

The Lord Is My Shepherd 09

Intro. We are learning what it means to have the Lord as our shepherd...

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, 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 goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I have a personal relationship with Him.

I shall not want, He doesn't want me to fail and He wants all of my deepest needs fulfilled.

He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul. He wants me to rest in Him so I am refreshed to walk wherever He leads me.

He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. He does not ask me to follow Him until I am restored and empowered by His Holy Spirit. Following Him on His path of righteousness I will go places that only the Shepherd has access to.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

I am walking on a journey where I have continuous conversation and interaction with my Shepherd. He is always there because He knows this walk will tire and weaken me.

Your rod and your staff, they comfort me. Lord your power, instruction, rescue and salvation are constantly with me...

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You elevate me and bless me in the presence of the world around me. You set me at your table so I can feast on trust, faith, security, hope, healing, love, joy, and peace...

You anoint my head with oil; You have anointed me to be a CHILD OF THE KING, a PRIEST IN YOUR SERVICE, A WARRIOR AND NOT A WORRIER!

my cup overflows. Lord, not only do I have enough... Your blessings overflow from me into the world around me.

I. The outcome for us following the Good Shepherd and enjoying His blessing and covering are two fold in this Psalm of Promise.

We will look at the first part this week and continue with second part next week.

A. The Two-Fold Outcome...

1. Verse 6a Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,
2. Verse 6b I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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- II. Vs.6 Surely goodness and love (Loving Kindness, Mercy) will follow me all the days of my life...
 - A. Before we focus on our future out-come of following the Good Shepherd...
 - 1. Ask yourself this... What is following me?
 - 2. Are goodness and love (Loving Kindness, Mercy) following me?
 - B. What is following you is dependent upon who you are following!
 - 1. When we follow Jesus, The Good Shepherd it is amazing what will follow us.
 - 2. Like a ship we are leaving a wake...
 - 1. Surely Goodness... (Surely... This will most definitely come to pass)
 - a. To be better, cheerful, good, pleasing, well off, beautiful, the best, bountiful, at ease, in God's favor, glad, gracious, joyful, kindly, loving, pleasant, precious, prosperous, ready, sweet, well, and favored.
 - b. This word is not just descriptive noun... It is also an active verb...
 - 1. God is telling us, we will not only be these things...
We will do these things...
They will follow us all the days of our lives...
 - c. Doing comes from Being...
 - 1. Who you are is what you do...
 - 2. You are not a human doing... You are a human being...
 - 3. Doing these things will strengthen and grow your Being...
 - 2. Goodness is our character the second part of this verse deals with our attitude towards those around us.
- Vs. 6 Surely goodness and love (Loving Kindness, Mercy) will follow me all the days of my life...
- a. A primitive root; to bow the neck in courtesy to an equal, to be kind, merciful, and extend loving kindness.
 - b. This was the attitude of Jesus our Good Shepherd.

Philippians 2:5-8

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

- III. Follow the Good Shepherd and your Being, Actions, and Attitude will be followed by the Being, Actions, and Attitudes of the Power of God!!!
- IV. Prayer