## The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm Contains 3 Pivotal Promises

That Can/Should Give Believers Peace in a Perplexing World

"Peace" is Not Denying Our Pain/Problems...It Is Seeing Them in Their Proper Spiritual Perspective within the Purposes of God. It is Living in "The Eye of the Hurricane" with  $\upsilon\pi ο \mu ο \nu \eta$  hupomone = a "Holy Hangin' in There

## **Promise 1**

The LORD Will Provide for Believers
Like a Faithful Shepherd Provides for His Sheep v1-4

### **Promise 2**

The LORD Will Provide for Believers
Like a Gracious Banquet Host Provides for His Guests v5

## **Promise 3**

The LORD Will Provide for Believers Consistent with His Character, Our Spiritual Best and His Highest Glory Both in This Life and in the Life to Come.

Promise 1: The LORD Will Provide for Believers Like a Faithful Shepherd Provides for His Sheep v1-4

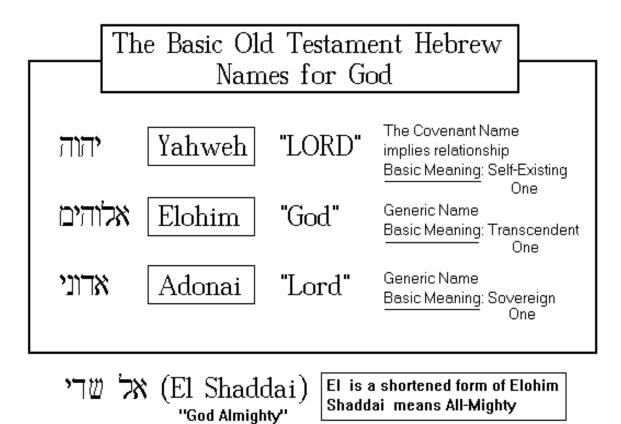
### **Superscription: A Psalm of David**

Roughly half of the 150 Psalms refer to their Davidic authorship. As the human author of this portion of the Word, David was inspired by the Holy Spirit such that he composed and recorded without error the exact message God desired to be included in the Scripture in the words of the original manuscript of this Psalm.

We do NOT have the original manuscript of Psalm 23, but we do have amazingly accurate Hebrew copies of that original, which have been translated into English. The Inspiration of Scripture is a Class A miracle (supernatural); the Preservation of Scripture is a Class B miracle (supernormal). Don't take this for granted?!?!?

## Verse 1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

"LORD" is the unique salvation name of God (YHWH in Hebrew). David writes this Psalm as a believer in the promised Savior/for believers in OT and NT settings.



IOWs: The God of my Salvation will provide for my needs (not necessarily all of my wants) as HE defines them-according to His purpose/plan now and in eternity

David of course was a shepherd as a boy, so he knew the responsibilities of a good shepherd and he encourages us that God as the ultimate "Good Shepherd" does what is necessary to insure the needs of His sheep are met.

### Cause/Effect

Because the LORD is our Shepherd, He will give believers everything we need to be/become everything HE wants us to be/become. We can/should trust Him to do so instead of punting to Operation Doubt/Pout (ala the Children of Israel refusing to enter the Promised Land after being saved through the Red Sea from Egyptian bondage and the Egyptian army; Psalm 106:6-27; Hebrews 3:16-4:2).

#### Verse 2

He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters.

- 1: Green pastures = nutrition/sustenance // guidance in paths of +R in v3a
- 2: Quiet waters = cleansing/refreshment // restoration of soul in v3b

### Verse 3

He restores my soul [cleansing/refreshment = 1 from v2]; He guides me in the paths of righteousness [nutrition/sustenance = 2 from v2] for His name's sake. As the Ultimate Good Shepherd, day by day, the LORD provides for the believer's core spiritual needs-based on His character not our character (Psalm 106:8).

### 1: Spiritual Cleansing/Refreshment

Spiritual Stall Recovery Proverbs 28:13; John 13; 1 John 1:5-2:2; Psalm 32:1-6 2: Spiritual Nutrition/Sustenance

Guidance/Direction Proverbs 28:9; Ps 119; 2 Tim 3:16-17; 1 Peter 1:22-2:5

### Verse 4

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.

