

Psalm 23

Pastor Zac Nazarian

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A pattern of _____ -

Proverbs 23:7 (NASB)

“For as he thinks within himself so he is.”

How would you characterize your present “pattern of thinking”?

How does how you think differ from Psalm 23?

Read Psalm 23 in the negative (“The Lord is not my shepherd...”). What verse is most disturbing?

Verse 1 – The Lord _____ my shepherd, I shall (not want) lack nothing.

Notice how the Psalm begins – not with a _____, but with a calm statement of _____.

“The Lord is my shepherd.”

Do you believe this? If so, what effect would you expect to see in your life?

Verse 2 – “He _____ me lie down in green pastures,

He _____ me beside quiet waters.”

What images does this verse call to mind for you?

When has God “_____” you lie down? How did you respond/react?

“Quiet waters” evoke what image to you?

Verse 3 “He _____ my soul. He _____ me in paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.”

How has (does) your soul need to be restored/revived?

How has your spirit run down...have you lost your drive...are you less willing to attempt the difficult?

When you’re lost, confused...where do you turn for

guidance?

How do you know you are on the “right path” now?

Verse 4 – “*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of _____, I will _____ no evil, for you are _____ me – your rod and your staff, they _____ me.*”

What dark valleys do you walk now? Does it cause you to fear? Why/why not?

What difference does it make when the Lord says, “*I am with you?*”

How has God protected and rescued you with His “*rod and staff*”?

Verse 5 – “*You prepare a _____ before me in the*

presence of my enemies. You _____ my head with oil – my cup _____.”

What “*enemies*” cause your fear/worry?

In what ways has God “*prepared a table before you*”?

Read 1 John 5:4-5, how do you overcome?

Notice David said, “*you anoint _____ head with oil - _____ cup overflows...*”

How is your cup, “*overflowing*”?

Verse 6 – “*Surely _____ and _____ will _____ me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*”

What do we typically think “*follows*” us in life?

What is “*home*” to you? Where is your true home?