

Rewards of a Restored Soul Pastor Bob Metcalf 12/7/2025

Ps 23:1-3 *“The LORD is my shepherd;*

I shall not want.

² *He makes me to lie down in green pastures;*

He leads me beside the still waters.

³ *He restores my soul;*

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

For His name’s sake.”

As a Pastor it is my role, my work, my duty, to lead the sheep to health.

We as a church the Holy Spirit will bring in those who have a damaged soul. And as a church and as Pastor we should be aware that we are here to help those who are here to be restored to a renewed soul.

As we sit under the Word of God our soul comes under Holy Spirit construction, we experience a restoration or remodeling of every part or every room.

In this world we live in, our soul, our inner life, is continually bombarded by the perversion of this present world.

Our enemy Satan desires to destroy our character, our values, and our spiritual convictions by confusing the emotions, corrupting our godly desires and tempting us to serve evil.

Our enemy continually pressures us off the paths of righteousness into crooked paths, paths that lead to loss, sorrow, irrevocable wrong decisions, and the path of the fool.

My role as Pastor is to encourage all to stay on God’s paths that are protected by righteousness!

“The Reward of Walking in Righteous Paths”

Walking in righteous paths brings rewards like **peace, joy, divine favor, protection, long-term success, spiritual fulfillment, and ultimately, eternal life,**

with blessings flowing from living according to divine principles and building strong character.

This path leads to inner strength, clarity, and purpose, contrasting with the temporary gains of wickedness, offering a life of flourishing and closeness to God.

There are rewards for a person with a restored or renewed soul.

- Peace and confidence:** The fruit of righteousness is peace, quietness, and lasting confidence **Isaiah 32:17**
- Joy;** Righteous living brings joy and a sense of fulfillment.
- Spiritual fulfillment:** It aligns you with God's will, bringing a triumphant life.
- Protection & Guidance:** God blesses the righteous, surrounds them with His favor, and makes their paths straight **Psalms 5:12, Proverbs 3:5-6.**
- Sustenance:** Their needs (bread and water) are supplied, and they are delivered from trouble **Proverbs 11.**
- Answered Prayers:** The prayers of the righteous have great power **James 5:16.**
- Integrity and Trust:** It builds strong character and trust through consistent ethical choices.
- Resilience:** Facing challenges with integrity fosters personal growth and confidence.
- Purpose:** You live out God's ordained purpose for your life.

Ps 23:3 *“He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness*

1. Godly Guidance into Godly Paths

Pro 2:20 NLT *“So follow the steps of the good, and stay on the paths of the righteous.”*

(Picture of a rut that is cut and you fall into it)

Ps 16:11 *“You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy”*

A. Guidance for the stubborn Sojourner; a stubborn people put their fingers in their ears and pull away. **1 Sam 15:23** *“For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.*

B. Guidance for the Straying Sojourner, unstable, no convection

Ps 49:4 *“Unstable as water, you shall not excel”*

C. Guidance for the Sensitive Sojourner, Is 30:21 *“Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, “This is the way, walk in it,” Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.*

Heb 5:11 *“of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.”*

Heb 4:7 *“Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts. (sin hardens the heart)*

We make our own choices, but we can't choose our consequences!

2. Choosing the Right Path, I am responsible to choose the right path.

A. The Path of Personal Choice

Pro 1:15 *“My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path;”* (Poor choice of friends) **Pro 4:14, 25-27**

B. The Paths with Delayed Consequences

Job 6:18 *“The paths of their way turn aside, They go nowhere and perish.”*
(Boy Scout Troop Mt. Baldy took wrong path) **Pro 14:12**

C. The Path of the Upright – Sanctification

Is 26:7 *“The way of the just is uprightness; O Most Upright, You weigh the path of the just. Pro 4:18*

Sanctification is the continuous operation of the Holy Spirit in believers, making us holy by conforming our character, affections and behavior to the image of God.

Justification is a onetime event: **sanctification** is an ongoing process.

Justification frees us from the guilt of sin, **sanctification** from the pollution of sin.

Justification we surrender the principle of sin and self-rule. **Sanctification** we relinquish the practice of specific sins as we mature in Christ.

3. The Path Less Travelled – Righteousness

A. the Path of Righteousness

R/S is unattainable by obedience to any law, or by any merits of man's own, or by any other condition than that of faith in Christ.

The man who trusts Christ becomes the righteousness of God in Him!

B. Sin - The Intruder of Our Righteousness

"I've been delivered from sin but not sinning!" (Martin Luther)

1. Sin that gives place to No Biblical Guilt James 5:10
2. Sin that gives place to Satanic Accusations Rev 12:10 Zech 3:1-3
3. Sin that gives place to Destructive Condemnation John 8:11 1 Tim 3:6
4. Sin that gives place to Harmful Doubting
5. Sin that gives place to Carnal Rationalization
6. Sin that gives place to Deceitfulness Heb 3:13
7. Sin that gives place to Hardness of Heart 1 Tim 4:1-2

C. Sin – Removing From my Path of Righteousness

1. Sin brought to light 1 John 1:7
2. Sin personally acknowledged 1 John 1:8
3. Sin humbly and wisely confessed 1 John 1:9
4. Sin tally and radically forgiven 1 John 1:9

"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."

⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pro 2:20 NLT *"So follow the steps of the good, and stay on the paths of the righteous."*

