



*Anglican Orthodox Church*



## The Mighty Nile River

"...We need help to do those things which are impossible without the empowerment of our Father in Heaven. The source of such tremendous and divine power is a mystery to lowly man. "Where should we seek for such divine assistance? "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: He that keepeth thee will not slumber.' Ps 121:1-3. "We need to feed upon food from high places. We need the 'manna which cometh down from heaven.' 'And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life.' St. John 6:37. A mystery? Not to those who believe! "For thousands of years (and not until the last century did we know) the great Nile River of Africa remained a mystery. No one knew the origin of the life-giving waters of that longest of all rivers - over 4,150 miles long. Not only was its origin shrouded in mystery, but also its strange nature. During times of greatest draught and endless famine in the Middle East, when all other water sources were dry, the mighty Nile overflowed its banks with an abundance of life-saving water. It even carried nutrients for the fields in the form of minerals and silt which it graciously deposited on the delta plains of the fertile crescent of Egypt. As a result of this life-giving river, the delta region of Egypt was the richest in food production of any place on earth, especially during periods of want in other areas. "Its secret is now known. The Nile has its origin at the snow-capped heights of the great continent of Africa. The towering peaks of Mt. Kilimanjaro are covered with the 'treasures of the snow'. Job 38:22. During the hot summer months, large quantities of these eternal snows melt and feed their waters into Lake Victoria, which in turn feeds the Nile River and sends its gift of life to millions. "Do we have OUR origins as Christians anchored from on high? Do we partake of the mysteries of the eternal snows which are given from Heaven? We must, if we are to have the character and refinement of Heaven. "Do we have OUR origins as Christians anchored from on high? Do we partake of the mysteries of the eternal snows which are given from Heaven? We must, if we are to have the character and refinement of Heaven. "Silver is tried in an earthen furnace (fleshy body) seven times - Ps 12:6. The lead and tin are dross which are cast aside. But the silver which remains is pure. Are you a STERLING Christian. We have some flatware in our china cabinet stamped 'sterling silver'. That means that the utensil is silver all the way through. Use as much as you like, but the instrument will always look like, feel like, and behave as silver - because it IS silver, and has all the properties thereof! I have another vessel in the same china cabinet which looks precisely the same as the silver one. Except it is stamped 'silver plated'. It has all the appearance of silver. It shines like silver, it looks in every respect like silver, but, alas! it is an imposter! Some of us Christians are like that 'silver-plated' vessel I fear. We shine up nicely, but we can not endure the test of time! Our true metal will show through eventually. Of course, even the true silver will tarnish if it is not used and exercised regularly. That is why we Christians must take up our crosses daily! So that our sterling character will shine through for all the world to see as a testimony of Whose we are. We must let our lights shine forth for the One who loved us so much that He died for us while we were yet sinners. And that light we shine forth must be the reflected light of the Light of the World! What a Savior!"

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