

LIFE. DIFFERENT.

WHAT IF **GOD** TOOK OVER?

The Save Your Life Diet

Matthew 5:6

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”

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Hunger & Thirst

Hunger: Jesus was picturing the kind of starvation that represented an ever-present threat to life itself in first century Palestine.

Thirst: Jesus was picturing the kind of thirst that had to be satisfied just to survive in this dry and dusty land.

Jesus' Demand

“If you desire righteousness like a starving child wants food, like a man dying of thirst craves water, then and only then will you taste—and, yes, you will taste—the very goodness of God.”

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Desiring Righteousness

Do you want righteousness that much?

- The Kingdom Life does not come to those who claim an interest but never really commit.
- The Kingdom Life does not come to those who seek but never surrender.
- The Kingdom Life only comes to those who desire righteousness as a matter of life and death.

A Rule of Greek Grammar

- Verbs of hungering and thirsting are usually followed by the partitive genitive case — a genitive of the part.
- The genitive is expressed by the word “of”, indicating a slice *of* bread, not the whole loaf; a drink *of* water, not the whole pitcher.

A Rule of Greek Grammar

- “Righteousness” is not in the genitive case, but the direct accusative case, changing the meaning from a “part of” to “the whole thing”.
- In the direct accusative, to hunger for bread or thirst for water means the whole loaf, the whole pitcher.
- Jesus is saying that only those who desperately hunger and insatiably thirst for complete goodness and total righteousness will be satisfied.

The Malady of Not Wanting

*“Woe to you who are well fed now, for
you will go hungry.”*

~Luke 6:25

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Desiring Righteousness

1. I must have a holy desire for moral righteousness.

It is not enough to admit my spiritual poverty and to mourn over past sin, I must voraciously crave personal goodness to the point where I am willing to radically realign my life to gain it.

Desiring Righteousness

2. I must have a holy desire for social righteousness.

I must engage in man's liberation from oppression wherever it occurs, promote civil rights, demand equal fairness in the courts, demonstrate personal integrity in my business and exhibit honor, servant-hood and Christlikeness in my home.

Desiring Righteousness

3. I must have a holy desire for spiritual righteousness.

Imputed righteousness replaces distance with intimacy, estrangement with friendship and fear with trust, enabling me to enter into a right, loving, and confident relationship with God as Father and friend.

You Shall Be Filled

Filled: khortadzo (χορτάζω)

- To fatten an animal with herbs, hay and grass.
- To stuff a person full to the point of complete satiety.
- When a person insatiably desires total righteousness, God will not send him away empty but will fill him until his longings are achieved and his is soul satisfied.

Revelation 7:16-17

*Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.*

*The sun will not beat down on them,
nor any scorching heat.*

*For the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their shepherd;*

he will lead them to springs of living water.

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.