

Now I want to go over two Psalms. The 23rd Psalm many, many people have heard over and over again, I would just like to go over it and see what Yahweh has to say in here.

1. THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD: I SHALL NOT WANT.

This means that Yahweh will provide for His people, provisions will be made. We will not be deprived. He will not leave us out, even though we're being chastised and corrected, and things look pretty dismal, we will come out, because Yahweh is with Israel.

2. HE MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES: HE LEADETH ME BESIDE THE STILL WATERS.

"He maketh...pastures," in other words, referring to sheep, they are in ecstasy actually when they are in green pastures, and there is an abundance of food. And the Lord's people are also led, through understanding, in a blessed condition. "He leadeth...waters" or "quite waters" () or "waters of peace" (New English) where there will be peace. So He gives His people peace now through the understanding, through the understanding that He gives them. In other words, without His understanding, without the hope, without the promise, you could not possibly have peace of mind in this system--unless you chose to drown yourself either in literal alcohol, or in dope, or in a fantasy, a religion that you don't understand. If you're willing to do that and you can be happy without understanding, I'm sorry for you, truly sorry, because you're not using the main thing that man was actually given--a brain, a mind. This is what makes man unique, in comparison to all the animals. If you don't use your mind then you're just as bad off as the animals, you can't make a decision, you can't understand anything, you can't make a choice. This is most unfortunate. (See also Jer. 31:9)

3. HE RESTORETH MY SOUL: HE LEADETH ME IN THE PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE.

Now David saw many black moments, many moments of despair, and yet with prayer and supplication he was restored, he got an inner strength over and over again. I don't know how many of you have experienced this. I myself have been desperate many times, but in praying, and remembering His promises and reviewing His knowledge, the promises He makes through His word, you will gain strength, you'll know you're not abandoned. He knows you're here, He knows what you're suffering and He's not going to abandon you like your imagination tells you. He's not that kind of God. But He does momentarily leave you for you to think about yourselves, and to check on yourself, and to make the necessary changes which are not altogether pleasing to Him, and which are actually harming you. So He gives you a chance to get a better sight on yourself.

4. YEA, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL: FOR THOU ARE WITH ME; THY ROD AND THY STAFF THEY COMFORT ME.

Now here he has absolute trust in Yahweh no matter where he is, he could be surrounded with death. He's not going to be afraid because he knows Yahweh is with His people. "Thy rod and thy staff" or thy club. In other words, He is walking beside him ready to club anyone down, so to speak, so that no one can harm Israel. His protecting hand is with them. And as you go on you'll see and wonder how you got away with this and how you got away with that. It's because Yahweh is with you, and if He delivers you from little things, He'll deliver you from big things. Now He says...

5. THOU PREPAREST A TABLE BEFORE ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES: THOU ANOINTEST MY HEAD WITH OIL; MY CUP RUNNETH OVER.

Now "preparing...enemies," the table here symbolizes something that holds food. And He prepares a table indicating that the food is there in the presence of His enemies. Now the food that He's preparing is the spiritual food. And in the presence of his enemies means that the enemies will behold the blessings of the spiritual food that Israel gets. Only Israel will be eating, partaking of this food and the enemies will notice it. Remember He says in Matthew 24 where the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered (Matt. 24:28). Well He's referring to the spiritual food and the eagles, that's us, who will be hungrily feeding upon it. This is where you'll find Yahshua, you won't find him actually anywhere, but you'll find only the spiritual food, you'll find the understanding, and those who are his, will be hungrily feeding upon it. It's not real greed, but it's being anxious to do what is right, and to learn what is right. So "thou prepare...enemies" In other words, you prepare these blessing in front of all to see and Israel alone will have this table prepared for them--not the others, but they will see it. "thou annointest my head with oil" the oil symbolizes the spiritual blessing that you receive. And he says, "my cup runneth over, indicating that it is an over abundance of blessings that Israel has received.

6. SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE: AND I WILL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER.

Now what is the "house of the Lord"? "...the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established among the hills..." (Is. 2:2)^ This is the organization that Yahweh makes, His kingdom. So he's saying, "I will dwell in his kingdom forever" in plain language. So here's a man who knows that regardless what the situation is, that Yahweh is with him and He will protect him, He will see him through, and eventually he'll make it and he will get everlasting life, because Yahweh has promised it. And he's going to see to it that he does please Yahweh to make it, because he is wise enough to know that only by doing what is just and right can you receive these blessings. (Goes to Psalm 85:10-13)

OTHER REFERENCES^

Verse 1: ^PS. 78:52^ "But made his own people to go forth like she and guided them in the wilderness like a flock."

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