

"YOU PREPARE A TABLE BEFORE ME..."

I. What is this "table"?

A. "Mesa"-

Eze 34:13-15 =

B. "Setting the Table"

1. scouting-
2. weeding-
3. predators?-
4. water-

II. Clearing out the Weeds -

A. Cammas-

B. 3 Weeds to watch for

1. Gobble not Grow – Matt 25:33-45 –
2. fed but not feeding =
Luke 12:16-21
John 21:15-17

3. "The Bends" =
I Co 4:9-14
2 Co 5:1-8

III. "Lions, Tigers and Bears, Oh My?!?!?" – I Pe 5:8

A. Examples

Paul – Acts 16:5-7, Acts 20:22-24

Joseph – Matt 2:11-13

B. Little Foxes – SS 2:15

C. Stay close! – Eph 6:10-13

IV. Water Supply – Is 12:2-4

A. Preparation is key

debris –

dams –

brush –

B. Our sources – John 7:37

1. prayer

2. The Word

3. The Body

V. The Cost to the Shepherd – High Priest – Ro 8:26–27

Phil 2:5–8

- A. Place in heaven
- B. Temptation – He 4:14–16
- C. Rejection/reviling
- D. Suffering – He 2:16–18

E. Lords Supper – John 13:1–17

The “table” prepared for us came at the cost of Gethsemane and Calvary. The message was clear, to eat at this table was to die to self and live to serve. So what is the “tableland”? It is to live a life that is set apart, devoted to God and His purposes and ways; it is a life above the mundane existence of self-gratification a life wholly committed to glorifying a living God and Savior. Fulfilling? Beyond our wildest dreams. Peace? Like this world could never offer. Joy? Inexpressible!

Higher Ground

*I'm pressing on the upward way,
New heights I'm gaining every day;
Still praying as I'm onward bound,
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."*

Refrain:

*Lord, lift me up and let me stand,
By faith, on Heaven's tableland,
A higher plane than I have found;
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.*

*My heart has no desire to stay
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;
Though some may dwell where those abound,
My prayer, my aim, is higher ground.*

*I want to live above the world,
Though Satan's darts at me are hurled;
For faith has caught the joyful sound,
The song of saints on higher ground.*

*I want to scale the utmost height
And catch a gleam of glory bright;
But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found,
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."*