

LOW PLACES

PSALM 23 – DARKEST VALLEY



Big Picture

When we experience low places in life, our focus should be on our Shepherd and not the situation

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Psalm 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I have what I need. ²He lets me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside quiet waters. ³He renews my life; he leads me along the right paths for his name's sake.

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Our Shepherd

- Who He is: We need to recognize that David says the Lord is “my shepherd”

Phillip Keller – “Our view of Him is often too small — too cramped — too provincial — too human.”

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- What He provides: vv. 2–3 speak a universal language of beautiful rest and a restoring of the whole person. The shepherd provides food (green pastures) and drink (still waters). Then He makes us lie down there and rest

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Phillip Keller – “Our view of Him is often too small — too cramped — too provincial — too human.”

- What He provides: vv. 2–3 speak a universal language of beautiful rest and a restoring of the whole person. The shepherd provides food (green pastures) and drink (still waters). Then He makes us lie down there and rest
- Where He leads: He leads us beside quiet waters and along paths of righteousness

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Psalm 23

⁴Even when I go through the darkest valley,
I fear no danger, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

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Our Companion

- How He leads: Not only is the Lord with us in our low places, but He also comforts us. Your valley, whatever it may be, is not the destination but the journey

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- Where He is: He is present

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Our Companion

- How He leads: Not only is the Lord with us in our low places, but He also comforts us. Your valley, whatever it may be, is not the destination but the journey
- Where He is: He is present
- What He holds: He is heavily armed. Our companion has a rod and staff in His hands

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Psalm 23

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord as long as I live.

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Our Host

- How He welcomes: The shepherd treats us the way a lavish host treats a special guest. He prepares a table, anoints my head, and my cup overflows

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- How He welcomes: The shepherd treats us the way a lavish host treats a special guest. He prepares a table, anoints my head, and my cup overflows
- What He sends: Goodness and faithful love pursue us

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Our Host

- How He welcomes: The shepherd treats us the way a lavish host treats a special guest. He prepares a table, anoints my head, and my cup overflows
- What He sends: Goodness and faithful love pursue us
- Where He invites: He invites us to dwell with Him where He dwells and to be with Him forever

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