STAND TALL AGAINST THE FEAR OF DISEASE AND DEATH

I am sure that you have heard it said that there are two things that are inevitable: death and taxes. I don't know much about taxes, so I can't give you much advice there, but I believe I can help you with the subject of death, because God's word gives some great advice. All of us will face disease, and ultimately death, unless Jesus comes first. And the biggest question we may have on our minds is how will I face it?

Psalm 23:4, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me." We are not trying to say that disease and death are minor, irritable things in our lives, but the key to the whole matter is that no matter how large they are, the comforting presence of our Lord is much greater.

But we have to go back to verse one of Psalm 23 to find the secret to facing the fear of disease and death or any kind of gloom. And it is to be able to make the life-changing and life-giving affirmation, "The Lord is **my** Shepherd."

Our Shepherd will not always rescue us from suffering and death, but He does promise to go with us through every experience of life, and that is sufficient. God can heal us if he chooses. If He does not, then He will give us the ability to trust Him in difficult times. Because someday "I (You) will dwell in the house of the Lord <u>forever</u>." Sooner or later you and I will walk through the valley of the shadow of death. And I also know that if you and I will right now be honest about death, then we can live life more fully.

"What a day that will be when my Jesus I shall see, and I look upon His face, the One who saved me by His grace. When He takes me by the hand and leads me through the promised land, what a day glorious day that will be."

Can you say, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me."? You can if you let God walk by your side.

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