

# Monday Night Bible Study



## Psalm 23

Lisa Osteen Comes – May 14, 2018

### The Emphasis of this Psalm is the fact that Jesus is our Shepherd:

1. **Jesus is our Good Shepherd who laid down His life for the sheep.** *John 10:1, 11, 14*
2. **Jesus is our Great Shepherd who was raised from the dead.** *Hebrews 13:20*
3. **Jesus is our Chief Shepherd who is coming again.** *1 Peter 5:4*

### Why Jesus is called our Shepherd:

1. **In Bible days, a shepherd was responsible for the TOTAL CARE of the entire flock of sheep.**
  - In His care, we have everything we need!
  - As a shepherd, Jesus carries YOU close to His heart.
  - Let go of rejection and the failures and allow Him to hold you close to His heart until you feel no pain.
  - Know His voice and run to Him!
  - Jesus knows you by name, He calls and speaks to you, and calls you His very own.
  - He goes ahead of you to clear your path.
  - Daily we need to follow His leadership in our personal lives. *Luke 9:23*
2. **A shepherd locates good pastures for his sheep.**
  - Jesus locates the best place for us.
  - He knows where we need to be and He gets us to the right place at the right time!
  - God knows all things and we need to follow His lead.
3. **A shepherd must find quiet pools of water because sheep will not drink from a fast-flowing river.**
  - Jesus wants to give rest and security. *Matthew 11:28*
  - When you follow your Shepherd, you will enter into that rest.
4. **It is the shepherd's job to make the sheep feel safe.**
  - The enemy has NO POWER in our life because he had to go through Jesus FIRST.
  - Jesus defeated Satan on the Cross once and for all!
  - He defeated death, hell, and the grave!
  - When you are walking through the dark valleys of life—God is standing with you and He is comforting you!

### The Valley of the Shadow of Death:

**A valley is not a mountaintop or broad meadow. It suggests being hedged in or surrounded.**

- It is not your dwelling place or destination – it's temporary.

- God is walking you all the way THROUGH the valley.
- A shadow simply casts darkness across your path, but it is not the real thing.
- Where there is a shadow – there is always a light.
- The shadow cannot stop your pathway; it cannot harm you, kill you, or destroy you!
- You can walk calmly through the valley with the protection of YOUR GREAT SHEPHERD.

**The Shepherd's presence does NOT eliminate the presence of evil, but it eliminates the FEAR OF EVIL.**

**God will prepare a table before FOR YOU in the presence of your enemies:**

- According to the Bedouin law of hospitality, once a traveler is received into the shepherd's tent, a table is spread before him with the finest of foods. And the traveler is promised abundance as long as they are a guest in that home.
- Not only that—the traveler is guaranteed complete immunity from all enemies who may be attempting to overtake him. In pastoral circles, no human protection was greater than that given by the hospitality of a Bedouin chief.
- So this shows us that under the care of your Shepherd, you can experience God's goodness and bounty even in the midst of evil.
- The table God prepares for you is your Shepherd announcing in the presence of your enemies, "This is My sheep and no one can touch them."

**5. A shepherd is responsible for keeping the sheep clean and healthy.**

- He anoints us with His oil of healing.
- He is Jehovah-Rapha, the Lord our Healer. He knows where we need to be and He gets us to the right place at the right time!
- Jesus refreshes and restores your soul.
- God is concerned about every area of your life and He will heal you in your emotions and everywhere it hurts! *1 Peter 2:24, Psalm 147:3, Isaiah 61:3*
- God anoints your head with oil, bestowing honor on you. Your cup is not only half-filled, but running over with the goodness and generosity of God!

**6. In Bible days every shepherd had a certain and distinct call for his flock.**

- There are a lot of voices in the world—but YOU MUST KNOW THE VOICE OF YOUR SHEPHERD.
- Get to know HIS VOICE so clearly that you can filter out ALL the wrong voices, the wrong advice, and the wrong influences.
- Jesus speaks to our spirit—our inner man—that is alive to God.
- We must train ourselves to hear the voice of Jesus!

**7. A shepherd never leaves his sheep.**

- He is always present – just like Jesus.
- We are safe in God's hands.
- We are completely secure in Him and He is greater than our enemy.
- We are in a safe place.
- We are in the care of our Great Shepherd—the Guardian and Overseer of our lives!

