

The Shepherd and The Storm

Sunday, May 26, 2024

Psalm 23

*1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
3 He restores my soul. He leads 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 mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

Big Idea: The Good Shepherd will guide you through the storm

1. The Provision of the Good Shepherd in the Storm:

Psalm 23:1-3 “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. 3 He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.”

Jeremiah 10:23 “I know, O Lord, that the way of man is not in himself, that it is not in man who walks to direct his steps.”

Psalm 23 (fleshly, carnal translation)

I am my own shepherd: I am always **empty** and dissatisfied.

I lay down in a desert of constant thirst and hunger.

I am lost in the sea of **chaos** and confusion.

My soul is tired and weary. My path is unclear and my life has no meaning.

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2. The Power of the Good Shepherd in the Storm:

Psalm 23:4-5 “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.”

“The nature of the enemy's warfare in your life is to cause you to become discouraged and to cast away your confidence. Not that you would necessarily discard your salvation, but you could give up your hope of God's deliverance. The enemy wants to numb you into a coping kind of Christianity that has given up hope of seeing God's resurrection power.”

— Bob Sorge, Glory: When Heaven Invades Earth

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3. The Presence of the Good Shepherd in the Storm:

Psalm 23:6 “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 31:19 “How great is the goodness you have stored up for those who fear you. You **lavish** it on those who come to you for protection, blessing them before the watching world.

The greatest **blessing** of the Good Shepherd is being in the presence of the Good Shepherd.

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