

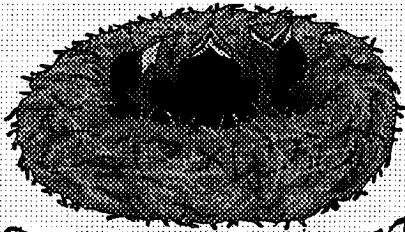
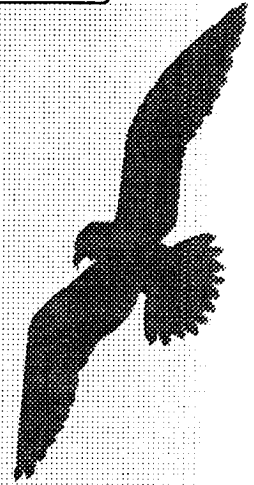
June 2002

*"They shall
mount up...*

ON EAGLES' WINGS

*... with wings
as eagles."*

Isaiah 40:31



AERY NUGGETS

**I'M DRINKING FROM GOD'S SAUCER
'CAUSE MY CUP HAS OVERFLOWED**

As I go along life's pathway,
I reap better than I sowed,
I'm drinking from God's saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed.
I don't have a lot of riches;...
Sometimes the going's tough;
I have loved ones all around me;
That makes me rich enough!

I thank God for ALL His blessings,
And the mercies He's bestowed,
I'm drinking from His saucer,
"Cause my cup has overflowed!
T'were times when things went truly wrong,
My faith grew somewhat thin;
Then suddenly, the dark clouds broke;
The Sun came through again.

Lord, help me not to gripe about
The tough rows that I've hoed,
I'm drinking from Your saucer, Lord;
'Cause my cup has overflowed!
God gives us strength and courage,
When our road grows steep and rough
We bask in all His Blessings;
Though we're already blest enough!

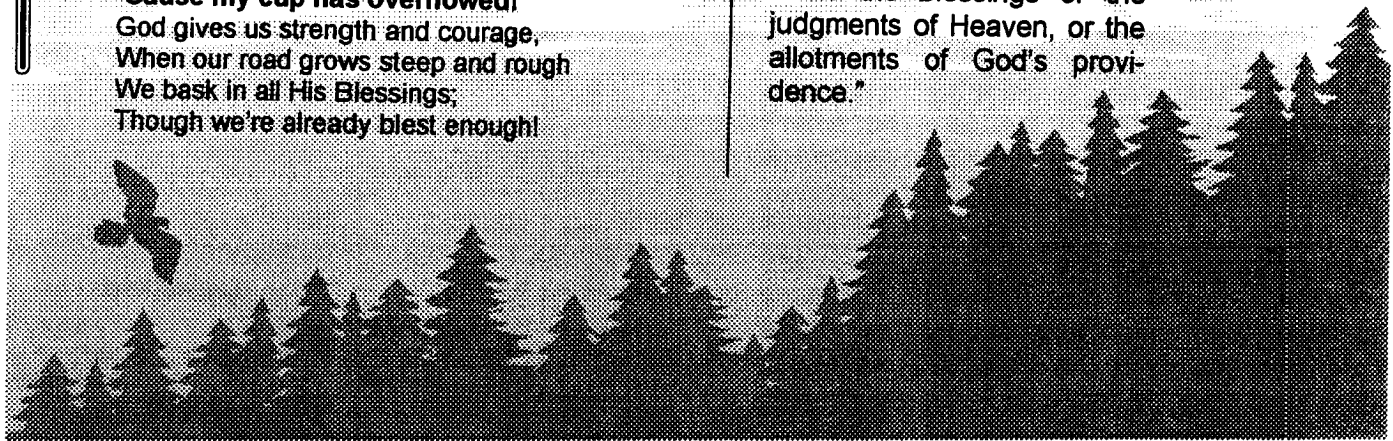
I'm savoring all God's blessings;...
As I travel down life's road,
I'm drinking from God's saucer,
'Cause MY CUP HAS OVERFLOWED!

