



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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The Master Has All You Need!

Scripture: Psalm 23

First, we must realize what God is to us personally. Since God is omnipresent (everywhere) we must realize even though there are billions (8.3) of people on the earth, He deals with each of us individually. We have confidence that we will not "want," that is, to be in need or to diminish. He will sustain us and our needs will be supplied. The Lord only promised that we will not be in want, that is, lacking what things we require or need.

We can enjoy a rest that goes beyond the norm for our stressed-out world. What can cause such a sense of peace and serenity? It can only be the result of complete trust and confidence in God. Christians are able to have peace of mind in the midst of the most severe tests of life. The Lord not only gives us rest but also leads us into restful moments and places. He directs our path in life, but we must obediently and trustingly follow His will and purpose so that it becomes a delight to us. He knows and He understands the way we take (Job 23:10).

One of the greatest blessings is God's ability to restore. Sometimes we face storms in life, but God restores our soul. Although God allows the hurricane, the tornado, or the flood to temporarily overcome us, the Lord steps in to provide healing and restoration. Our Master knows the "green pastures" and "still waters" that will restore us. Rebelling against the shepherd's leading is actually rebelling against our own best interest. He alone knows the way that leads to righteousness and redemption.

Death casts a frightening shadow over us because we are entirely helpless in its presence. We can struggle with other enemies— pain, suffering, disease, injury—but strength and courage cannot overcome death. Only one person can walk with us through death's dark valley and bring us safely to the other side—the God of life, our shepherd. There is no need for us to fear, for the Lord is present with us and He will comfort and sustain us! The shepherd's rod is his weapon of power, authority, and defense (Word of God). We that are saved should find comfort in the Word of God as we go through our various trials and tests. Whatever we may consider objects of comfort to us, one thing is clear, Jesus is the Comforter who dwells in the hearts of true believers.

God nourishes us before our enemies. What a host God is! He not only prepares a banquet for the spiritual nourishments for us, but also protects us from our enemies that he may partake of God's provisions. Even though we may be surrounded by our enemy, we can sit down at God's banquet table with confidence and know that we can feast in perfect security. Anointing the head with oil was common among the Jews as washing the face with water is among us. Anointest my head with oil; give us an overflowing cup. The Master desires that each of us enjoy an overflowing experience.

Goodness and mercy shall follow us throughout our life. The Lord has promised that He will never leave us or forsake us (Hebrew 13:5). It is not necessary that we ever be separated from God. As long as we choose to remain in His presence, we will enjoy His goodness and mercy forever. We need to live our lives with holiness unto God if we are to see Him in our eternal home.

The twenty-third psalm has been a mainstay for multitudes of Christians who have lived by its precepts of hope and faith for centuries. Many have lived by it and many have even died by it with its words in their mind and on their lips. David emphasizes the Shepherd's gracious provision with detail and brings great hope to our heart. The emphasis is on the giver rather than on the gifts; the provider is greater than the provision.

Because of the greatness of the Good Shepherd, (we) "sheep" are safe and satisfied in His sheepfold (in His arms). This psalm depicts the kind of relationship that exists between the Lord and His people. Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, has come to His people with great care—to find them, to gather them, to love them. Whether a person is basking in the sunshine times of life, or enduring life's dark shadows, the psalmist has for him a clarion message of hope, comfort, and peace.

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