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| **1The Lord *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.** | **Shepherd:**   * **Ra’ah** is pastor in Hebrew:   Tend a flock; to graze literally or figuratively; to rule; to guard; to care for; to feed   * Standard word for one who leads, protects and feeds a flock; * means “**ruler or teacher”** * metaphor for the task of spiritual leadership * WHO ARE OUR PASTORS? * Jer. 3:15 *“And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.”*   **Image of a shepherd:**   * Continual direction guidance and care for his people * The shepherd saves those who are lost or scattered * Will give his life for the sheep * Sheep hear only their shepherd’s voice and follow only their own shepherd * Protects from enemies and diseases * Selfless love: early dawn to late at night * Supplies everything the sheep need |
| **2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.** |  |
| **3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.** | **Restoreth** is Hebrew is *shuwb*:  -turn back  -Return  -Turn back to God  -to restore; refresh; repair  **Soul** is *nephesh* in Hebrew:   * Soul; self; that which breathes * Inner being of man * Individual * Activity of the mind   **Righteousness** is *tsedeq* in Hebrew:   * Straightness; rectitude; what is right and just * Right thinking and right acting |
| **4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**  **Rod out of the stem of Jesse (David)**  **Rod of Moses (aaron’s rod in the ark of covenant)**  **Man-child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron (a writing pen)**  **The Apocalyptic woman’s man child has the mission of ruling or shepherding all mankind with the iron pen: “And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.”**  **The Greek word “rule” is *poimaino* and means “to tend as a shepherd.” The man child’s purpose in consummating this shepherding mission is prophesied at the end of “The Apocalypse.” There we find the spiritual translation of the Twenty-Third Psalm, a psalm that prophesies the ultimate mission of the man child to be humanity’s shepherd:**  **“[DIVINE LOVE ] is my shepherd; I shall not want. [LOVE ] maketh me to lie down in green pastures: [LOVE ] leadeth me beside the still waters. [LOVE ] restoreth my soul [spiritual sense]: [LOVE ] leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for [LOVE ] is with me; [LOVE’S ] rod and [LOVE’S ] staff**  **they comfort me. [LOVE ] prepareth a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: [LOVE ] anointeth my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house [the consciousness]**  **of [LOVE ] for ever.”** | **Valley of the shadow of death:**   * *Tsalmaweth*: gloom, deep darkness, terror, * Deep ravines where wild beasts often hid   **Rod**: *shebet* masculine   * Club, sceptre, staff; mark of authority * Used for fighting, weapon to drive away enemies * Protection * Stick for writing; it is what writes the little book in Rev. 10 * Rod: rhabdos = scepter * Man-child is to rule all nations with a rod of iron: His rod is a shepherd’s staff – comforting and consoling. Destined to govern nations according to the laws of heavenly harmony. * Judah’s hnd holds the scepter. “The scepter is in the hand of Judah’s lion, Christ Jesus”   **Staff**: *mish’enah* feminine   * Support; staff * Walking stick; sustenance * Symbolize guidance: they touch the backs of the sheep in guiding them in the right direction   **Comfort**: is *nacham*   * comforter * Have compassion * To be comforted * To repent of * To sigh and breath strongly; pant; groan * To lament to grieve |
| 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth 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 for ever. | **Surely**= *ak*   * A tiny word that intensifies the meaning * It can mean the only   Follow: means to run after, to follow eagerly, to pursue  **Dwell** is *yashab* in Hebrew:   * Abide; dwe;’ re,aom * Stay, inhabit   **House** is *bayith* in Hebrew:   * Dwelling; habitation; shelter * Home; house containing a family * Inward * temple |
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