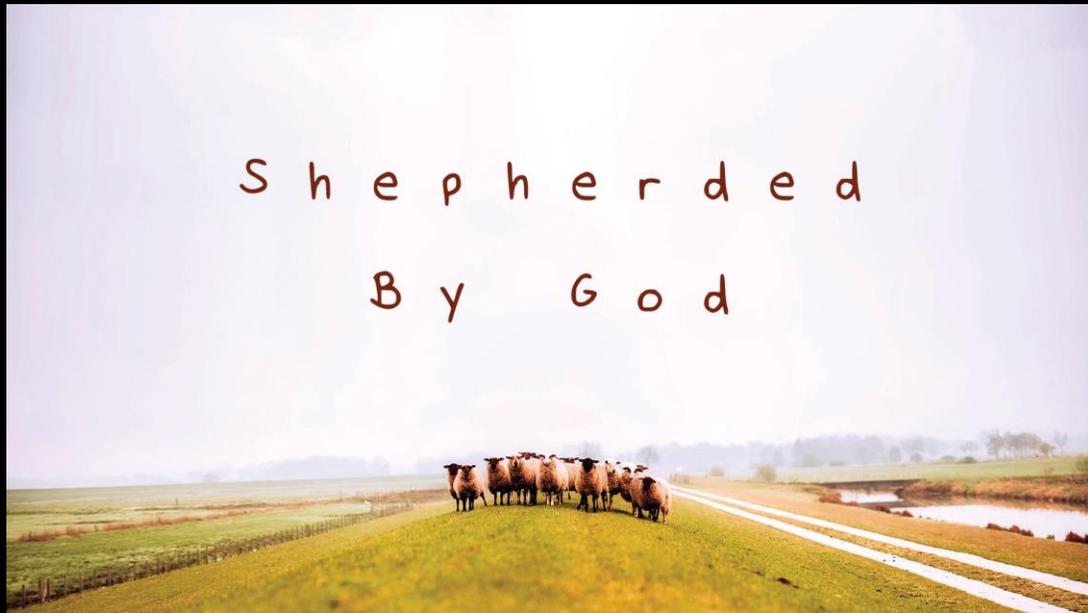




WHAT ARE SOME OF THE WAYS CHILDREN MIGHT BECOME SPOILED?

Shepherded by God: Our Good Shepherd Blesses us



August 21, 2022

Speaker:

Elder Mike Tam

Psalm 23:1-6

Psalm 23:1-6

_____ ;
_____ ;
_____ ;
_____ .
_____ ;
_____ ;
_____ .

Psalm 23:1-6

23 The LORD _____; _____ not _____.

² _____ me _____ green _____.
_____ leads _____ waters.

³ _____ restores _____.

He _____ in _____
_____ his name's _____.

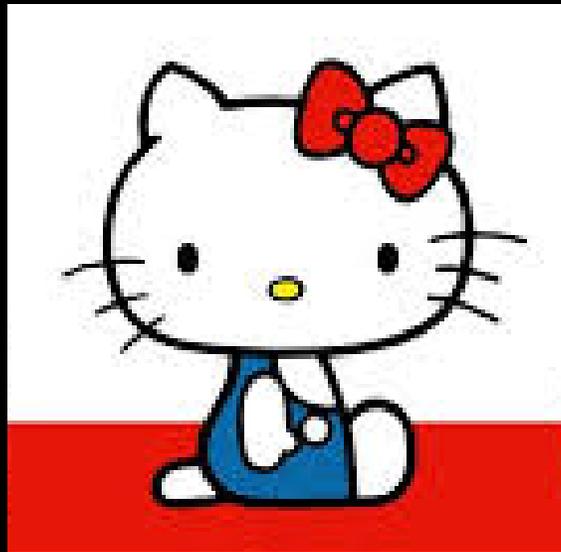
⁴ Even _____ walk _____ valley _____
_____.

