

Restoration for Your Soul

Psalms 23:1-3 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. ² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. ³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Giving Honor to God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost. To All of God's Sons, Daughters, and Children. Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow. Let's turn to the Psalms 23:1-3, as we lift up the Name of the Lord. Our topic today is "Restoration for your Soul."

It's a blessing to know that you know that you know. Our Lord is our personal Shepherd who provides for us. In fact, He takes care of all of our needs so that we don't lack anything. He blesses us and allows us to lie down in green pastures (places of abundance) where we can eat, rest, and enjoy life. He also leads us beside the still waters because sheep could be swept away by the current of waters that flow too fast, thus avoiding danger. The still waters allow a calm space of refreshing to drink in a safe environment. As we go through the journey of life, we often forget that we are like sheep, who wander and sometimes get lost. It's truly a blessing to know that we have a Shepherd who loves us and is concerned about our condition. The Lord who cares deeply for us demonstrates His love, care, and value for us. He knows us by name and seeks us out when we go astray. His infinite love brings about restoration for our soul.

Gone Astray

In life, sometimes the sheep make mistakes. There may be some that feel that they are error free or without sin. The bible teaches us that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. We must understand that "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. (Isa. 53:6) The good news is "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9) The songwriter sings 'I was sinking deep in sin, far from the peaceful shore, very deeply stained within, sinking to rise no more; but the Master of the sea heard my despairing cry, from the waters lifted me, now safe am I. Love lifted me, Love lifted me, when nothing else could help, Love lifted me.' My brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ paid our sin debt with His own precious blood. Hallelujah, there is restoration for your soul.

Saving Grace

The Shepherd loves all the sheep and will seek out the lost and bring them back to safety. The scripture says, "How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and

goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?" (Matt. 18:22) Can you remember a time when you drifted or wandered off? Didn't the Lord make a way and bring you back into the ark of safety. There are distractions that occur in life daily, and the range is so broad. You may be dealing with pain in your body, sickness, financial issues, broken relationships, confusion on the job, etc. I just want to encourage you to keep your focus on the goodness of the Lord. "For He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence." (Psalm 91:3) There is restoration for your soul.

The Shepherd's Sacrifice

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd. John 10:11 says "I am the Good Shepherd: the Good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep." While we were still sinners, Christ died for our sins. (Romans 5:8) He paid the ultimate sacrifice for the sheep (us) so that we would have the right to eternal life. Praise the Lord for the outpouring of His love for you and for me. We are so precious in His sight. He has blessed us to still be in the land of the living and allowed our golden moments to roll on. We have great value in the Lord. Time and time again, He has restored our soul. If you feel weary, stop and turn it over to the Lord because there is restoration for your soul.

In closing,

A sheep can't get up off of its own back by themselves. They simply need to call on the shepherd. The shepherd will help them get back up. There are times when the sheep wonder off and are wounded and it seems that the enemy is near, but thanks be to God who is the Good Shepherd who will not leave you nor forsake you. The Lord is right there with you to help you and chase away the enemy. He will leave the 99 to go and restore the one; always looking for us, waiting for us and lifting the sheep up. Maybe you are wandering today or maybe you feel lost. There is restoration for your soul. The Good Shepherd will restore you if you will only trust Him today. Romans 10:9 says, If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. There is restoration for your soul in Jesus Name. Amen.