Highlights from the Psalms

Psalm 23 March 07, 2021

Introduction: As David progresses in the description of God being His Shepherd, he moves from who God is to what He does. There are two stanzas to this section with a refrain: vv 2-3 His provision; vv 4-5 His protection, v 6 His blessing (refrain).

I. God' Provision as the Good Shepherd (verses 2-3)

- A. He prepares a safe place to eat and a lush place to rest and digest
- B. he leads me beside quiet waters providing a source of drink that is cool and refreshing. This is one of our most necessary provisions
- C. By providing our essential needs, God restores our souls
- D. There is a transition between physical provision and spiritual provision in verse 3a: verse 3b promises guidance in the path of righteousness

II. The Shepherd's Care

- A. In these verses David testifies to God's total provision for all our needs
- B. He provides for body, soul, and spirit
- C. Concluding with the refrain (verse 6), David affirms that goodness and loving-kindness will always be with him
- D. That he will dwell in God's presence forever

Conclusion: So far we have considered who God is and a portion of what He does. He is able to meet all our needs because He is the Mighty God, King of the universe, and has all power in heaven and on the earth. He is willing and delighted to meet all our needs because He IS the Good Shepherd and He loves us. Both are true. One who is all powerful may be able but neither willing nor loving. One who is loving and full of compassion may be willing but not able. Our God is the all-powerful Shepherd who is both willing and able.

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