Contributed by Dick Mohler

Dear Cup Holders,

How important such a simple thing as a cup has become in our lives, both to minister to our comfort and well being, and also to serve as a quantitative measure. While I'm not sure of the original purpose of using saucers with cups it probably came about to protect table linens from drips, and overfills. I can remember in the time that hot beverages were made in metal pots on the stove and came to the table piping hot that it was not uncommon to pour a portion of the cup into the saucer and after it cooled drink from the saucer, as our poem suggests. Another little thought about cups is that, if you want to be sure you have a cup-full, fill it till it runs over.

Of the word, "CUP," a Bible dictionary says, "The figurative use of this word in the Scriptures is frequent. Generally, however, it represents the blessings or the judgments of Heaven, or the allotments of God's providence."



The Psalmist, David, in the well known 23rd Psalm, after enumerating his many blessings could exclaim, "My cup runneth over." This wasn't an actual cup, but the effect that the multitude of his blessings had upon him. Sometimes the things which we experience, whether of good or evil, so fill us that we have to pour them out to others.

Receiving something in a cup suggests that its contents is going to be partaken of or drunk. One identified cup, and of utmost importance to us all, is the 'cup of salvation'. Again, from the Psalms, we have these words, "I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord" (116:13). How needy we are if we have not drunk from this cup, but are going on in a sinful and lost condition, rather than heeding the tender entreaty of the Lord Jesus, Who stood and cried, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink" (John 7:37).

We find in Isaiah 51:17 that Jerusalem will have to drink at the hand of the Lord, "the cup of his fury". We can count the wrath of God, which all who reject His Son as their Saviour, will have to bear for all eternity, as also being poured out from the cup of His fury. The eternal destiny of those who have not been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb (the Lord Jesus Christ) is described as, "this place of torment" (Luke 16:18).

In order for you and I to escape the fury of a righteous sin hating God, we needed a substitute who could drink the cup of God's wrath in our place. In anticipation of becoming our Substitute, the Lord Jesus could cry out in an agony of soul, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matt. 26:39).

A custom at Jewish feasts was for the master of the feast to take a cup of wine in his hand, and after blessing God for it, and for blessings which were enumerated, pass it among the guests, who each in their turn drank from it. On His way to the cross, our Saviour and Lord as, Originator and Master, of a feast of remembrance of Himself and His work, instituted the use of a communal cup to this end. The post resurrection enjoyment of this feast is set before us in the words, "the cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?"

Few indeed are the people who at sometime in their lives do not have to drink of the 'cup of sorrow'; some more deeply or more often than others. When the cause of sorrow comes as family bereavement, compassionate friends and neighbors often express their concern and condolence through the gift of food or drink to the sorrowing ones. In Bible days a

cup of wine was sent to the sorrowing family being described as the, "cup of consolation" (Jer. 16:17).

Suffering, sorrowing saints can expect to receive more than a gift of food or drink to sustain them in their time of trial, for a man of many sorrows and trials bore witness to this fact in the words, "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God" (2 Cor. 1:3 & 4).

Doesn't the purpose God has in mind for allowing trials to beset us to experience His comfort and thus prepare us to minister to the needs of others, give us a motive for enduring trials? Drinking from a bitter cup can be endured when happy results are in view, like our Lord, "who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross" (Heb. 12:2).

Let us not just be holding out our cup to be filled, but pouring out into the cups of others. First, we have a typical instance in the occasion, when the Lord, while sitting on the well, said to a woman who came to draw water, "Give me to drink" (John 4:7). Surely, the One Who pours so wisely and generously into our 'cup', longs for a loving response from His beloved ones.

What about those around us, do we have anything for their 'cup'? Seeking the Lord's instruction, we hear Him saying, "and whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you,, he shall in no wise lose his reward" (Matt.10:42). Peter was told, "Feed my lambs... Feed my sheep" (John 21:17&18).

Yours for happy drinking and pouring,
Leslie L. Winters.

*Running over, Running over,
My cup's full and running over.
Since the Lord saved me,
I'm as happy as can be.
My cup's full and running over.*

For address correction or free new name addition, write to:

Leslie L. Winters or Christine Albury