



Psalms

The Book of Praises

Lesson 9

Psalms of Trust and Assurance - Part I

Review

- **How many books make up the psalms?**
 - **Five**
- **Types of psalms so far:**
 - **Psalms of Praise**
 - **Instructional Psalms**
 - **Psalms of Lament**
 - **Thanksgiving Psalms**
 - **Psalms of Penitence**

Review

- **What is a psalm?**
 - **Poems that are sung to the accompaniment of music played on strings.**
- **Original title of this book?**
 - **Sepher Tellihiim – book of praises**
- **Writers?**
 - **David, Sons of Korah, Moses, Solomon, Asaph, Heman**

Psalms of Trust and Assurance

- 3: “But you, O Lord, are a shield for me, my glory and the one who lifts up my head.”
- 16: “For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.”
- 20: “Now I know that the Lord saves His anointed; he will answer him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand.”
- 23: “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”
- 27: “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?”
- 28: “The Lord is my strength and my shield.”
- 31: “But as for me, I trust in You, O Lord; I say ‘You are My God.’”
- 47: “For the Lord Most High is awesome; He is a great King over all the earth.”
- 56: “In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?”
- 62: “In God is my salvation and my glory; the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.”

Psalms of Trust and Assurance

- **Some of the most beautiful psalms**
- **We'll see the tremendous amount of faith in God the psalmists had**
- **See almost a childlike reliance upon Him; they are confident he will provide and protect**
- **The Great Shepherd Psalm, Psalm 23**

Psalms of Trust and Assurance

- 3 – shield, lifts up, heard, sustained, salvation
- 16 – put my trust, my Lord, maintain (uphold), given me counsel, at my right hand, shall not be moved, rest in hope, will not leave, nor allow, will show me
- 20 – answer, defend, send help, strengthen, remember, accept, grant, fulfill
- 23 – makes, leads, restores, are with, comfort, prepare, anoint
- 27 – light, salvation, strength, confident, hide, set, lifted up, help, salvation, take care
- 28 – my Rock, hear, strength, shield, trusted, helped, refuge, saving, shepherd, bear up, bless
- 31 – trust, deliver, rock of refuge, fortress of defense, lead, guide, strength, redeemed, save, hide, keep, heard, preserves
- 47 – awesome, King, reigns
- 56 – trust, delivered, kept
- 62 – salvation, rock, defense, strength, refuge, trust

Lessons for Today

- **Thirsty souls can only be fully satisfied by drawing on Our Good Shepherd. Do you go to God to fill your spiritual need or do you turn to the world?**
- **How do you start your day? Do we rise early to study the word of God? This can be a tremendous source of strength, confidence and serenity in our troubled world.**
- **God can lead you beside the still waters. Do we allow Him to do so?**

Psalm 23

“David has left no sweeter Psalm than the short twenty-third. It is but a moment’s opening of his soul; but, as when one, walking the winter street, sees the door opened for some one to enter, and the red light streams a moment forth, and the forms of happy children are running to greet the comer, and genial music sounds, though the door shuts and leaves the night black, yet it cannot shut back again all that the eyes, the ear, the heart, and the imagination have seen – so in this Psalm though it is but a moment’s opening of the soul, are emitted truths of peace and consolation that will never be absent from the world. The twenty-third Psalm is the nightingale of the Psalms. It is small, of a homely feather, singing shyly out of obscurity; but, oh! It has filled the air of the whole world with melodious joy, greater than the heart can conceive. Blessed be the day on which that Psalm was born!”

Henry Ward Beecher

Psalm 23

- **A Shepherd Looks at the 23rd Psalm, by Phillip Keller**
- **Sheep are peculiar creatures**
 - **Require endless attention and meticulous care**
 - **If left to themselves, would not fare well**
- **People similar to sheep**
 - **Sheep – fears & timidity, stubbornness and stupidity, unusual or perverse habits, susceptible to disease and parasites, mob tendencies**
 - **People – fearful of the unknown, stubborn and rebellious wanting to walk in our own ways, bad habits, easily influenced to sin, go along with the crowd**

Psalm 23

- **What does a shepherd do for his sheep (in general terms)?**

What does our Shepherd do for us?

- Food and water – supplies their every need
- Protection
- Rest and guidance
- Leads them in ways that minimize difficulties
- **Article – “The Great Shepherd Psalm”**
 - Provides
 - Guides
 - Guards

Psalm 23

- “The Lord is my shepherd”
 - Purchases often at great cost
 - Knows each one and calls by name
 - Places his mark on them



Psalm 23

- “I shall not want”
 - Provides for his sheep
 - Shelters and protects
 - Alert to their welfare



Psalm 23

- **“He makes me to lie down in green pastures”**
 - Reassures and keeps free of fear
 - Manages rivalry in the flock
 - Deals with insects and parasites
 - Keeps well fed



