

## PSALM 23

PSALM 23 IS EASILY THE MOST FAMILIAR AND BELOVED CHAPTER IN ALL OF THE 150 PSALMS. MILLIONS OF PEOPLE HAVE MEMORIZED THIS PSALM. THIS PSALM HAS USHERED MANY INTO ETERNITY PEACEFULLY, AS THEY TAKE THEIR LAST BREATH ON THIS EARTH. LORD KNOWS WE NEED HIM. ESPECIALLY IN A PLACE CALLED THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH. PSALM 23 WAS WRITTEN BY KING DAVID PROPHETICALLY ABOUT CHRIST FOR CHRISTIANS. LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH EXPERIENCE AND SONG DAVID LAYS OUT A TAPESTRY OF COMFORT, HOPE, AND SALVATION THAT CAN ONLY BE FOUND IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. CHARLES SPURGEON QUOTED HENRY WARD BEECHER IN HIS COMMENTARY OF THE PSALMS CALLED THE TREASURY OF DAVID

“IT HAS CHARMED MORE GRIEFS TO REST THAN ALL OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE WORLD. IT HAS REMANDED TO THEIR DUNGEON MORE FELON THOUGHTS, MORE BLACK DOUBTS, MORE THIEVING SORROWS THAN THERE ARE SANDS ON THE SEASHORE. IT HAS COMFORTED THE NOBLE HOST OF THE POOR. IT HAS SUNG COURAGE TO THE ARMY OF THE DISSAPPOINTED. IT HAS PORED BALM AND CONSOLATION INTO THE HEART OF THE SICK, OF CAPTIVES OF DUNGEONS, OF WIDOWS IN THEIR PINCHING GRIEFS, OF ORPHANS IN THEIR LONLINESS. DYING SOLDIERS HAVE DIED EASIER AS IT WAS READ TO THEM; GHASTLY HOSPITALS HAVE BEEN ILLUMINATED; IT HAS VISITED THE PRISONER, AND BROKEN HIS CHAINS, AND, LIKE PETER’S ANGEL LED HIM FORTH IN IMAGINATION, AND SUNG HIM BACK TO HIS HOME AGAIN. IT HAS MADE THE DYING CHRISTIAN SLAVE FREER THAN HIS MASTER, AND CONSOLED THOSE WHOM, DYING, HE LEFT BEHIND

MOURNING, NOT SO MUCH THAT HE WAS GONE, AS BECAUSE THEY WERE LEFT BEHIND, AND COULD NOT GO

Psalm 23 ESV

**23** The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

<sup>3</sup> He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness

for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

forever.

Psalm 23:1 ESV

**23** The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

THE LORD IS GOD AND I AM HIS SERVANT  
JEHOVAH IS MY SHEPHERD, PERSONAL NOT UNIVERSAL  
BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT  
DAVID WAS BLESSED AND DIDN'T LET IT GO TO HIS HEAD

John 1:1-4 ESV

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. **4** In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

HEBREW FOR SHALL NOT WANT- HASEER LOW- TO LACK  
NOTHING... A DECLARATION BUT ALSO A DECISION  
DAVID WAS THE SHEPHERD/KING OF ISRAEL....HE IS SAYING  
THE LORD LEADS ME AND HE IS MY PROVISION

THE SHEPHERD LIVES WITH THE SHEEP, FEEDS THE SHEEP,  
PROTECTS THE SHEEP, PROVIDES FOR THE SHEEP, AND LEADS  
THE SHEEP

Isaiah 40:11 ESV

**11** He will tend his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms;  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young.

Psalm 23:2 ESV

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters.

PASTURES/NAYWAH...PASTURELAND/ABODE/DWELLING/  
SHEEPFOLDS

DAVID UNDERSTANDS GOD'S SOVREIGNTY...HE MAKES ME LIE  
DOWN...HE LEADS ME...SHEEP DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GO OR  
WHAT TO DO

PROVISION... GREEN PASTURES=HEALTH & LIFE...STILL  
WATERS= PEACE, SATISFACTION

John 10:10 ESV

<sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that  
they may have life and have it abundantly.

John 14:27 ESV

<sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the  
world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled,  
neither let them be afraid.

SHEEP DO NOT LIE DOWN UNLESS 4 CONDITIONS ARE MET

1. FEAR 2. FRICTION 3. FLYS 4. FAMINE

Psalm 23:3 ESV

<sup>3</sup> He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.

