

Life Lessons for Sheep: Abundance

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – March 19, 2017

Psalm 23:1-6

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. 3 He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever. (NKJV)

From this passage we learn that...

1. WE HAVE AN ENEMY

v.5 “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies...”

Eph 6:12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

1 Peter 5:8

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

We have an enemy but...

2. HE HAS BEEN DEFEATED

v.5 “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies...”

The shepherd prepares the table (mesa) for his sheep.

Jesus (Good Shepherd) has prepared our table.

The enemy is defeated and...

3. WE HAVE RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT

v.5 “... You anoint my head with oil...”

John 14:16-17

[Jesus said] 16... I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

Luke 24:49

[Jesus said] I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Since we have the Holy Spirit...

4. WE CAN LIVE IN ABUNDANCE

v.5 “... My cup runs over.”

John 10:10

[Jesus said] The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly.

Isa 61:3

[The Lord has anointed me] to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

HOMEWORK

- Memorize verse 5 (write it out)
“You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.”
- Begin each day asking the Holy Spirit to anoint you with His presence.
- Make a “cup runs over” list.