

**WCBC SERMON NOTES - FEBRUARY 19, 2017**

**TOPIC: THE GREAT SHEPHERD'S BLESSINGS**

Sermon : *The Great Shepherd's Hospitality!*

**TEXT:** Luke 7:36-50; Psalm 23:5

**INTRO:** The Legend of The Cherokee Indian Youth's Rite of Passage!

**HOW DOES THE GREAT SHEPHERD SHOW HIS HOSPITALITY TOWARD US: Psalm 23:5**

**I. THROUGH HIS TABLE PREPARATION: v.5a**

Note: Table preparation = BLESSINGS!

"table" = a piece of rug!

1. Protection from enemies - Psalm 23:5a
2. Purchasing our salvation - I Cor. 11:23-34 cf. I Pet. 1:18-19

**II. THROUGH HIS ANOINTING OIL: v.5b**

Note: Anointing Oil = HEALING!

1. Physically
  - Scab Time!
2. Spiritually
  - A. Bringing salvation - Luke 7:46-50
  - B. Bringing unity - Psalm 133:1-3
    - 1) Unity is "good & pleasant" - v.1
    - 2) Unity makes God's people fruitful - v.3
    - 3) Unity makes God's people mature - Eph. 4:12-14
    - 4) Unity makes God's people love even more - Eph. 4:15-16

**III. THROUGH HIS OVERFLOWING CUP: v.5b**

Note: Overflowing Cup = PROSPERITY!

"cup" = Hebrew, "kos," meaning, a "prosperous condition of life"

1. A cup of blessing - Psalm 23:5b cf. from vv.1-4
  - Filling A Cup In the Middle East!
2. A cup of salvation - Psalm 116:13 cf. Matt. 26:26-28

**CONCLUSION:** Cup of Suffering!

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**Psalm 23:5 & Hospitality!**

"In my travels around in various parts of the world, I have encountered all types of hospitality, but none that quite equaled the warmth and completeness of that offered by shepherds treating me as a 'brother' in the family, therefore, getting the appropriate honor. We all sat around a circle on a beautiful oriental rug with surrounding pillows. I had witnessed his rugged individualism in the wilderness of Judah as he cared for the sheep and goats. Now I was able to watch him in the role of a gracious host and provider (Psalm 23:5). Many Palestinian shepherds are comparatively wealthy, and are capable of providing dinner of exquisite quality. This was effectively illustrated by my experience in the tents. With this approach, we are not faced with such a radical change in the imagery of the passage, and yet the distinctive elements of v.5 can be interpreted literally without resorting to allegorical approaches." - John Davis

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**Verse For Today**

*"The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." - Psalm 23:1-5*

**Food For Thought**

"Follow the Shepherd, and not the herd!" - quotesgram.com

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