

"He Leadeth Me Beside The Still Waters"

Peace in Provision

Introduction:

1. If we allow the Lord to be our Shepherd, He promises to meet our needs.
2. David pictures this provision as a sheep drinking deeply from still waters.
3. This makes the reader think of calmness and serenity that come from a lack of worry or anxiety.
4. The Lord can lead men to peace in provision...

I. The Thirst – *Beside*

- A. Sheep are led beside water because it is essential to life (3 days).
- B. Like the physical body, the soul of man also must be nourished with life-giving water (cf. John 4:10-15).
- C. Most seek to quench a spiritual thirst with worldly things; but, Jesus is the only source of the water of life (John 6:35; 7:37).

II. The Tranquility – *The Still Waters*

- A. Sheep commonly had three sources of water:
 1. The morning dew (cf. Num. 11:9; Deut. 32:2)
 2. Deep wells (dug, worked, and protected by the shepherd)
 3. Gently flowing streams
- B. Stagnant water contained hidden danger and disease (cf. Jer. 2:13).
- C. The phrase used actually refers to waters of quietness or rest (cf. Num. 10:33; Isa. 32:18).
- D. The water provided by Jesus is nourishing, for it gives life (John 7:38; Rev. 7:17; 21:6).
- E. The water provided by Jesus is still, for it grants peace (Isa. 49:9-10; John 4:39-42).
- F. The water provided by Jesus is restful, for it gives man an abode (Matt. 5:6; Rev. 22:1).

III. The Teacher – *He Leadeth Me*

- A. Notice that the Shepherd is the active force in this passage.
- B. He leads to the still waters of rest.
- C. He prepares the place for the sheep to drink.
- D. Jesus makes us rest in His finished work – salvation (Eph. 2:8-9), the church (Matt. 16:18; Ac. 20:28), and Heaven (John 14:1-3).

Conclusion: Revelation 22:17