

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: David Key

Opening Prayer: Lannie Key

On the Table: Head - Eddy Dickinson
Servers - Ralph Burleson
Billy Box
Josh Berryhill

Closing Prayer: Gary Addison

Preparing the Lord's Supper Michelle Lowery

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am

Morning Worship 10:45 am

Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Deacon: Al Corkren

Leonard Key / David Key

Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson Minister: Greg Lowery

Contact Information:

Phone: (205) 465-9142

Brilliant Church of Christ
930 Main Street
P.O. Box 222
Brilliant, AL 35548

***O For A Closer
Walk With God***



***The
Brilliant
Beacon***



The Lord is My Shepherd

By Sam Willcut

Very few passages of scripture offer more words of comfort and has touched more lives than this little psalm referred to as the “Nightingale Psalm,” Psalm 23. It has gone into more homes, hospital rooms, churches, funeral parlors, nursing homes and counseling centers than any other single passage. It is the first words of the Bible many memorize and the last words many recite as they expire. It is astonishing to consider the many ways this text has accomplished so much for so many.

The Lord is my shepherd...

The Lord is my shepherd...

Many passages are easy for us to ignore and overlook because they become so familiar to us. Nevertheless, I want us to delve into this rich psalm in this issue and glean some truths to help us through our difficult lives. Thus, we need not to commit this psalm simply to memory, but we need to commit this psalm to life!

Psalm 23 appears in a trio of Messianic psalms—Psalms 22, 23 and 24.

Psalm 22 discusses the Savior, who suffered on the cross of Calvary. This is our Lord of the past, pictured with a cross.

Psalm 23 discusses the Shepherd, who because of such is able to meet the needs of His beloved. This is our Lord of the present, pictured with a crook.

Psalm 24 discusses the Sovereign, who returns triumphantly and victoriously over sin and death. This is our Lord of the future, pictured with a crown.

As we continue, notice the first line and see the presence of our shepherd: “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.” Undoubtedly, we have studied the unique role and relationship between a shepherd and his sheep. We know the impact this has due to the involvement of David as a shepherd boy of his youth trying to provide for his flock, protect and guide his flock and lead his flock. Of all the animals in the world, none is more dependent upon others than helpless sheep. They are extremely helpful, but they are also extremely helpless.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Faye Cotton: please continue to pray that she will be able to start new treatments soon and that she continues to fight against cancer

Denise Kimbrell: still taking treatments and has been diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis; please be praying that with med’s all of this can be controlled

Rosa Melton: her surgery went well to remove cancer from her womb, please be praying that she will make a quick recovery and no more will be found cancer

Kay Dodd: is continuing to take treatments, please continue to pray that this cancer will stay in remission

Barbara Wilkinson: still having problem with infection on her feet, please pray that the medicine she is taking will cure this infection

Mable Weeks: has several health problems and has been placed under hospice care, please continue to keep her in your prayers

Cory Davis Holmes: was born with neuroblastoma, he is undergoing treatments and is showing improvement, please pray for this young child and his family

Sandy McCaleb: has started cancer treatments, please be praying that this cancer can be treated and defeated

Charles Gay: last scan showed shrinkage with his brain tumor, attends the Cleveland congregation, please pray for him and his family

Adam Stidham; (co-worker of AI) has been diagnosed with leukemia, please pray that this will be treatable

Barbra Fields: is undergoing cancer treatments, please pray that with these treatments cancer will be in remission.

Larry Metcalf: has been diagnosed with lung cancer; please pray that he can receive treatments that will defeat this cancer

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Kristy Ingram: was diagnosed with cancer and is presently undergoing treatments, please pray that these treatments will work

Vertie Mae York: knee replacement surgery went well, please pray that she can make a quick and full recovery

Alice Foster: was diagnosed with congestive heart failure and having problems with her lungs, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Box: the new spots are cancerous and she is taking radiation treatments, please pray that these treatments will defeat this cancer

Patty Berryhill: having complications from a hernia, please pray that the doctors can help her with this problem

Mary Rainey: she has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Maylene McWhirter: her blood gases are showing signs of myeloid leukemia, please be praying for her and her family

Therefore, as David ponders these things, he thinks about the relationship that he has with his God. To breathe is to think about God. To live from day to day is to think about the goodness, greatness and graciousness of God.

As we consider the presence of our shepherd, notice the personal connotation. He is not simply “a shepherd,” or even “the shepherd,” but David wrote that He was “my shepherd.” In fact, this small psalm of just six verses contains no less than seventeen personal references. Yet, not everyone can make this acclamation. Nevertheless, based upon our own relationship with the Lord through faith, repentance, confession and baptism into the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we can understand this personal relationship (cf. John 10:11-15). Therefore, He possesses me, and I possess Him. How wonderful it is to awaken each day, to live each day, to look forward to each day, to enjoy each day and to close each day with these words on our lips and in our hearts! This makes all the difference in the world! Thus, this statement is a statement of hope and trust (cf. 2 Tim. 1:11-12).

Once the relationship of the sheep and the shepherd is established, then the basis of that relationship opens the door to the significance of the psalm: “I shall not want.” In essence, this forms the leading thought of the rest of the psalm. In detail, David discusses the fact that he shall not want for provisions, protection and promises. May this issue that is dedicated entirely to this beloved psalm bring you closer to the Shepherd!

Obtained at: www.churchofchristarticles.com

God Help Us To Remember Eden

By Dan Jenkins

The creation story was so remarkable that even the Creator looked at His work and said that it was good. This truth is stated seven times in the first chapter of the Bible. Near the end of the sixth day, “God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good” (Gen. 1:31). In six short days, He had not made a single thing which was not very good. Life could not get any better for Adam and Eve in their first home, the Garden of Eden, which God made especially for them.

Then, it all changed—rebellion, ignoring God, disobedience, guilt, fear—it all changed. Driven from the presence of God, they were no longer allowed to walk with their Maker in the cool of day. There were consequences of sin for Satan, whose head would someday be bruised; for the serpent, who would no longer be the most cunning and crafty of any beast made by God; for the woman, there would be subjection and greater sorrow and pain in childbirth; and for Adam, who now had to deal with a cursed earth, the toil and sweat every day just to have food to survive, thorns and thistles to create greater adversity and the fact that someday his body made from the dust would become dust again.

Such a simple story filled with eternal truth. God makes everything very good, but we so often turn His work upside down. We have changed the home into something hardly recognizable. Whatever happened to men seeing a wife as a treasure brought to him by God and his response that “she shall be bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh”; whatever happened to “I will be a helper fit and comparable to him”?

How have we failed to learn that sin with all of its consequences can be as simple a thing as eating fruit from a tree? How did we ever arrive at the conclusion that only “big sins” matter? If “little sins” like eating fruit from a tree brings such judgment from God, how much greater will there be toward “big sins”? How have we forgotten that sin is disobedience and manifests a heart of rebellion? In the Eden story, we can vividly see the truth the Lord later proclaimed when He said, “For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry” (1 Sam. 15:22).

Such simple truth with daily reminders. The sight of the enmity we have toward that serpent slithering on its belly should remind us of sin. The pain of childbirth and the sorrow in rearing children should remind us of sin. The sweat from the long hours we work and tiredness we feel at the end of each day should remind us of sin. The unhappiness and conflict in the home as we seek to deal with rule and subjection should remind us of sin. God help us to remember Eden!

Obtained at: www.churchofchristarticles.com

Upcoming Events

Today	Country Place	2:00 pm
November 12 th	Nursing Home	2:00 pm