## THE BOOK OF PSALMS

HEBREW: Seper Tehillim “The Book of Praises”

GREEK: Psalms “The Psalms”

LATIN: Liber Psalmorum “The Book of Psalms”

**FUNDAMENTAL THEME: GOD IS WORTHY OF WORSHIP BECAUSE OF WHO HE IS, WHAT HE HAS DONE, AND WHAT HE WILL DO.**

**The book of Psalms is the longest book in the Bible with 150 individual psalms.**

- The book of Psalms covers a wide time span from Moses (c. 1410 BC) to the post-exilic community under Ezra and Nehemiah (c. 430 BC). This time span is important because it shows that the book of Psalms was written to many audiences and under different circumstances.
- 73 psalms were written by David, a prophet, who was king of Israel and an ancestor of Jesus Christ. (Acts 2:29-31, 2 Samuel 5:1-5)
- Other authors: Asaph, sons of Korah, Heman, Solomon, Moses, Ethan the Ezrahite
- 50 Psalms are not credited to any one person

**The book of Psalms is one of the most diverse books addressing a variety of topics.**

- God and His Creation
- War
- Worship
- Wisdom
- Sin and Evil
- Judgment
- Justice
- The Coming of the Messiah

**It also expresses a wide variety of emotions.**

- Love and adoration toward God
- Sorrow over sin
- Trust and dependence on God in desperate circumstances
- The battle of fear and trust
- Walking with God even when the way seems dark
- Thankfulness for God’s care
- Devotion to the Word of God
- Confidence in the eventual triumph of God



**Understanding Hebrew Poetry:** The key to “thought in rhyme” is **parallelism** (the correspondence of one thought with another).

1. **Synonymous parallelism:** balances the thoughts or meanings in two lines of poetry by saying the same thing twice in nearly the same way. Ps. 3:1; 7:16; 2:4
2. **Synthetic and Climatic parallelism:** takes up and develops a thought begun in the first line by adding a little more to enrich one’s thinking. Ps. 95:3; 1:1
3. **Emblematic parallelism:** uses images to convey the poetic meaning while one line conveys the main point in a direct fashion, the second line illuminates it by an image. Ps. 23:1-2, 4; 103:13; 113:5-6; 57:1; 42:1
4. **Antithetical parallelism:** balances thoughts or ideas within the line pairs by stating truth in the first line in an opposing or negative way by introducing a contrast. Ps. 1:6; 57:6
5. **Formal parallelism:** where two lines are joined together simply to complete a couplet. Ps. 136
6. **Chiastic or Inverted parallelism:** contra poses or alternates the words or phrases in consecutive lines. Ps. 51:3
7. **Acrostic structure:** isn’t parallelism but it does provide a literary device meant to draw the attention of the reader and listener. Each group of eight verses begins with the consecutive letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Ps. 119; 9-10 together; 25; 37; 112; 145

### **Types of Psalms:**

- Psalms
  - Shiggation (Meditation)
  - Michtam (Poem or Song)
  - Prayer
  - Maschil (Contemplation)
  - Song
  - Eduth (Testimony)
1. **Individual Laments:** exchange joy for sorrow. The psalter experiences trouble and turns to the Lord for help. Trouble comes from three sources: the enemy (Ps. 57:4), the psalter himself (Ps. 13:2), or from God (Ps. 109:9-10).
  2. **National Laments:** similar to individual laments with the addition of plural pronouns.
  3. **Thanksgiving (declarative praise):** proclamation to praise God, introductory summary, report of the deliverance, renewed vow of praise, praise or instruction.
  4. **Hymns (descriptive praise):** characterized by exuberant praise and calls others to join in. The psalter will typically provide reason for praise. (Ps. 33; 36; 95-98; 100; 105; 113; 117; 135-136; 146-147)

