

In Need of a Physician

by A.W. Tozer

The sermon emphasizes the need for spiritual restoration and refreshment for those in ministry, particularly pastors who are exhausted and depleted.

Scripture: Psalm 23:1

Topics: "Spiritual Renewal", "Pastoral Care"

Description

A.W. Tozer emphasizes the struggles faced by pastors who, despite appearing pious and strong, often hide their own exhaustion and need for spiritual healing. He reflects on the pressures of ministry that can lead to a depletion of one's own spiritual resources, leaving them in need of a 'physician' to restore their souls. Tozer calls for divine intervention to refresh and renew weary pastors, reminding them that they too require care and restoration amidst their responsibilities.

Transcript

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul.... --Psalm 23:1-3

Human nature being what it is, the man of God may soon adopt an air of constant piety and try to appear what the public thinks he is. The fixed smile and hollow tones of the professional cleric are too well known to require further mention.

All this show of godliness, by the squeeze of circumstances and through no fault of the man himself, may become a front behind which the man hides, a plaintive, secretly discouraged and lonely soul. Here is no hypocrisy, no intentional double living, no actual desire to deceive. The man has been mastered by the circumstances. He has been made the keeper of other people's vineyards but his own vineyard has not been kept. So many demands have been made upon him that they have long ago exhausted his supply. He has been compelled to minister to others while he himself is in desperate need of a physician. God Tells the Man Who Cares, 115.

"Lord, I pray for pastors everywhere today who are indeed exhausted and depleted. The task is so overwhelming and the demands so extreme. Come today with a fresh breath of Your Spirit to refresh, renew, and restore. Amen."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/aw-tozer/in-need-of-a-physician/>

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