



Birds at the Feeders

I own several bird feeders. They hang in the tree in front of the house.

Hundreds of birds and dozens of squirrels take advantage of the continuous flow of easily accessible food.

Having found a great habitat they have settled into the neighborhood and started building nests.

Then came the droppings. It was everywhere; on the cars, on the porch, on the chairs, the tables and lawn decorations... everywhere.

Then some of the birds and squirrels turned what one might describe as 'mean': they would dive bomb me and squawk at me even though I had provided for them out of the goodness of my heart.

And other birds were boisterous and loud: They sat on the feeder and squawked and screamed at all hours of the day and seemingly demanding that I fill the feeders when they got low on food. Some of the birds are ravenous and will empty the feeders in a matter of a couple of hours.

In some ways, maybe because I watched too many Disney movies as a child, I started recognizing personality traits and quirks in the various birds. Some were quite docile – while others bullied the smaller birds – even their own kind.



It didn't take long for me to start thinking in terms like; "ungrateful sort of creatures" "their rebellious and mean" and "their biting the hand that feeds them." And for some time I even considered removing the feeders so I could return the front yard to

its original tranquil and peaceful state.

After a while though, I started wondering how we must make our Provider feel.

How often do we pain our Heavenly Father by squawking about the manner in which He provides for us?

How often do we bully others to get what we need?

How often do we make a mess of the place He has given us?

What drives us and motivates us to behave in such a fashion?

I think I will keep feeding the birds.

I think I will try harder to understand they are doing exactly what they were created to do.

I think I will try to put a little more effort into 'understanding' and then 'doing' what God created me to do.

Amazed by His grace,

Dave

Faith, Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1

Hope, For thou art my hope, O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth. Psalm 71:5

Love, And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13