**Psalm 23 Notes**

**This is David’s decree of Faith and Identity.**

\*Always remember the Word of God is inspired by the Holy Spirit…. for David and for us. This is a “revelation of God” from Holy Spirit. “The Good Shepherd” is “revealing Himself” to David, who was a very good shepherd too!

\*David writes as a shepherd and king showing: humility, submission to God’s headship and authority, obedience to hear and obey, willing and expecting to have God’s leadership.

\*He writes based on a personal knowledge and experience of his relationship with the Lord as a young shepherd, and now as king. Samuel found David among the sheep (humble beginning of faithfulness to protect and provide for his fathers flocks, while shunned and rejected in his family) and then **“he was called out”** publicly and **“anointed to be king** **of Israel”** to ministry to God’s people….God’s flock.

\*This took years of preparation and faithfulness after he moved from sheep, to the palace, to an army of misfits, to a kingdom.

\*He is a shepherd who still needs a shepherd/headship for ministry

\*He is a king with a kingdom given to him by God/true authority comes through being submitted under God’s authority. It’s a “heart matter”.

\*He believes in the goodness of his Shepherd/God anoints, supplies and leads

\*He decrees through the Holy Spirit what God, as a good Shepherd does for His “sheep”, who has been placed in a very high and stressful position with many demands! David is now shepherding Israel.

\*David is now the true king of Israel as a “nation under God.” This is due to the first king, Saul, disqualifying himself and being rejected by God. He disobeyed God and Samuel acting as a priest against God’s direction through Samuel, and later consulting a witch (Satan’s kingdom).

\*At one time, there were 2 kings in conflict! (like now)

\*Our choices, like Saul’s, affect our dominion and authority!!

**Ps 23 Jehovah Raah- the Lord sees ahead, behind and provides all that is needed**

1. Is the Lord your Shepherd? If He is then……..**no lack**
2. He makes you to lie down…..**rest is always first**, sheep eat only the tender green grass, sheep are afraid of rivers, “waters of rest”or quiet waters
3. **Soul healing!** Comfort and healing from the bad shepherds and lack. 3John2 soul healing and restoration brings physical healing and prosperity

Led in Right paths, paths that He knows are safe and good

For His name’s sake.

Shepherds circle up a hillside leading the sheep higher.

1. Valleys are dangerous for sheep, with rocks and high cliffs that give a predator high ground to leap from. Only the shadow, no real danger with the Good shepherd! We must trust and say,”no fear here!”

Our comfort is:

**The Rod**- The Word/authority/ Isa 11:4, Eph 6:17 and Rev2:27,

**The Staff**- The Holy Spirit/ a second long staff used together with the first to guide the sheep and hook them if needed, could be used with their cloak as a pole to create a tent and shelter.

1. Switches to a covenant table set by God for deliverance from enemies- Communion Table, set by Jesus the Lamb of God.

**Rev 12** the Accuser is present and we win because of the Blood!

**Isa 10:27** the anointing breaks and destroys for us

**Luke 4:18-20** Jesus’ anointing works on our behalf

**Jn10:10** overflow and abundance of Life in His presence

1. The **Hesed** of God. His goodness and His mercy for His sheep. You can’t discipline sheep or beat them…….they run away! They are fearful already and half blind and afraid of shadows, they can’t see their enemies or run fast, they are followers (we are designed to follow-that’s good and bad).

David says he will dwell **with** the Lord…..

In the New Testament He dwells **in** us!

**Gal 3:13-14** Christ took the curse and paid the price for our sins

**Rom 11:29** as New Testament believers our gifts and callings are without repentance, unlike Saul.

**John 10:1-18,25-30** Jesus is the “Good Shepherd”. We have to be **His** sheep

\*Our God is The King **of** kings and Lord **of** lords and is a loving shepherd!

**Prov 3:5-7** complete trust, in all your ways follow Him!

**2Cor 2:14** **He leads….not us**. We are to hear Him, keep our eyes on Him and follow Him, He has Victory for us and complete protection!

\*His plan **Prov 4:20-22**

\*His purpose **Mark16:15-20**

\*His way **John14:6**

**2Tim 2:15** Study to show yourself approved unto God, your part

**Rom12:1-3** constant surrender, new identity with the Good Shepherd

What is a Pastor? Is this an Apostolic anointing?

Eph4:11