



## The Watermelon

A controversial and influential figure of the Progressive Era in U.S. history, William Jennings Bryan was also a follower of Jesus. One evidence of his faith is found in a Christian tract:

In summary, Bryan began, "I was passing through Columbus, Ohio some years ago, and stopped to eat. I ordered a slice of watermelon and asked the waiter to dry some of the seeds that I might plant them in my garden. I found out that it would take about 5,000 watermelon seeds to weigh a pound, and I estimated that the watermelon weighed about 40 pounds. Someone had planted a little seed in the ground. Under the influence of sunshine and shower that little watermelon seed had taken off its coat, gone to work and gathered 200,000 times its weight and forced that enormous weight through a tiny stem to build a watermelon. It had put a covering of green over a rind of white and a core of red, and had scattered through the red, little seeds, each one capable of doing the same work over again."

He continued, "What architect drew the plan? Where did that little watermelon seed get its tremendous strength? Where did it find its flavoring extract and its coloring matter? . . . Until you can explain a watermelon, do not be too sure that you can set limits to the power of the Almighty, or tell just what He would do, or how He would do it . . . The truth that God has revealed to us is infinitely more important for our welfare than it would be to understand the mysteries that he has seen fit to conceal from us.

"So with Christianity, if you ask me if I can understand everything in the Bible, I answer: No, I understand some things that I did not understand ten years ago, and if I live ten years longer, I hope some things will be clear that are now obscure. But there is something more important than understanding everything in the Bible—it is this: if we will only try to live up to the things that we DO understand we will not have time to worry about the things that we DO NOT understand."

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O LORD,  
how  
manifold  
are thy  
works

PSALM 104:24



# Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

April 18, 2021,

## Call to Worship

*Sounds of Hope Part 2*

## Invocation

*Ron Marks*

## Sing Unto the Lord

# 336 There is a Fountain

*Tina Pinkoson*

## Welcome and Announcements

*Ron Marks*

## Recognition of Guests

## Mission Moment

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

## Worship in Song

# 356 Redeemed

*Tina Pinkoson*

## Offertory Prayer

*Joe Morgan*

## Offertory

*Rose Morgan*

## Special Music

*Sounds of Hope Part 2*

## Pastoral Prayer

*Ron Marks*

## Scripture

1 Peter 1:3-5

## Sermon

"A Sure Inheritance"

*Rev. Richard Parker*

## Hymn of Benediction

#358 Because He Lives

*Tina Pinkoson*

## Scripture for Today

1 Peter 1: 3-5

## Praise to God for a Living Hope

<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

## Made In His Image

Christian?	Yeah.
Perfect?	Nah.
Changed?	Yeah.
Mistake Free?	Nah.
Forgiven?	Yeah.
Worthy?	Nah.
Accepted?	Yeah.
Deserving?	Nah.
Loved?	Yeah!

## Thought for the Day

One reason sin flourishes is that it is treated like a cream puff instead of a rattlesnake.