

EVEN IN THE VALLEY GOD IS GOOD

Psalm 23 - Part 6

“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me” (Psalm 23:4 ESV).

“This is what the Lord says: ‘Because the Arameans think the Lord is a god of the hills and not a god of the valleys, I will deliver this vast army into your hands, and you will know that I am the Lord’” (1 Kings 20:28 NIV).

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT VALLEYS

1. Valleys Are a Part of Life

“The Promised Land you are about to enter is a land of hills and valleys...” (Deuteronomy 11:11 NLT).

“Don’t be surprised when you are tested by troubles or painful suffering, as if something unusual is happening to you” (1 Peter 4:12 TEV).

2. Valleys Happen to Everyone

“The good man does not escape all troubles – he has them, too. But the Lord helps him in each and every one” (Psalm 34:19 LB).

3. Valleys Are Unpredictable

“Don’t ever brag about tomorrow, since you don’t know what the day will bring forth” (Proverbs 27:1 NLT).

WHAT KIND OF VALLEYS TO EXPECT

1. The Valley of Siddim (Genesis 14:1-11) – The Valley of Failure

“The Valley of Siddim was full of tar pits, and when the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, some of the men fell into them...” (Genesis 14:10 NIV).

2. The Valley of Eshcol (Numbers 13:23-33) – The Valley of Fear

“We felt like grasshoppers next to them; they were so tall!” (Numbers 13:33 LB).

3. The Valley of Elah (1 Samuel 17:1-58) – The Valley of Conflict

“The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them” (1 Samuel 17:3).

4. The Valley of Baka (Psalm 84:5-7) – The Valley of Grief

“What joy for those whose strength comes from the Lord, who have set their minds on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. When they walk through the Valley of Weeping (Baka), it will become a place of refreshing springs” (Psalm 84:5-6 NLT).

WHAT TO REMEMBER IN A VALLEY

1. Remember I Am Not Alone!

“Even when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear not evil, for You are with me” (Psalm 23:4 ESV).

“When you go through deep waters and great trouble, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown! When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up – the flames will not consume you!” (Isaiah 43:2 LB).

(continued)

First Baptist Church of Hopewell

Pastor W. Darrell Boggs — May 17, 2020

“But as for me, how wonderful to be near God! In the Lord God I find protection, to proclaim all He has done” (Psalm 73:28 TEV).

2. Remember God Has a Purpose for This Valley!

“We can even rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and that kind of hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured His love into our hearts” (Romans 5:3-5 ESV).

“I will transform the Valley of Trouble into a Gateway of Hope” (Hosea 2:15 NLT).

3. Remember the Reward Will Last Forever!

“For our present troubles are small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!” (2 Corinthians 4:17 NLT).