Psalm 23

- **“He leads me beside the still waters”**
 - Rises early for morning dew
 - Carves out caverns for spring access
 - Leads to safe spots along streams



Psalm 23

- “He restores my soul”
 - Looks over the flock every day
 - Is quick to help a ‘cast’ sheep



Psalm 23

- “He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake”
 - Sheep wear paths that make footing difficult
 - Such worn paths also lead to poor pasturage
 - A good shepherd leads along fresh paths to rich pasturage



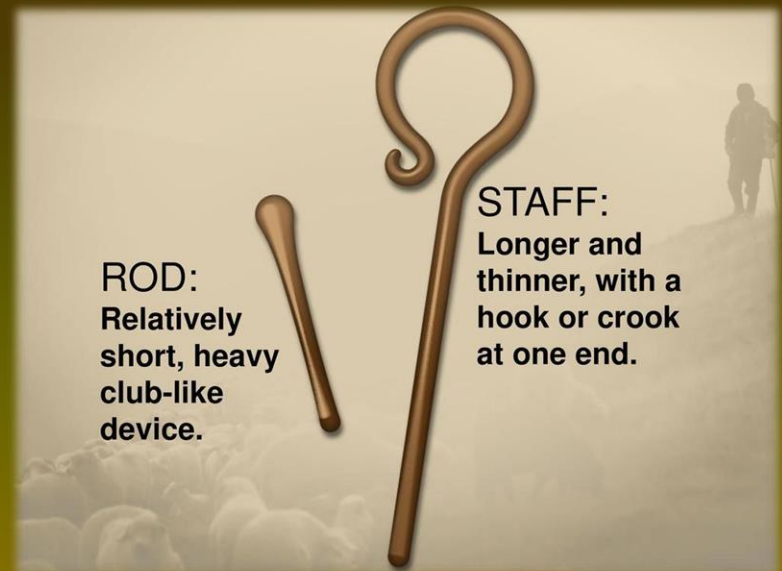
Psalm 23

- **“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil”**
 - **Shepherd would lead flock into mountains in spring and summer – sometimes thru dark valleys**
 - **Provided reassurance and protection against predators**



Psalm 23

- “For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.”
 - Staff – used to guide sheep and pull from water or a bog
 - Rod – a weapon used to fend off predators
 - Guidance and protection



Psalm 23

- “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies”
 - ‘table’ – shulchan – a large piece of leather on which food was set
 - Might provide supplementary fodder
 - Every need supplied



Psalm 23

- **“You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.”**
 - **Flask of oil to anoint scratched faces of the sheep**
 - **Also, an insect repellent**
 - **Sometimes provided a drinking vessel for those needing it**



Psalm 23

- **“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever”**
 - **God’s goodness and mercy will always be with us if we are His sheep**
 - **True, deep and real fellowship with God**
 - **To the end of my days**

Psalm 23

“Sitting under a spreading tree, with his flock around him, we picture David singing this unrivalled pastoral with a heart as full of gladness as it could hold; or, if the Psalm be the product of his after years, we are sure that his soul returned in contemplation to the lonely water-brooks which rippled among the pastures of the wilderness, where in early days he had been wont to dwell.”

Charles Spurgeon

Psalm 47

To the tune “The World’s Bible”

O clap your hands, all peoples,

And shout a joyful cry;

A mighty King, exalted,

Is God the Lord Most High.

He subjugates the nations

And conquers from above;

He offers us our portion

And honors us in love.

Psalm 47

To the tune “The World’s Bible”

With shouting He ascended
And rose with trumpet sound;
To Him let joyful praises
And skillful psalms abound.
He reigns above the nations
Upon His holy throne;
The nobles are His servants;
The rulers are His own.

Psalm 62

- **Reveals an absolute and undisturbed peace**
 - Such complete confidence and assurance that there is not a single petition voiced
- **Psalm divided by “Selahs” into following sections:**
 - Resigned to God, though cruelly assailed
 - Resigned and inviting others to do the same
 - The futility of all help other than the Lord’s
- **A tone throughout of not self-confidence, but “God-confidence”**

Psalm 62

- **Q2 - David claims God as his defense, his salvation, and his refuge. Is God this for us today? Explain in what ways He is.**
 - **Can turn to Him in times of trouble**
 - **When all others have abandoned us, He will still be there, ready to listen**
 - **He will protect us from the evildoer**
 - **His word provides wisdom and guidance even today**
 - **He has provided the church as a means of strength and support**
 - **He will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we are able**

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Review

- **Some lessons so far:**
 - Praise should come from within
 - To the righteous, God's omniscience is not a fearful thing but a source of comfort
 - How blessed we are to have the complete revelation
 - Turn to God in times of distress; use the power of prayer and trust in God to deliver you.
 - Sinful behavior can have life-long consequences
 - Be more open to rebuke and correction
 - God's abounding mercy should evoke our greatest thanksgiving
 - The thing that God desires us to offer Him, far more than any physical offering, is “a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart