

GFBC Thursday Night's Scriptural Study
Lesson # 82
Scripture Reading: Psalms 23:5-6 - {KJV}
Teaching Verse: Psalms 23:5- {KJV}

May 24, 2023

TEXT – Psalms 23:5

TITLE – THE ANOINTING MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

V-5- {KJV} -“Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.”

I want to revisit the “C” section of verse five. The teaching text says, **“thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.”**

With the help of the Holy Spirit, I want to teach and title this lesson with the subject, **“The Anointing Makes The Difference.” “The Anointing Makes The Difference.”**

As David looks into the rear view mirror of his life, he is reflecting upon his relationship with the LORD. And when David saw the benefits and blessings of the LORD’S grace, mercy, and goodness, the Holy Spirit refreshed his sanctified memory; and David put pin to parcel proclaiming to the nation of Israel and all nations who the LORD was to him.

When some of us have been sick and the LORD healed us—we say He is my doctor and healer. When some of us had to struggle and couldn’t see our way—some of us call Him a way maker.

Like David, because of what the LORD has done for us, He becomes to us our deliverer and yet He changest not! The LORD is to some of us: a deliver, a healer, our peace, our hope, a strong arm, a comforter, a game changer, and or a friend

In the context of the teaching text, David’s personal and public proclamation was, **“the LORD is my shepherd.”** In Psalm 23:1, when David announced that the LORD is my shepherd, his declaration was also to the community of Israel.

David wanted the community of Israel to know that the LORD, Jehovah, the God of: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Rahab, Ruth, and Esther, was also his LORD and shepherd.

When David said, **“the LORD is,”** he was acknowledging and declaring the ever-ready presence of the LORD. When David said, **“the LORD is my shepherd,”** he was not saying that this is the totality of who God is.

The LORD is more than a shepherd. He is the Creator, the Sustainer, the Almighty, and the unconditional lover of our soul. David’s declaration is a statement of who the LORD is to him!

In Psalm 23, David calls the LORD his shepherd, but His name in the biblical Hebrew language is Jehovah. The name Jehovah gives us greater insight about His character and who He is.

The name Jehovah means self-existent. He is Supreme. He is uncreated, eternal, unchanging, unwavering, self-sufficient, self-sustaining, and is necessary to be always in the fullness of Himself.

David said, the LORD is my shepherd! When the LORD is our shepherd, He will guide, protect, provide, and cause us to prosper in unexpected peculiar places. The LORD is the Jehovah who gives us more than we ask.

Turn with me to Ephesians 3:20. Ephesians 3:20 (KJV) says, He **“is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.”**

(2)

When the LORD is our shepherd, He will lead us into green pastures where there are also quiet waters. The green pastures are places of plenty. The green pastures are places of sufficiencies. In the green pastures there is no lack.

Notice if you will. The green pastures and quiet waters are places that the shepherd personally chose for His sheep. And whatever places and pastures this shepherd chooses for His sheep, they are healthy, satisfying, and fulfilling. In Psalms 23:1-2 (KJV) David said,

“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.” When you dig beneath the topsoil of the text you will discover that David want’s Israel to know that the LORD was actively involved in the lives of His people.

When we have an active relationship with the LORD, He delights Himself in shepherding His sheep with tenderness. The LORD is full of grace and mercy.

His grace is sufficient. His mercy is everlasting, and His love is unconditional. The LORD delights Himself in shepherding His sheep with tenderness.

Notice if you will—in Psalm 23 David’s intended purpose of sharing His “God story,” is to remind the community of Israel and us that Jehovah is LORD, and He is the attending shepherd of His sheep. And because Jehovah is the attending shepherd of His sheep, He is the provider of green pastures for us.

The LORD restores us when we are fractured, bruised, and or broken. He comforts us in our bereavement; and when trouble rocks our world, the psalmist said in Psalm 46:1 (KJV), **“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”**

God is the right now God! Our troubles cannot overwhelm the LORD. He maintains order in the universe. He controls the wind and the waves. He knows the number of hairs on our head, every fish in the ponds, the rivers, the oceans, the seas, and yet He remembers each of our birthdays without an alert reminder.

God doesn’t always respond to us when we want Him; but I’ve discovered that God’s time is the right time. And whenever the LORD doesn’t respond or intervene when we want Him, we can rest with assurance that He has assigned grace and mercy to assist and stabilize us and our condition until His appointed time.

