



Sunday, December 10, 2017

A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

“The LORD is my Shepherd”

Q: What comes to mind when you hear the phrase, “The LORD is my Shepherd?”

This LORD is the Eternal, self-existent God who has always existed. He is the God who sustains Himself.

Deuteronomy 31:8 And the LORD, He *it is* that doth go before thee; He will be with thee, He will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.

The “LORD,” He is the **God of peace** (Isaiah 26:3); He is the **God of strength** (Isaiah 26:4); He is **transcendent** (Isaiah 55:8-9); He is **immutable** or unchanging (Malachi 3:6); He is **righteous** in all He does (Psalm 11:7).

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- I. I shall dwell with contentment because of the Lord’s provision (v.1-3)
- A. Of rest—*“He maketh me to lie down”* (v. 2a)
 - B. Of refreshment—*“He leadeth me beside still waters”* (v. 2b)
 - C. Of restoration—*“He restoreth my soul”* (v. 3a)

D. Of _____ —“*He leadeth me in the paths of ...*” (v. 3b)

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

Cf. John 14:6; John 10:10

Summary: “*The LORD is my Shepherd*”, therefore I shall dwell with contentment because of His faithful provision of rest, refreshment, restoration and righteousness.

II. I shall dwell with _____ because of the Lord’s ***presence*** (v. 4-5)

The goal is the mountaintop! In order to get there, we must traverse through the valleys.

A. In His presence there is _____ in the valleys (v. 4)

Notice that we go “*through the valley*,” that is to say that we do not stay or die there. The other side of the valley is the mountaintop.

Consider how there is protection in His presence...

1. He gives us _____ in the “*shadows*”

John 8:12 Then spake **Jesus** again, saying, “I am the **Light** of the world: ...”

John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in **Me** ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

2. He gives us _____ with His "rod"

3. He gives us _____ with His "rod"

Proverbs 29:15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left *to himself* bringeth his mother to shame.

Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the **LORD** thy **God** *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest.

4. He gives us _____ with His "staff"

John 14:26 But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in **My** name, **He** shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 16:13 Howbeit when **He**, the **Spirit of Truth**, is come, **He** will guide you into all truth: for **He** shall not speak of **Himself**; but whatsoever **He** shall hear, *that* shall **He** speak: and **He** will shew you things to come.

Summary: "*The LORD is my Shepherd*", therefore I shall dwell with courage because in His presence there is protection. As a sheep in the flock of the Good Shepherd I will have courage, correction and comfort.

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

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What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF SIN**)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew your mind**)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (**Put ON CHRIST**)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: to Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!