

THE PSALM 23 JOURNEY

PSALM 23



Intro:

- Psalm 23 reminds us to live our lives confidently trusting in the Lord no matter what we're going through because He will care for us.

I. THE COMFORTABLE PART (v. 1-3)

a. “The Lord is MY Shepherd.”

1. His personal relationship with God was the foundation of David’s comfort.

2. Psalm 23 is written to those who know Jesus PERSONALLY as their good Shepherd.

I. THE COMFORTABLE PART (v. 1-3)

b. A Good Shepherd Makes REST Possible for His Sheep by Making Sure Their Needs are Met.

- *God's care for you is demonstrated through His PROVISION (v. 2).
Mat. 6:31-33*
- *God's care for you is demonstrated through His GUIDANCE (v. 3). 2
Tim. 3:16, 17; Ps. 119:105*

“his name's sake” - God's provision and guidance has nothing to do with who WE are and everything to do with who HE is.

I. THE COMFORTABLE PART (v. 1-3)

c. When Comfortable, Beware of COMPLACENCY.



A Cast Sheep

II. THE DISORIENTING PART (v. 4)

a. Even in the valley of the shadow of death, God cared for David as a shepherd.

- *God's care for you is demonstrated through His PRESENCE (v. 4).*

*Our security is NOT found in our environment
but in the PRESENCE of our SHEPHERD.*

II. THE DISORIENTING PART (v. 4)

b. "...Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."

God's protection comes in the forms of:

1. DEFENSE (rod)

For believers today, the rod symbolizes God's Word. (2 Cor. 10:4-5; John 17:17)

2. DISCIPLINE (staff)

The staff represents the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives. (Gal. 5:16)

III. THE REWARDING PART (v. 5-6)

- a. Dark valleys often produce deeper INTIMACY with God.

The problems don't always go away- but we have learned to trust God even in their presence. The situation hasn't changed- YOU have changed.

- b. The Lord is my HOST.

David now sees his relationship with God in a new dimension- God is welcoming Him as a FRIEND.

III. THE REWARDING PART (v. 5-6)

- *God's care for you will continue to be demonstrated as His GOODNESS and MERCY pursue you all the way to heaven.*

“You can trust the Lord with more than just your eternity- you can trust Him with your here and now, too.”