

Still Waters or a Babbling Brook?

“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.” (Psalms 23:1-3 NKJV)

These words of scripture have brought an infinite amount of comfort to countless troubled souls throughout the ages. The concept of a shepherd caring totally for the needs of His sheep is a beautiful portrait of a God who desires us to be cared for in every way. How futile are my worries and concerns about the things that He has promised to supply. When I was a child I never worried that breakfast wasn't going to be there when mom was in the kitchen cooking. What sense does it make for me to entertain negative concerns when the Creator of the universe has promised to provide for me?

He makes me to lie down in green pastures because my needs are met and He knows that I need rest from the day's labors and trials. He is concerned for my basic physical needs, and one of those is rest. He leads me beside still waters because He desires my fellowship in an intimate relationship with Himself and for that to happen I must slow down. My problem is that racing thoughts and an influx of information from various sources cause that still water to become a babbling brook instead!

He restores my soul and leads me along the path of righteousness, not for my pleasure or that I can take pride in it, but for His Name's sake. Ultimately my purpose in this life is to glorify Him not myself.

My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ I confess that more often than not my time alone with You is more like a babbling brook than still waters. Make me to lie down in green pastures. Lead me beside still waters. Restore my weary soul. Lead me in paths of righteousness today for your Name's sake that you may be glorified in me today as You live Your life through me. Amen

Jim Freed