

# Psalms 84:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools.

## Analysis

**Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools.** This enigmatic verse depicts pilgrims transforming barren terrain through faith and divine blessing. **"Valley of Baca"** (עֵמֶק הַבָּכָא/emek habaka) can mean "valley of weeping" or "valley of balsam trees." Either reading yields profound meaning: a place of sorrow transformed, or a dry valley made fruitful.

**"Make it a well"** (וַיַּעַן יֵשִׁיתוּהוּ/ma'yan yeshituhu) describes pilgrims creating water sources in waterless places. This isn't mere physical effort but spiritual transformation. Those journeying to God's house bring blessing even to difficult paths. Their faith transforms barrenness into fertility, tears into springs.

**"The rain also filleth the pools"** (גַּם-בְּרָכוֹת יַעֲטֶה מוֹרֶה/gam-berachot ya'teh moreh) suggests divine cooperation with human faith. Moreh can mean early rain or teacher. God's blessing (rain) meets the pilgrim's effort (digging wells), filling pools in the desert. This anticipates Isaiah 35:6-7, where desert blossoms and water breaks forth for redeemed pilgrims, and ultimately the living water Christ offers (John 4:14, 7:38).

## Historical Context

Pilgrims traveling to Jerusalem from northern regions would traverse the arid Judean wilderness, a journey requiring multiple days through difficult terrain. The 'valley of Baca' may refer to a specific location or represent any difficult passage.

Ancient pilgrimage involved hardship—heat, thirst, danger—yet worshipers transformed trials into testimony of God's faithfulness. The imagery of making wells recalls patriarchal narratives where Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob dug wells, marking God's provision (Genesis 21:30, 26:18-22).

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. What 'valleys of weeping' in your life might God be transforming into wells of blessing for others?
2. How does this verse inform Christian perspective on suffering—can hardship become a source of life and refreshment?
3. In what ways do you see the principle of human effort (making wells) and divine blessing (rain) working together in spiritual growth?

## Interlinear Text

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עֹבֵר יוֹ	בְּעֵמֶק	הַ בָּאָא	מַעַן	יִשִּׁית וְהוּ	גַּם	בְּ כַח וְזֶה
Who passing	through the valley	of Baca	it a well	make	H1571	the pools
H5674	H6010	H1056	H4599	H7896		H1293
יִשְׁטֶה	מִזְחָה:					
also filleth	the rain					
H5844	H4175					

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Corinthians 4:17** (Parallel theme): For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

**John 16:33** (Parallel theme): These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

**Joel 2:23** (Parallel theme): Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

**Revelation 7:14** (Parallel theme): And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

**Romans 8:37** (Parallel theme): Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

**Psalms 68:9** (Parallel theme): Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful rain, whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was weary.

**Acts 14:22** (Parallel theme): Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.