

PSALM 23

Verse #1 – “The Lord is my Shepherd”; (Is He?)

Read: John 10:1-5. Especially #11-#16.

“I shall not want.” (or lack) Phil. 4:19.

EXAMPLE OF DIVINE SUPPLIES:

(This portion from Thompson-Chain Bible Notes)

- a. Israel (in the wilderness – Deut. 2:7)**
 - b. Elijah (in famine) I K. 17:6, 16)**
 - c. Elijah (in the wilderness – I K. 19:6)**
 - d. The Army (of the 3 kings – II K. 3:20)**
 - e. Prophet’s widow (II K. 4:6)**
 - f. Samaria (in famine – II K. 7:8)**
 - g. Multitude following Christ (Matt. 14:20)**
 - h. Saints (Phil. 4:19)**
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Verse #2 – “He maketh me to lie down in green pastures” (His peace causes us to WANT to be in His presence and rest in Him)(Isaiah 40:31)

“He leadeth me beside the still waters.” The waters of life can be very stressful, but we can enjoy Jesus (the Living Water). (John 4:13 & 14) (Is. 55:1) (Rev. 7:17)

He's promised not to let the “waters” of life overflow, if we cast our cares upon Him. (I Peter 5:7) (Isaiah 43:2)

Verse #3 – “He restoreth my soul”

Jesus came to restore us back to the place we should have stayed spiritually, before Adam & Eve fell in the Garden of Eden. Through Christ's death on the cross, our soul has been restored. Not to perfection yet, but on its way through this earthly journey, we'll be completely restored when we reach heaven. (Is 53:4-6)

“He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness”

(Matt. 7:13 & 14) God may not lead you on an “easy, quick” path, but it's a path for you to grow and mature.

Psalm 23:3(b)

“For His Name's sake.”

To bring honor & glory to Him. (Is 42:8) (Is. 48:11)

EXAMPLE OF NOT GIVING GOD THE GLORY:

Herod (Acts 12:18-25)

Accent vs. #23 – he (Herod) gave God NOT the glory...”)

Verse #4 – “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death.”

If Jesus tarries, we ALL (100% chance!) will die.

(See: Heb. 9:27) Sometimes in the Bible, the word “shadow” is used for God’s protective presence.

(Is. 51:16) (Psalm 91:1)

“I will fear no evil.”

True Christians walking close to God, should not fear death. It’s just leaving this world (earth), to enter another (heaven).

(II Tim. 1:7) (II Cor. 5:8) (Luke 23:43)

There will be *no evil*, in heaven! (Rev. 21:8) (Rev. 21:27)

There's no evil in death for the believer who is going to heaven. For those who are going to hell, there is utter despair, no hope, no turning back.

Why? Because, they possibly never heard the gospel, or rejected the gospel.

"...for Thou art with me..." (Heb. 13:5) (Psalm 139:7-12)

"...Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me."

ROD SYMBOLIZES AUTHORITY & POWER, DISCIPLINE & A DEFENSE TO PROTECT THE SHEEP. (Rod of correction – Prov. 22:15 / Prov. 29:15/ Prov. 23:13 & 14)

STAFF REPRESENTS LEANING ON GOD, WHEN FEELING TIRED. Also, used to rescue the sheep (the top curling part of the handle).

The staff leads us to solid, good ground. So, the staff was used to *rest, rescue & guide*.

Discipline is good if done correctly. READ: Heb. 12:6 – "For the Lord disciplines those He loves..."

Verse #5 – “Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies...”

God will allow those enemies, who have rejected, mocked & mistreated you, to SEE or HEAR about the blessings of God upon your life. (See: Psalm 68:1) (Prov. 16:7)

It's not what others think or say about you that really matters as much as what *God thinks about you.* (Romans 8:17)

“Thou anointest my head with oil...”

Meaning, God wants us sanctified, separated from the world, set apart and holy. (Romans 7:18 /

Romans 12:2 / I Peter 2:9 / John 17:15 / John 15:19/ I Peter 1:16 / II Cor. 6:14-18 / I Cor. 6:19 /

II Cor. 5:17 / II Cor. 7:1 / II Tim. 2:21 / Titus 2:14 / Psalm 119:9.

“...my cup runneth over.”

It means God will give you more than enough for your needs. (Phil. 4:19)

**In other words, it's about God's
*PRESENCE, PROVISION, PROTECTION, POWER &
PURPOSE FOR YOUR LIFE. (Deuteronomy 31:8)***

**Verse #6 – “Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me, all the days of my life...”**

**Speaking of God's favor. (Matt. 6:33 / Psalm 5:12 /
Psalm 90:17 / Psalm 84:11 / Psalm 30:5 / Genesis 6:8
/ Dan. 1:9 / Isaiah 58:11 / Prov. 12:2 / Prov. 8:35 /
Psalm 106:4 / Joshua 1:8.**

**“...and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.”**

(John 5:24 / I John 5:11 / II Cor. 4:17 / Ro. 6:23)

**HEAVEN IS REAL. (John 3:36 / John 3:14-16 /
John 14:1-3; 6 / Luke 23:43)**

**HELL IS REAL. (Luke 16:19 / Matt. 13:40-43 / Luke
16:26)**

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