

Psalms 23

by Chuck Smith

God is our Shepherd, Guide, and Host, who provides for all our needs, guides us in life, and prepares a table for us in the presence of our enemies.

Scripture: Psalm 23:1

Topics: "God's Provision", "Comfort in Trials"

Description

Chuck Smith expounds on Psalm 23, illustrating God as our Shepherd, Guide, and Host. He emphasizes that with God as our Shepherd, we lack nothing, as He provides for our needs, refreshes our souls, and leads us through life's uncertainties. In the face of challenges, including the valley of the shadow of death, we can walk without fear, knowing His presence comforts us. Smith also highlights God's abundant provision, even amidst adversities, assuring us of His goodness and mercy throughout our lives. Ultimately, he reassures that we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever, experiencing His eternal love and care.

Transcript

I. GOD AS SHEPHERD.

A. I shall not want.

1. For provision.

a. "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures."

2. Refreshing.

a. "He leadeth me beside the still waters.."

3. Strength.

a. "He restoreth my soul."

B. My every need provided by my tender Shepherd.

1. David wrote this Psalm, a little over 3,000 years ago. There stood on

earth one who said: "I am the Good Shepherd."

2. Inference is I might want otherwise.

a. Others with more money than I, want.

b. Others wiser than I want.

II. GOD AS GUIDE "HE LEADETH ME IN THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS"

A. The uncertain paths of life.

1. Not having the capacity to discern the future, how important

that "He leads me."

2. How thankful I am in hour of indecision. "God guide me."

B. The certain path of life.

1. Ultimately leads to valley of shadow of death.

a. "Walk." - No hesitation as though uncertain. No hastening as in fear or panic.

b. "Through the valley."

c. "Shadow of death" - death stands beside the path and casts his shadow over it. The shadow indicates light shadow comes from light shining on other side.

d. Never is His presence more perceptible, knowing the shepherd is the guide. We walk even this path without fear. He is with me.

e. Rod & staff a comfort.

III. GOD AS HOST.

A. Preparing a table before me.

1. Sustenance.

2. Even in face of my enemies.

B. Anointing my head with oil.

1. Oil of gladness.

C. Cup running over.

1. Abundance in everything I need.

D. "Surely Goodness & mercy" -- two qualities personified attendants waiting on me.

Following all the days of my life.

And then at the end of my life when my earthly pilgrimage is over "I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever" "In my Father's house are many dwelling places."

Presently we too shall go beyond the pastures of tender grass, past the still waters that restored our souls & sustained us in love. Out beyond the guidance that was necessary to keep our feet on the path of righteousness. We will be away from our enemies, but never away from our Shepherd, our Guide, our Host. For I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Lord is our Shepherd, we shall not want The Lord is our Guide, we shall be led rightly

The Lord is our Host, we shall dwell in His palace by and by.

What is death to the one who knows God as his shepherd. Certainly not the grim reaper that would tear our loved ones away from us; but it is only the shadow that falls across our path on the way to our Father's house.

Jesus said "In my Father's house are many".. He brings us into His banqueting house & His banner over us is Love.

We are not yet beyond the place where we are surrounded by enemies but He prepares a table before us. While we are still engaged in this warfare, He anoints our heads with oil. He gives songs in the night. All the way He is Host, but the Host is the King, so "my cup runneth over."

Presently we shall go on beyond the pastures of tender grass, the still waters that have restored & sustained us here. On beyond the driving discipline that has kept our feet in the path of righteousness. We will be beyond our enemies, but never away from our Shepherd, Guide & Host for "I shall dwell in the House of the Lord forever."

The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want

The Lord is my guide I shall be led right,

The Lord is my Host I shall dwell in

His palace by and by.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/chuck-smith/psalms-23/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net