

Sunday, December 17, 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.

So far we have noted that our LORD is **Eternal** (Revelation 1:8); He is our **Creator** (Genesis 1:1); He is **all-knowing** (Psalm 147:4-5); He is **everywhere present** (Psalm 139:7-10); and He is **all-powerful** (Jeremiah 32:17; Matthew 19:26).

We also noted that He is our **God of peace** (Isaiah 26:3); He is our **God of strength** (Isaiah 26:4); He is our **transcendent** God (Isaiah 55:8-9); He is our **immutable** or unchanging God (Malachi 3:6); and He is **righteous** in all He does (Psalm 11:7).

He is our **faithful** God (1 Thessalonians 5:24, Lamentations 3:23); He is our **all-sufficient** God (Lamentations 3:24); He is our God of **Comfort** (John 14:16); He is our **Jehovah-Jireh**, our great **Provider** (Genesis 22:12-14; Philippians 4:19; Matthew 6:24-25).

I. I shall dwell with contentment because of the Lord's provision (v.1-3)

II. I shall dwell with courage because of the Lord's presence (v. 4-5)

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

1. He gives us *courage* in the "shadows"
2. He gives us *courage* with His "rod"
3. He gives us *correction* with His "rod"
4. He gives us *comfort* with His "staff"

B. In His presence there is provision on the mountaintop (v. 5)

1. The provision in His _____ (v. 5a)

a. His preparation for our _____

1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but **God** is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.

Cf. 1 Peter 1:13-19

b. His preparation for our _____

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love **God**, to them who are the called according to *His* purpose.

c. His preparation for our _____

Consider Christ's words to the Samaritan woman (John 4:10 & 13-14).

John 6:35 And **Jesus** said unto them, "I **AM** the bread of life: he that cometh to **Me** shall never hunger; and he that believeth on **Me** shall never thirst."

2. The provision of His _____ (v. 5b)

Cf. John 14:25-27

a. His peace against _____ —“fly time”

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but **be filled [controlled] with the Spirit;**

Cf. Romans 8:1-2; Galatians 5:22-23

b. His peace against _____ —“scab time”

Cf. Romans 12:1-2; Philippians 4:8

c. His peace with _____ —“rut time”


John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, **That ye love one another;** as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

Psalm 23:5 “...my cup runneth over.”

Cf. John 10:10; Hebrews 13:5; Romans 8:28-29

Summary: “*The LORD is my Shepherd*”, therefore I shall dwell with courage because of His presence there is both *protection* and *provision*.

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!