

Psalm 23, Part Six

by

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Today, we will discover the by experience the application of the rest of this Psalm. Of course, this is only possible if you have made the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, Lord, and God in light of what we have learned so far. David said since the Lord is my own shepherd, I shall not want. This means that the Lord meets me daily in light of His knowledge of my personal needs and He meets those needs in a way that brings great delight.

In Philippians 4:5-7 the Apostle Paul writes,

“Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” NKJV

In Philippians 4:19 he tells us,

“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. 20 Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever” NKJV

Psalm 23 says the Lord is my shepherd in this troubled world with all of its threats and problems. His shepherd's rod or staff makes me to lie down in green pastures and it leads me beside the still waters. Yes the shepherd does bring a peace and rest to his saint that those who are apart from the Shepherd are incapable of ever knowing or understanding. That is why Paul called the peace of God that “which surpasses all understanding.” Only the sheep of the true Shepherd, the Savior Jesus Christ, can experience such a peace.

The shepherd restores my soul, which means he gives to me life itself. I know in my experience personally, I knew nothing about real life until I came to know this Lord Jesus. After giving me real life, he leads me step by step in the paths of righteousness. This means he leads me in godly living, not because I am religious or devout, but rather he makes miraculous changes in my appetite to what is important in life and changes the course or direction my life takes. People of the world feel so sorry for the true Christian because “he is missing out in the enjoyment of life.” But having lived on the other side, we know that we have discovered is so much better.

He leads us in this life of righteous living and he does it for his name's sake. This means we live our lives in such a way that our lives bring praise not reproach to his name for God is jealous of his name and wants to be revered and respected for who He is.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. We need to understand that the valley of the shadow of death is not when I am in an accident and I am physically close to death. Dear friend with diseases, accidents, dangers from those who kill in the name of religion and etc., we each one are constantly walking in a valley of the shadow of death. Death, the uninvited visitor can strike at any moment. But because the shepherd has us in his hand, we will fear no evil because he promises to be with us forever. Jesus said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." We have eternal life received from him as a gift, and that is life that never ends.

David said the rod of the shepherd and his staff comforts us. The rod is used to chasten the wayward sheep and used to kill the animals that threaten them. The staff used to sound out the security of the ground after the

melting snows when he is leading us into fresh pastures, is also used to reach us when we slip by the way out of the reach of the Shepherd's arms. In this shadow of death he yet prepares us a table to meet our needs, even in the presence of our enemies. He also anoints our head with oil which is abundant life, and he gives in such measure that our cup of rejoicing runs over, more than what we deserve. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE! WOW what a life! And last of all, I know right now today that I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Do you know this shepherd? It is not because He hasn't called you to be one of His sheep. All one must do is repent of our sins, recognizing the fact that they condemn us to hell and keep us from heaven. Then we must put our faith in the Good Shepherd to remove our sins and to give us everlasting life. If you want to know more go to our contact page and get in touch with us.