

Where Do You Want to Live?

"For the land that you are about to enter and possess is not like the land of Egypt from which you have come. There the grain you sowed had to be watered by your own labors, like a vegetable garden; but the land you are about to cross into and possess, a land of hills and valleys, soaks up its water from the rains of heaven. It is a land which the LORD your God looks after..." Deuteronomy 11:10-12

Before God brings Israel into the Promised Land, He contrasts where they are going with from where they came. In Egypt, they had to irrigate the dry land from the Nile River; in Canaan, God will irrigate the dry land for them with rains in their seasons. In Egypt, the people could ensure the irrigation of their crops; in Canaan, they had to depend upon God to do it for them.

Dependence upon God for provision allows the believer to rest, but it also means that the believer must do God's will to ensure His provision. In a spirit of independence, most believers would rather "irrigate their own crops" than be obligated to obey God and in turn be dependent upon Him for provision. Thus, in violation of **Matthew 6:33**, they pay lip service to His providing for them while seeking to meet their own needs; they would rather live in Egypt than in Canaan.