_____ no _____,
_____ you are _____;
_____ and your _____,
_____ comfort _____.

Psalm 23:1-6

5 You prepare _____ before _____
_____ presence _____;
_____ oil;

_____ my _____.
6 _____ goodness _____
all _____ life,
_____ shall _____
_____.



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Psalm 23:1-4

The LORD Is My Shepherd

A Psalm of David.

23 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters. ^[a]

³ He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness^[b]
for his name's sake.

Footnotes

^a Psalm 23:2 Hebrew *beside waters of rest*

^b Psalm 23:3 Or *in right paths*

Psalm 23:1-4

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,^[c]

I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

Footnotes

^c Psalm 23: 4 *Or the valley of deep darkness*

Psalm 23:5b-6

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely^[d] goodness and mercy^[e] shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell^[f] in the house of the LORD
forever.^[g]

Footnotes

^d Psalm 23:6 Or *Only*

^e Psalm 23:6 Or *steadfast love*

^f Psalm 23:6 Or *shall return to dwell*

^g Psalm 23:6 Hebrew *for length of days*

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goodness:

mercy/love:

goodness (tov):

mercy/love:

goodness (tov):

mercy/love (hesed/chesed):

goodness (tov): good, beautiful, pleasing, useful; beauty, gladness, welfare, the best; cheerful, bountiful, sweet, joyful, kindness.

mercy/love (hesed/chesed):

goodness (tov): good, beautiful, pleasing, useful; beauty, gladness, welfare, the best; cheerful, bountiful, sweet, joyful, kindness.

mercy/love (hesed/chesed): steadfast love, loyal love, unfailing love, faithful love; kindness, goodness, faithfulness. A deep loyalty within a relationship. God's covenantal faithfulness in His love.

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Hebrews 6:13-20 (NIV)

The Certainty of God's Promise

¹³ When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, ¹⁴ saying, “I will surely bless you and give you many descendants.” ¹⁵ And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised.

Hebrews 6:13-20 (NIV)

¹⁶ People swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument. ¹⁷ Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. ¹⁸ God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged. ¹⁹ We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, ²⁰ where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 6:18-20 (NLT)

¹⁸ So God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. ¹⁹ This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. It leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary. ²⁰ Jesus has already gone in there for us. He has become our eternal High Priest in the order of Melchizedek.

AS A GOOD FATHER, WHAT ARE SOME THINGS GOD WANTS FOR US?

- THAT WE WOULD BE PROTECTED
- THAT WE WOULD EXPERIENCE HEALING AND RESTORATION
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE PEACE
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE PROVISION
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE LIFE: HERE AND ETERNALLY
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE GOOD CHARACTER
- THAT WE WOULD BE PEOPLE WHO WILLINGLY GIVE DEEPLY OF OURSELVES FOR OTHERS
- THAT WE WOULD LOVE OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS WELL
- THAT WE WOULD LOVE STRANGERS AND THOSE WHO HATE US AS WE LOVE OURSELVES
- THAT WE WOULD LOVE HIM WITH OUR WHOLE HEART
- THAT WE WOULD TRUST HIM & HAVE CONFIDENCE IN HIM WITH OUR WHOLE HEART
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE A DEEP RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM

WOULD GOD BE A GOOD GOD IF HE DIDN'T WANT THESE THINGS FOR US?

SO WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE WHEN GOD'S GOODNESS & LOVE PURSUES US?

WHAT WOULD YOU EXPECT GOODNESS AND LOVE FOLLOWING YOU ALL THE DAYS OF YOUR LIFE TO LOOK LIKE?

- THAT WE WOULD BE PROTECTED
- THAT WE WOULD EXPERIENCE HEALING AND RESTORATION
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE PEACE
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE PROVISION
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE LIFE: HERE AND ETERNALLY
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**WHY DOES THERE SEEM TO BE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT I THINK
GOD WANTS FOR ME AND WHAT I EXPERIENCE IN LIFE SOMETIMES?**

WHAT DO YOU EXPECT GOODNESS AND LOVE FOLLOWING YOU ALL THE DAYS OF YOUR LIFE TO LOOK LIKE?