### **Content of Psalms:**

1. **Royal Psalms:** primarily focuses praise for the Israelite king; particular emphasis on the Davidic covenant. (Ps. 2; 18; 20-21; 45; 72; 89; 110; 145-146)
2. **Enthronement Psalms:** pay special attention to Yahweh's reign in heaven. The key phrase "the Lord reigns" (Ps. 47-48; 93; 95-99)
3. **Wisdom Psalms:** highlights and praises both general and special revelation. Key words to consider "hear", "listen", "teach", "wise", and "fools". (Ps. 1; 14; 19; 37; 49-50; 53; 62; 119)
4. **Trust Psalms:** revolve around the theme of recognizing the Lord's providential care for His people. (Ps. 11; 23; 27; 46; 91; 108)
5. **Imprecatory Psalms:** "cursings"; these are prayers or curses against the psalter's enemies. (Ps. 58; 89; 109; 55:15; 58:6; 69:28; 109:9; 137:9) **While these Psalms may first appear vengeful and inconsistent with the teaching of loving one another, we must realize they are merely expressions of indignation and the psalter did not take matters into his own hands, but laid it before God.**
6. **Confession Psalms:** psalms of expressive sorrow for sin committed against the Lord. (Ps. 32; 51)

### **Messianic Psalms:**

- There are 14 Prophetic Psalms about Christ (see complete list attached)
- Examples: Looking forward to the coming of the Messiah (Psalms 2, 22, 110)  
                 Jesus our Shepherd (Psalm 23)  
                 Jesus on the Cross (Psalm 31)

### **The book of Psalms is subdivided into five smaller books:**

- BOOK I: 1 – 41
- BOOK II: 42 – 72
- BOOK III: 73 – 89
- BOOK IV: 90 – 106
- BOOK V: 107 – 150

### **The book of Psalms may well be editorially grouped in accordance with the history of the nation of Israel around the Davidic Covenant.**

- INTRODUCTION: The righteous one (1 – 2)
- BOOK I: David's conflict with Saul (3 – 41)
- BOOK II: David's kingship (42 – 72)
- BOOK III: The Assyrian crisis (73 – 89)
- BOOK IV: Contemplation on the destruction of the temple and the Exile (90 – 106)
- BOOK V: Praise and Reflection on the Return and the New Era (107 – 145)
- CONCLUSION: Climatic praise to God (146 – 150)

**The book of Psalms is:**

1. The Christian's **"hymnal"** to assist us in our praise to God.
2. The Christian's **"prayer book"** in which we learn how to approach God in prayer.
3. The Christian's **"book of evidences"** to strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ.
4. The Christian's **"training guide"** for living holy and righteous lives before God.

MESSIANIC PSALMS	NEW TESTAMENT REFERENCE
Psalms 2:1-2	Acts 4:25-28
Psalms 2:7	Acts 13:33, Hebrews 1:5, Hebrews 5:5
Psalms 2:9	Revelation 2:26-27, Revelation 12:5, Revelation 19:15
Psalms 8:2	Matthew 21:16
Psalms 8:4-6	1Corinthians 15:25-28, Hebrews 2:5-10
Psalms 16:8-11	Acts 2:25-32, Acts 13:34-37
Psalms 22:1	Matthew 27:46, Mark 15:34
Psalms 22:7-8	Matthew 27:39,43, Luke 23:35
Psalms 22:18	Matthew 27:35, Mark 15:24, Luke 23:34, John 19:23-24
Psalms 22:22	Hebrews 2:11-12
Psalms 40:6-8	Hebrews 10:5-10
Psalms 41:9	John 13:18
Psalms 45:6-7	Hebrews 1:8-9
Psalms 68:18	Ephesians: 8
Psalms 69:4	John 15:25
Psalms 69:9	John 2:17, Romans 15:3
Psalms 69:21	Matthew 27:34, John 19:28-29
Psalms 69:22-23	Romans 11:9-10
Psalms 69:25	Acts 1:20
Psalms 78:2	Matthew 13:35
Psalms 78:24	John 6:31
Psalms 97:7	Hebrews 1:6
Psalms 102:25-27	Hebrews 1:10-12
Psalms 110:1	Mtt22: 44, Mark 12:36, Luke 20:42, Acts 2:34, Hebrews 1:13
Psalms 110:4	Hebrews 5:6, Hebrews 6:20, Heb7: 17,21
Psalms 118:6	Hebrews 13:6
Psalms 118:22-23	Matthew 21:42, Mark 12:10-11, Luke 20:17, Acts 4:11, Ephesians2: 20, 1Peter 2:7
Psalms 118:26	Matthew 21:9, Matthew 23:39, Mark 11:9, Luke 13:35, Luke 19:38, John 12:13