

The Lord is My Shepherd

Russ Kay-Hards

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Key Text

Psalm 23

This psalm can be divided into 3 different sections, but it also can be used as an allegory for the journey of the Christian life.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want...

- Everything you need* in life, the Lord will provide. Example: Jesus provides an extraordinary catch for the fishermen. (Luke 5:1-11)
- This statement can be used as a tool to diagnose the level of your relationship with God.
- The Lord is our inheritance, just as He was for the Israelites in the Old Testament. (Ps 84:7)
- This spiritual wealth cannot be taken from us.
- God knows the desires of your heart. (Ps 37:3-5)

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death...

- Life is not always a smooth journey, yet God uses tough experiences to grow us. (James 1:2-8)
- When things are tough, we do not have reason to fear. The Apostle Paul fixed his eyes on what was unseen, when he went through some terrible experiences. (1 Thes 2:9-16)

Practical Application

- Make time available for God to speak to you. Find a routine that works for you. Ask, seek and knock and the door will be opened for you. (Luke 11:5-13)
- Expect God to speak to you. Have faith. You will learn to distinguish God's voice. (John 10:27). Be persistent.
- Get into the Word – read it, meditate on it and commit it to memory. God will speak primarily to you through the Bible.
- We need to yield to God, in a similar manner in which sheep submit to their shepherd.

* *Need* as opposed to *want*, eg. Food on the table compared to driving a Ferrari.