THE SHEPHERDS WORK HAD IT'S INTENDED EFFECT, THROUGH  
THE PROVISION HE PROVIDES AND THE CARE THAT HE GIVES,  
MY SOUL IS RESTORED, REPAIRED, BROUGHT BACK, REPENTED,  
RECOVERED, RENEWED, SAVED

Matthew 16:24-26 ESV

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me,  
let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow  
me. <sup>25</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever  
loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit a  
man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what  
shall a man give in return for his soul?

HE GUIDES ME, ONE STEP AT A TIME, ONE MOMENT AT A TIME,  
PROVIDENTIALLY HE PERMITS WHAT HE PERMITS... AND HE  
HOLD BACK WHAT HE HOLDS BACK.....WHY?  
FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE

Ezekiel 20:44 ESV

<sup>44</sup> And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I deal with you  
for my name's sake, not according to your evil ways, nor

according to your corrupt deeds, O house of Israel, declares the Lord God.”

Psalm 23:4 ESV

<sup>4</sup> 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.

IT WENT FROM HE TO YOU

THESE PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS DROP DOWN INTO VALLEYS  
A SHADOW DOES NOTHING

EVEN THOUGH I WALK THROUGH WHAT COULD BE  
SOMETHING AS EXTREME AS DEATH, GOD TELLS ME NOT TO  
FEAR IT....FOR DEATH IN THIS LIFE IS MEARLY A SHADOW FOR  
GOD'S ELECT

I WILL NOT FEAR FACING THE EVIL IN MYSELF

IT IS NOT THE VALLEY OF THE SUBSTANCE OF DEATH  
AND IT IS NOT CAMPING, ITS WALKING  
ALL OF LIFE IS LIVED UNDER THE SHADOW OF DEATH

JESUS PAID THE PRICE FOR OUR DEATH AND HE IS WITH US

FEAR NO EVIL BECAUSE  
ROD WAS USED TO BEAT AWAY ATTACKING ANIMALS

STAFF WAS A WALKING STICK AND USED TO KEEP  
ORDER/DISCIPLINE WITH THE SHEEP

PROTECT, CORRECT, AND DIRECT  
GOD TRIES FAITH IN ADVERSITY

CHARLES SPURGEON- "DEATH IN IT'S SUBSTANCE HAS BEEN  
REMOVED AND ONLY THE SHADOW REMAINS. SOMEONE HAS  
SAID THAT WHEN THERE IS A SHADOW THERE MUST BE LIGHT,  
AND SO THERE IS....LET US REJOICE THAT THERE IS A LIGHT  
BEYOND. NOBODY IS AFRAID OF A SHADOW, FOR A SHADOW  
CANNOT STOP A MAN'S PATHWAY EVEN FOR A MOMENT. THE  
SHADOW OF A DOG CANNOT BITE AND A SHADOW OF A  
SWORD CANNOT KILL; THE SHADOW OF DEATH CANNOT  
DESTROY US"

Psalm 37:23 ESV

<sup>23</sup>The steps of a man are established by the Lord,  
when he delights in his way;

Hebrews 12:11 ESV<sup>11</sup> For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Psalm 23:5 ESV

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

NOTICE, THE LORD BECOMES A HOST NOW

IN THE MIDST AND THE PRESENCE OF ALL OF THE  
PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS OF EVIL THAT ARE ASIGNED TO  
YOUR LIFE, THE LORD SERVES HIS CHILDREN A BOUNTY AND  
HAS THEM DINE AND RECLINE

Philippians 4:4-7 ESV

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

MY CUP RUNNETH OVER WITH THE PEACE OF OUR LORD JESUS  
CHRIST AMIDST THE BATTLE!! EVERY PROVISION ACCOUNTED



FOR, EVERY POSSIBILITY ALREADY CONSIDERED, PERMITTED/OR NOT, AND ACOMPLISHED ACCORDING TO HIS OWN WILL

A TABLE OF EXPERIENCE OF LIFE AND LOVE, PROVISION AND HEALING, TRUTH AND GOODNESS, HOLINESS AND PURETY OBEDIENCE IS THE KEY CHURCH...OBEY THE SHEPHERD HOST OF THE MOST HIGH AND YOU WILL BE BLESSED

Psalm 23:6 ESV

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
forever.

GOODNESS/TOBE...MORAL GOODNESS, BETTER, BEST,  
PROSPERITY, BEAUTIFUL

MERCY/LOVE/HESED...UNFAILING LOVE, A LOYAL LOVE,A  
DEVOTED LOVE, A COVENANT LOVE

ALL/ETERNAL.... NOT SOME DAYS

WE SHALL LIVE WITH GOD FOREVER IN CHRIST

John 14:1-3 ESV

**14** "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And

if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.