

PSALM 23

Yea, Though I Walk Through the Valley of Death

Seeing as how we overcome death by dying, we gain life by losing it, we get rights by giving up our rights, let us take our journey through the valley that leads to the promise land. I find it quite interesting that the twenty-third Psalm is but six verses yet has the entire journey from death to life beautifully detailed in it.

The promise given in verse one is the rest, the inheritance of the believer who dares to pay the price; for the “I shall not want” infers that all desires of the flesh, our lust, our jealousy and envy are no more. We all assume if we meet Christ, He is our Shepherd. He only is a Shepherd to those who will be led, who will be shepherded. Discipleship is a must and that comes only if we are willing to leave our family ties, our jobs, our image of ourselves, yes, our very life and follow Him.

Where does He lead us? He leads us in the paths of righteousness. That, my dear friend means we give up all we are doing that seems right in our own eyes, our own righteousness, our own rights, our ways of thinking, talking, relating, body language, appearances, wages from the world, be it compliments, money, self-glory, whatever — all is a filthy rag, a worn out garment only needed in the grave called hell.

Trudging through that valley of the shadow of death is the cocoon stage of our walk, the dark night of the

soul, the cut-off from even our Savior. It is the time of the metamorphosis, the death of our soul. All is hopeless, despair sets in and all our joy and zeal are swallowed up as all was still from self, fed off the tree of knowledge. In all of this hopelessness God is comforting with His staff as a plumbline and His rod as His finger creating a new creation, the result of our metamorphosis.

“Oh, grave, where is your victory, oh death, where is your sting.” Now my cup runneth over. Things that were sought after to satisfy we need no more for He does indeed lead us beside the still waters. Did you get that word lead? Are you one who will give up his ways so as to be led, or are you stubbornly persisting you walk in your own ways doing what is right in your own eyes??

And oh yes, for those who will follow Him, suffer with Him, die with Him, death is swallowed up in victory and He restoreth the soul. Our mouth now speaks life instead of death, people see our good works and go away glorifying God. Peace, joy and righteousness are our inheritance. Goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our life and we shall live in the house of the Lord forever.



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