



2021.10.31

# MESSAGE NOTES

## Our Shepherd

Psalm 23

James Brown

***(1) The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.***

When you choose to follow Jesus, when you make Him lord of your life, He becomes your shepherd and you become His sheep. From then on, He takes complete responsibility for you. He takes complete care of you and He provides for all your needs.

***(2) He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.***

What this verse is saying is that God fills our hearts with His peace. This is a peace that only God can provide and it comes from believing in His Word and His promises towards us.

***(3) He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.***

We were once dead in our trespasses and sin but when we accept Jesus as our Lord, He restores our soul. He gives us new life which begins the moment we accept Him and continues for all eternity. After that God starts to teach us and lead us down the right paths in life.

***(4) Even 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.***

What this verse is saying is that no matter what we go through in life, we have no reason to fear because God is with us. The rod and staff symbolize God's guidance and protection over us.

***(5) You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.***

Our enemies are not other people it's actually spiritual powers of darkness. Here we see that we have complete and total victory over these enemies. The anointing refers to our anointing with the Holy Spirit. We have the victory over all spiritual forces of darkness through the power of God's Holy Spirit within us.

***(6) Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.***

This is a final promise of God's continued blessing upon our lives and for all eternity. He blesses us with the gift of His goodness and mercy all the days of our life and then He guarantees us a home with Him for all eternity.