

As we continue to see different titles and descriptions of the Lord Jesus Christ, we observe this afternoon the title of... *“The Nourisher.”* By definition, the word “nourish” is...

1. To feed and cause to grow; to supply a living or organized body, animal or vegetable, with matter which increases its bulk or supplies the waste occasioned by any of its functions; to supply with nutriment.

2. To support; to maintain by feeding. Genesis 47:12.

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/nourish>

Joseph, a wonderful type of Christ, is depicted as a nourisher:

Gen. 45:11 And **there will I nourish thee**; for yet *there are* five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.

Gen. 47:12 And **Joseph nourished his father, and his brethren, and all his father's household**, with bread, according to *their* families.

Gen. 50:21 Now therefore fear ye not: **I will nourish you, and your little ones**. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

❖ As our *Nourisher*, the Lord Jesus is our provider for mankind's needs.

I. THE LORD, OUR NOURISHER, IS OUR PROVIDER

A. The Lord Nourishes His Creation

Gen. 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying,
Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

Gen. 9:3 Every moving thing that liveth **shall be meat for you**; even as the green **herb have I given you all things.**

- ❖ From the beginning of Creation, the Creator provided for mankind.
- ❖ In the beginning, Adam and Eve could leisurely enjoy God's provisions.

B. The Lord Nourishes His Children

Phil. 4:19 But **my God shall supply all your need** according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Col. 2:19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands **having nourishment ministered**, and knit together, **increaseth with the increase of God.**

1 Tim. 4:6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, **nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine**, whereunto thou hast attained.

❖ As our *Nourisher*, the Lord Jesus has provisions for us in a variety of ways.

II. THE LORD, OUR NOURISHER, HAS PROVISIONS

A. The Lord Gives Provisions for Physical Strength

Psa. 37:25 I have been young, and *now* am old; yet **have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.**

Deut. 8:2 And thou shalt **remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee** these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, *and* to prove thee, to know what *was* in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and **fed thee** with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that **man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.**

Mt. 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written,
Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Mt. 6:31 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.**

B. The Lord Gives Provisions for Progress, Spiritually

Jer. 3:15 And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall **feed you with knowledge and understanding.**

Jn. 4:31 In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat.

32 But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of. ...

34 Jesus saith unto them, **My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.**

Jn. 6:27 Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that **meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you:** for him hath God the Father sealed.

1 Pet. 2:2 As newborn babes, **desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:**

Heb. 5:12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become **such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.**

13 For **every one that useth milk** *is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.*

14 But **strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age**, *even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

❖ The Lord is our “*Nourisher*” to nurture us and prepare us for His service.

III. THE LORD, OUR NOURISHER, IS OUR PURPOSE

A. Believers are Nurtured by Him for His Purpose.

Acts 17:28 For **in him we live, and move, and have our being**; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

1 Jn. 4:9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, **that we might live through him.**

Col. 3:4 When **Christ, who is our life**, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

B. Believers are Nurtured by Him for Participation

Original Word: ἐπιχορηγέω **Transliteration:** epichorégeó

Definition: to supply **Usage:** I supply, provide (perhaps lavishly), furnish.

epixorégēō (from *epí*, "appropriately on," which intensifies *xorégeō*, "richly supply everything needed for an ancient chorus to be a grand production") – properly, *lavishly* supply, as it is suitable (apt) to outfit **all that is needed to accomplish a grand objective.**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/2023.htm>

2 Cor. 9:10 Now he that ministereth [G2023] seed to the sower both minister bread for *your* food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)

Col. 2:19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having **nourishment** ministered, [G2023] and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

2 Pet. 1:5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add [G2023] to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; ...

11 For so an entrance shall be ministered [G2023] unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Eph. 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, **for the work of the ministry**, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may **grow up into him in all things**, which is the head, *even* Christ:

16 From whom **the whole body fitly joined together** and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Summary

- ❖ God has always been the “*Nourisher*” for mankind.
- ❖ God’s nourishment for mankind is exactly what is needed in order to be sustained, healthy, and productive.
- ❖ God’s nourishment for His children is to enable them to live for His glory, ministering as He leads them.

Conclusion

Mt. 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?

10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, **how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?**