

Psalm 23...The Lord is my Shepherd

Relationship, Restoration, and Reassurance –

Psalm 23

A psalm of David.

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,³ he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

I. God allows time in the valley

Sometimes delivered from and sometimes delivered through...

Jesus said to pray...deliver us from evil,

II. The Shepherd has you covered

He has a solution, He has provision, He has protection...

King David was first a shepherd boy... he learned 3 things:

A. He stayed in God's presence – when his brothers were not around

B. He relied on God's power – when a bear and a lion came after the flock

C. He experienced God's leading – When the prophet came to anoint him King

We might ask these questions:

How can a lost sheep be restored to the fold?

Through repentance and faith. The word **repent** means **that we stop going our own way and return to the Shepherd**. [Isaiah 53:6](#) says: *All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way;*

How can we walk in the paths of righteousness? It seems too hard. Only following Jesus, the Good Shepherd by Christ's death that we are saved from our sins. But it is His resurrection that enables us to walk in the paths of righteousness.

[Hebrews 13:20-21](#): *Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, **make you complete in every good work to do His will,***

How can you have assurance when you face death?

Job said – the Lord gives and the Lord takes away...blessed be the name of the Lord. / Naked I came into this world and naked I shall return...

E.V Hill preached his wife's funeral in S California... (Baby)

We must make this journey with the Shepherd. He knows the way. If you travel through the mountain passes of Tibet you need a guide. Often the weather closes in and you can't see where you are going. But a guide can get you through because he knows the way so well. He has journeyed the pathway many times before.

D.L. Moody said to a friend, someday soon you will read in the papers that D. L. Moody of Northfield is dead. Don't you believe a word of it. At that moment I shall be more alive than I am now. I shall have gone higher, that is all — out of this old clay tent into a house that is immortal, a body that sin cannot touch, that sin cannot taint, a body fashioned into His glorious body. I was born in the flesh in 1837; I was born of the Spirit in 1856. That which is born of the flesh may die; that which is born of the Spirit will live forever.

SOBERING thoughts about eternity...

Hebrews 9:27

²⁷ And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

2 Corinthians 5:10

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Faithful Promises about Our Heavenly reunion...

[1 Corinthians 2:9](#) says, “no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”

In [Revelation 21:3-4](#) the Bible says about Heaven, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away”

[Romans 8:38-39](#) the Bible says, “For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord”

1 Corinthians 15:53-55

⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵ O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?