. After I told him the Bible's plan of salvation, he looked me in the face and said, "Look around. Do you see all I have?" He did have a large mansion, cars, and other splendid things. "Does it look like I need God?" He needed to know that it was God that had provided, not himself. Without God's help he may not have the health, or the intellect, to have earned that money. People like that who have such self-trust often have to, and do, lose all they have to find out Who really is in control.

"SOD GIVES THE SHOULDER TO FIT THE BURDEN."

Today's world has become more dependent on their own devices or government aid; including Christians! Unfortunately, those provisions frequently let those, that trust them, down. The ways of man are not trustworthy, nor always reliable. God, however will never let his own down that trust in Him. Rely on God to provide. He may give you just enough, but it will be He that you will reliably trust in. You will then see what the mighty hand of God will do in your life.

Little Is Much When God Is in It

Hymn by Kittie J. Suffield

In the harvest field now ripened, There's a work for all to do. Hark, the voice of God is calling, To the harvest calling you.

CHORUS:

Little is much when God is in it. Labor not for wealth or fame. There's a crown and you can win it, If you go in Jesus' name.

Does the place you're called to labor
Seem so small and little known?
It is great if God is in it,
And He'll not forget His own.

CHORUS:

"What God ordains, He sustains!