

Part 8 - How to Have a Banquet on a Battlefield

The Lord is my Shepherd, I have everything I need. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in the right paths for his name's sake...

- Psalm 23:1-5

... Even when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me! Your rod and your staff they comfort me. You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies.

- Psalm 23:1-5

# WHAT KIND OF PARTY IS THIS?

#### - God is the Host

YOU!

- God is the Host

"prepare a table"

- <u>It Has Been Planned</u>

- God is the Host

"prepare a table"

- It Has Been Planned

"forme"

- lam the Guest of Honor

- God is the Host

"prepare a table"

- It Has Been Planned

"for me"

- I am the Guest of Honor

"in the presence"

- It's a Public Occasion

- God is the Host

"prepare a table"

- It Has Been Planned

"forme"

- I am the Guest of Honor

"in the presence"

- It's a Public Occasion

"of my enemies"

- It's on a Battlefield

### WHAT KIND OF BATTLEFIELD ISTHIS?

### 1. A <u>Cultural</u> Battlefield

Jesus "In this world, you will have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration but take heart... because I have overcome the world."

- John 16:33 AMP

Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you....

- 1 John 2:15-17 NLT

...For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions...

- 1 John 2:15-17 NLT

... These are not from the Father but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

- 1 John 2:15-17 NLT

### 2. A <u>Demonic</u> Battlefield

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

- I Peter 5:8 NLT

We are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

- Ephesians 6:12 NLT

### 3. An Internal Battlefield

There is another power within me that is at war with my mind.

This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me.

- Romans 7:23 NLT

### WHAT KIND OF BANQUET ISTHIS?

## 1. It is One of Personal Fellowship

You welcome us with open arms when we run for cover to you.

Let the party last all night!

Stand guard over our celebration.

- Psalm 5:11 MSG

God is gently calling you from the jaws of distress to an open place of freedom where he has set your table full of the best food!

-Job 36:16 NCV

## 2. It is One of Divine Feasting

### How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey.

- Psalm 119:103 NLT

#### Learn to savor how good the Lord is!

- Psalm 34:8 NAB

# How precious, O God, is your constant love! We find protection under the shadow of your wings....

- Psalm 36:7-9 GNB

...We feast on the abundant food you provide; you let us drink from the river of your goodness. You are the source of all life! And because of your light, we see the light!

- Psalm 36:7-9 GNB

## 3. It is One of Public Divine Favor

How great is the goodness you have stored up for those who fear you. You lavish it on those who come to you for protection, blessing them before the watching world.

- Psalm 31:19 NLT

On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine the best of meats and the finest of wines...

...On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever...

...The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The Lord has spoken...

...In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."