

to be the Fountain of Life may well claim to be the Lord and Master of mankind.

A fact or two regarding the nature of a fountain will help us in our thinking here. In its genesis, a fountain is a meeting-place of waters, a point to which they gather, a receptacle into which they flow. In its action, a fountain is a distributing centre of waters, a point from which they emerge, a source from which they proceed. To produce a fountain there must be both inflow and outflow. That bubbling spring in the valley where you have so often bathed your heated brow and quenched your burning thirst is there because it is perpetually fed from the heart of the hill. Day and night unceasingly, through subterranean channels, cool waters are trickling into that receptacle. The fountain is literally the offspring of the hill.

In order to get at the inmost meaning of His words we must associate these ideas with the person of Christ. Into Him has been poured "the fullness of the Godhead bodily." It is because He received such fullness from on high that He is able to bequeath His endless blessings unto men. Towards God He is the brimmed receptacle, towards men He is the distributing centre of eternal life.