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**WHEN THERE IS A MISMATCH BETWEEN
OUR (SKEWED) EXPECTATIONS AND THE REALITY WE ARE EXPERIENCING...**

**IT CAN LEAD TO DISILLUSIONMENT, DOUBT, DISCOURAGEMENT, FRUSTRATION,
QUESTIONING, ANGER, BLAME, AND A WALKING AWAY FROM GOD**

WHAT DO YOU EXPECT GOODNESS AND LOVE FOLLOWING YOU ALL THE DAYS OF YOUR LIFE TO LOOK LIKE?

- THAT WE WOULD BE PROTECTED
- THAT WE WOULD EXPERIENCE HEALING AND RESTORATION
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE PEACE
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE PROVISION
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE LIFE: HERE

BUT TOWARD ALL OF THIS...

- THAT WE WOULD BE PROTECTED
- THAT WE WOULD EXPERIENCE HEALING AND RESTORATION
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE PEACE
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE PROVISION
- THAT WE WOULD HAVE LIFE: HERE AND ETERNALLY
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THE GOOD SHEPHERD ISN'T REALLY INTERESTED IN THE GREEN PASTURES AND STILL WATERS AS HIS GOAL... HE'S INTERESTED IN HAVING HEALTHY SHEEP

Hebrews 12:5-13 (NIV)

God Disciplines His Children

⁵ And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

“My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,
⁶ because the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.”

Hebrews 12:5-13 (NIV)

⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? ⁸ If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. ⁹ Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! ¹⁰ They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹ No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. ¹² Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. ¹³ “Make level paths for your feet,” so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

GOD WANTS TO BLESS YOU WITH ALL OF THIS (AND MORE), BECAUSE HE LOVES YOU AS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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Hebrews 13:20-21 (NIV)

Benediction and Final Greetings

²⁰ Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, **that great Shepherd of the sheep**, ²¹ equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD ISN'T AFTER GREEN PASTURES AND STILL WATERS...
HE'S AFTER HEALTHY SHEEP**

2 GOALS FOR THIS SERIES:

- 1) THAT YOU WOULD HAVE AN UNSHAKABLE CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S LEADING OF YOUR LIFE**
- 2) THAT YOU WOULD HAVE AN UNSHAKABLE PEACE IN EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE YOU FACE**

WHAT WOULD PSALM 23 LOOK LIKE IF YOU WROTE IT?

DO YOU REALIZE YOU NEED A SHEPHERD?

WHAT TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP DO YOU HAVE WITH YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD?

REFLECTION & APPLICATION

- **WHAT ROLE HAVE SKEWED OR FALSE EXPECTATIONS OF GOD CAUSED YOU TO HAVE A SHAKY CONFIDENCE IN GOD?**
- **IN WHAT WAYS MIGHT YOUR EXPECTATIONS AND VIEW OF GOD NEED TO CHANGE SO YOU CAN GROW IN TRUSTING HIM?**
- **IF YOU REALIZE IT IS EASIER FOR YOU TO SEE THE BAD (AND TO WORRY) THAN IT IS TO SEE JESUS AS YOU WALK THROUGH THE DIFFERENT VALLEYS OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, ASK HOLY SPIRIT TO HELP YOU GROW IN KNOWING JESUS SO YOU CAN GROW IN TRUSTING HIM AS YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD.**
- **IF YOU REALIZE YOUR LIFE HAS BEEN BEARING A FALSE WITNESS AS TO HOW GOOD OF A SHEPHERD JESUS IS BY HOW YOU HAVE REACTED IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS, ASK JESUS TO STRENGTHEN YOU WITH HIS SPIRIT AND HUMILITY SO YOU CAN FOLLOW HIM AS HE LEADS YOU ON THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**