

# THE BULWARK

## DELIGHTFUL REMINDERS

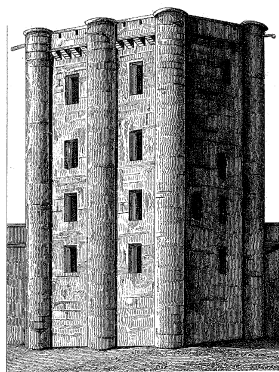
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*“Mark well her bulwarks,  
consider her palaces, that  
you may tell it to the  
generation following”*  
Psalms 48:13

It was heart breaking, but the bees and their hive had to go. Over the course of time the “busy little bees” had constructed a hive, that according to the exterminators who were hired to handle the job of removing them, was about four foot wide and six or so feet long. Imagine how much honey was contained in that hive! Sadly, according to the exterminators, because of where it was located, and the process to remove it, the honey had been contaminated. So sad. But it triggered a thought about the honey found in the tomb of the Egyptian King Tutankhamen when it was discovered in 1922.



The tomb was filled with things that the ancient Egyptians would be needed in the after-life. Gold shrines, jewelry, clothing, ornate furniture, weapons and a pot filled with honey. Surprisingly, the honey was still edible after 3,000 plus years! Today we for the most part think of honey primarily as a sweetener but in ancient times it enjoyed a wide variety of uses. According to WebMD, “honey has about 31 different minerals like phosphorus, magnesium, and potassium. It also has several important amino acids (the building blocks of protein). Honey is high in polyphenols and flavonoids, which act as antioxidants. That means they help protect your body against some types of cell damage. “ In short honey is an amazing food source and it tastes so wonderful.

When God brought the children of Israel out from the bondage of Egypt, He stated “*So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.*” (Exodus 3:8 see also verse 17) Dozens of times in the Scriptures “land flowing with milk and honey” is found. Kind of interesting that when, due to their sin, their pilgrimage was extended God provided to them manna, “*..it was like coriander seed, white, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.*” (Exodus 16:31) The taste of honey, could that have been a daily reminder set in place by God, as to what lay ahead for them when their journey was completed and they entered into the Promised Land?

Throughout the pages of God’s word honey is used to remind us that the way and words of God are sweeter than the honeycomb. In the beautiful 19th psalm, David lays forth the work of God in creation and then goes on to explain the perfection of God’s word. Verses nine and ten seem to encapsulate the ways and words of God so eloquently. “*The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgements of the Lord are true; they are righteous altogether, they are more desirable than gold, yes, than much gold; sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.*” A most delightful reminder for us to hold in the fore-front of our mind, day by day. (wbe)