

Crossing the Valley: Psalm23; part3

1. The Lord is My Shepherd, I Shall not Want (vs.1)

A. Remember: I shall not want, does not mean David had no problems, and had a life of ease

B. What marked David's life was _____ in the LORD, as a sheep trusts the shepherd.

1. 1Sam and 2Sam reveal the lives of 2 Kings – Saul and David, and 2 different outcomes

2. David suffered for obedience to God, and because of God's plan for his life – to be King
**because* he was a man's after God's own heart, obeyed God's Word and will; God gave him the kingdom when He took it from Saul; this brought great suffering for David

3. Saul was a man, bigger than all others, yet his life was marked and led by _____!
**He feared people and let that direct his decisions above what God commanded*
**He also was jealous of David, that fear/jealousy, led him to murder many people and cost him and his people dearly! *1Sam31:6,8-9!*

2. Seven Things the LORD/Shepherd Provides for His People (vs.2-6)

A. **One -Three(vs.2-4):** 1. He restores my soul; 2. He leads me in the _____ of righteousness; 3. He comforts me and leads me _____ the valley of the shadow of death

B. **Four-Seven (vs.5-6):** Here is the turning point, when we Cross the Valley!

4. He prepares a _____ before me in the _____ of my enemies – blesses in midst of my attacks!

1. Sheep are attacked by wolves, there, in the middle of enemies, they see the Shepherd's might!

2. David's examples to us: *the lion* and the bear (*1Sam17:31-37*); *Goliath* (*1Sam17:41-51*);
**God gives David, Jonathan, as a best friend/protector, blessed before nation (1Sam18:1-5);*
**God continually blesses David before King Saul, his enemy (1Sam18:28-30; 1Sam23:14)*

3. We will face world system, flesh, devil, and enemies of cross = fake Christians (*Phil3:18,19*)

4. God blesses us in the midst of attacks to encourage and strengthen us and remind us of His love!

5. When we _____ the Lord, things change in us, His power is displayed before enemies!
**NOW*, though circumstances may still be bad, it is no longer a Valley of darkness/despair!

5. He _____ my head with oil, my cup _____ – He blesses, providing more than enough!

1. Anointing w/ oil, represented God's blessing, presence on one's life (like to be King)

2. Notice: cup overflows...think cup immersed in the ocean; for this is God's love, grace, mercy
**Jesus' lesson from loaves/fish and calming storm? He provides abundantly! *Matt6:33*

6. His goodness, mercy and presence _____ me, _____ the days of my life

1. Follow me, means pursue to overtake; God's mercy and love are *always* pursuing us!

2. In war, death, pain, grief, failure – God's mercy, love, pursued David!

**2Sam5:10-12; Heb12:7-11*

7. He keeps me _____; in and by His grace, so I will _____ be lost, and I will dwell in His house forever

**Here is the security of the true believer! Jude24; 2Tim4:16-18; Phil1:6; 1Pet1:6-9*