<u>Bad News</u>: Sooner or later everyone will walk through the valley of the shadow of death (Psalm 73:26 "My heart and my flesh will fail..."). IOWs: Death Rate = 100%

<u>Good News</u>: God comforts believers at death (Psalm 73:24 "With Your counsel You will guide me, and afterward receive me to glory." Psalm 116:15 "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his godly ones." and Psalm 16:11 "In God's presence is fullness of joy; in His right hand there are pleasures forever.")

Promise 2: The LORD Will Provide for Believers Like a Gracious Banquet Host Provides for His Guests v5

### Verse 5

[Meanwhile, as we live on Earth]: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies, You have anointed my head with oil, my cup overflows.

This MUST be talking about Earth-cuz there aint no enemies in Heaven! Our faith is NOT JUST "pie in the sky, by and by" it is a present tense salvation with Earthly blessings (Proverbs 15:15) rooted in Heavenly/eternal promises.

## Promise 3: The LORD Will Provide for Believers Consistent with His Character, Our Spiritual Best and His Highest Glory Both in This Life and in the Life to Come. v6

### Verse 6

**Surely** [// the promises of v1-5] **goodness and lovingkindness** [this is the Hebrew word "hesed" which means loyal love] **will follow** ["pursue"] **me all the days of my life** [on Earth] **and** [after that] **I will dwell in the House of the LORD forever.** 

### Psalm 73:24-28

With Your counsel You will guide me, and afterward receive me to glory. Whom have I in Heaven *but You*? ...My flesh and my heart will fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. For, behold, those who are far from You will perish; You have destroyed all those who refuse to trust in You. But for me, the nearness of God is my good; I have made the Lord God my refuge [and so rather than doubting/pouting Psalm 73:1-17], that I may tell of all Your works.

## **Take This To Heart**

The Road to Personal Peace for Believers (Even in the Midst of Painful Circumstances) is Paved With the LORD's Promises

Therefore We Can/Should Have ("Eye of the Hurricane") Peace Regardless of Our Current Circumstances. Remember: "Peace" is Not a Naive Denial of Our Pain/Problems...It Is Seeing Them Accurately in Their Proper Perspective Within the Frame of the Eternal Purposes of God.

### Psalm 23

### One of the best known/loved portions of the Word of God

This entire Psalm should be memorized so that we can reflect on its truths regularly. It is a great passage to reflect on anytime, especially when we or those we love are in the middle of tough times.

### **One Practical Suggestion**

The next time "you don't know what to say" to/for someone in deep pain...simply and thoughtfully say/pray Psalm 23.

4 he hath done this. Lath done this be born, th PSALM 23 THE LORD is my shepherd.

2 He maketh want. shepherd:
in green pastures: he i down.
3 House the still he i down.

# Psalm 23 Three Pivotal Promises

Three Pivotal Promises
Can/Should Give Believers

Peace in a Perplexing World

## Promise One: Ps 23:1-4

Promise Two: Ps 23:5

Promise Three: Ps 23:6

## God's Provision

1: For Us as "Sheep" v1-4

2: For Us as "Guests" v5

3: For Us Now and Forever v6





Montrell Jackson, BRPD

Matthew

Brad Gerald, Garafola, BRPD EBRSO



# Psalm 23 Three Pivotal Promises

# Three Random ATW-Uppers





"Yes, the disciples followed Jesus...

## THE CHALLENGE OF STARTING A MEN'S MINISTRY



"So far, the only thing we have in common is

## June 3: Psalm 23

June 10: Jerusalem

June 17: Life of Christ A-Z

# Psalm 23 Three Pivotal Promises

Three Pivotal Promises

Can/Should Give Believers

Peace in a Perplexing World

## God's Provision

1: For Us as "Sheep" v1-4

2: For Us as "Guests" v5

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# Psalm 23:1-4

The LORD Will Provide

Like a Faithful Shepherd

For His Sheep

## The Basic Old Testament Hebrew Names for God

יהוה

Yahweh

"LORD"