Can I help somebody tonight? When the LORD prepared a table for David in the midst of his enemies, He also secured the parameters of the “banquet hall” of David’s celebratory restoration of David’s soul so that his enemies could not touch him. The LORD wanted David to dine in comfort and fellowship with Him in peace.

You need to get this! The LORD desires to dine and fellowship with us in peace; but we cannot enjoy the peace and fellowship with God until we accept the fact that we are not “lords” of our lives.

We are not God’s equals. Only the Son and the Holy Ghost has the credentials to be equal with God. Regarding Jesus, Philippians 2:6 (KJV) says, **“Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with.”**

Can I tell it like it is? Some of us can’t dine and fellowship with God because some of us don’t respect and value the anointing that the Spirit of God has placed upon and in us.

In the teaching text, it appears that the text suggests that David was anointed while he was at the banquet, dining and fellowshiping with the LORD. Watch the text!

David said, **“Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou**

(3)

anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.” Most likely the oil that the LORD used to anoint David was olive oil.

Olives have to be bruised and crushed before you can get the oil out of them. The oil that the LORD used to anoint the head of David was most likely made from olives that had been bruised and crushed.

And sometime the LORD allows some of us to be bruised and crushed before He can use us. Psalm 23:3 also suggest that David’s soul had been fractured, bruised, or broken. I need somebody to know tonight that your bruises and brokenness is not too damaged for the LORD to restore.

In Psalm 23:3 (KJV) David said, **“He restoreth my soul.”** The word restores means to move back to your place of departure. And because David had departed from his fellowship with the LORD, when David repented, he found his way back to the place where he departed; that place was fellowship with the LORD.

When the church at Ephesus fell out of fellowship with the LORD, Jesus told the apostle John to write unto them. In Revelation 2:4-5 (NKJV) Jesus said unto the church at Ephesus, **“I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.”**

Like the church at Ephesus, David had departed from the LORD. And when he departed, his soul was bruised and fractured. And the only way David’s soul could be restored was, he had to repent.

In Psalms 51:14 (KJV) David’s prayer unto the LORD was, **“Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.”**

After the LORD restored David’s soul, David returned to his place of departure where he dined and fellowshiped with the LORD. It was during this time of renewal and refreshing that David said, **“thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.”**

In biblical times, the shepherd anointed the sheep with oil. The oil prevented ticks, parasites, and gnats from getting into the ears and nose of the sheep. Notice if you will, the LORD anointed David’s head first.

The head need to be anointed first because it is the command center of the body. The anointing of the head protects us.

Football and hockey players wear helmets to help protect their head. The believers are commanded to put on the helmet of salvation.

The head houses the mind. The mind is the processing center of the body. The mind controls the functioning of the body. There is very little we can do without the approval of the command center.

The LORD anointed David’s head. The anointing protects the head. When one is anointed, the oil runs down and not up. The holy oil that is used for anointing is precious.

Psalms 133:2 (KJV) says, **“It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments.”**

The anointing makes the difference. The anointing covers us. The anointing protects us. The anointing sets us apart. The anointing empowers, refreshes, and sanctifies us. The anointing improves our walk, our talk, our thinking, and our living.

The anointing gives us an edge over the world. Romans 12:2 (KJV) says, **“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”**

(4)

Well, our Scriptural Study time is up. Thank each of you for your in- person study and those of you who joined us via Live Streaming.

The anointing of the Holy Ghost makes the difference. It is the anointing and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in us that God identifies us as His own.

Before we leave tonight, I want to pray for each of you and your family. Sister Sarah Dunham, Sister Pamela James, Sister Angela Jones, Sister Evelyn Jones, Sister Robin Lewis, Brother Darrel Carson, Sister Mildred Smith, Brother Roland Hall, Sister Charlene McMillan, Sister Mary Baynes, Sisters Catherine Gibson, and Sister Diane Sharper.

Let us pray.

Closing prayer: **“The LORD bless thee and keep thee: The LORD make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The LORD lift up His countenance upon thee, and give the peace.”** In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Remember, “greater things happen with greater faith.” Greater Faith, you are my joy in the LORD. Go in peace and be encouraged in Him.