The Covenant Name implies relationship

Basic Meaning: Self-Existing

One

אלוהים

Elohim

"God"

Generic Name

Basic Meaning: Transcendent

One

אדוני

Adonai

"Lord"

Generic Name

Basic Meaning: Sovereign

One

אל שרי (El Shaddai) "God Almighty"

El is a shortened form of Elohim Shaddai means All-Mighty Green Pastures v2a
Spiritual Sustenance
Nutrition

Quiet Waters v2b Spiritual Refreshment

Restores My Soul v3a
Spiritual
Refreshment

Guides in +R Paths v3b
Spiritual Sustenance
Direction

Green Pastures v2a
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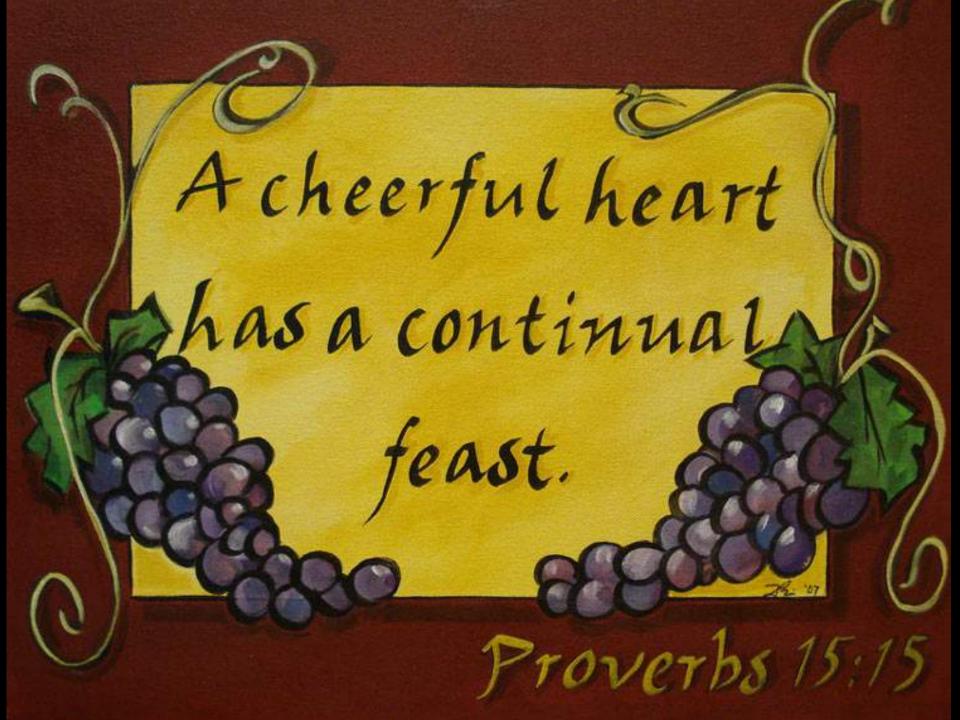
Guides in +R Paths v3b
Spiritual Sustenance
Direction

# Psalm 23:5

The LORD Will Provide

Like a Gracious B-Host

For His Guests



## God's Provision

1: For Us as "Sheep" v1-4

2: For Us as "Guests" v5

3: For Us Now and Forever v6

# Psalm 23:6

The LORD Will Provide

// His Character...

...Now and Forever

The Road to Personal Peace Is Paved

With the LORD's Promises

Three Pivotal Promises

Can/Should Give Believers

Peace in a Perplexing World

Three Pivotal Promises

Can/Should Give

Peace in a Perplexing World

Three Pivotal Promises

Can/Should Give Debbie Mc

Peace in a Perplexing World

Three Pivotal Promises

Can/Should Give Ron M

Peace in a Perplexing World

Three Pivotal Promises

Can/Should Give David Y

Peace in a Perplexing World

Three Pivotal Promises

Can/Should Give Carol W

Peace in a Perplexing World

Three Pivotal Promises

Can/Should Give

Peace in a Perplexing World

Every Believer Can Be What God Wants Us to Be and Can Do

What God Wants Us To Do