

The Shepherd's Heart: Study 1

Psalm 23, 1 Samuel 16-17, R2368

1. David writes Psalm 23 drawing the metaphor of the Lord as his shepherd from his own life. How does David's care toward his sheep reflect God's care towards us? What other verses emphasize the Shepherd and the sheep's role? Psalm 23:1
2. Shepherds are known to carry their staff with them. Why would the rod/staff be a source of comfort? Psalm 23:4
3. David mentions a "table prepared in the presence of enemies." How can you maintain a sense of peace or "abundance" even when facing difficulties or obstacles? How do you keep an "overflowing cup" mindset? Psalm 23:5
4. David felt God in the mundane tasks of being a shepherd. What are the green pastures and still waters in your life where you feel the Lord leading you?

David's Cry: Study 2

1 Samuel 22:1-2, 1 Samuel 24, Psalm 57

1. David's enemies had "dug a pit" for him but "fell into the midst of it themselves" (Verse 6). Why is it better to let God handle our "enemies" (or unfair situations) rather than trying to dig our own pits for them? Why should we seek peace and not revenge?
2. All the "lions" David faced, the time spent running and hiding, the tough experiences were all to teach him and develop him. What should be our response when the Lord is molding us through tough experiences?
3. David starts out Psalm 57 by trusting in the Lord, he proceeds to cry out for God's help and ultimately praises God and his mercy. What can we learn from this structure of a prayer? How should we formulate our prayers?
4. David has the opportunity to kill Saul, but he recognizes that Saul was "the Lord's anointed". How does that mindset relate to the phrase, "my heart is fixed" in Psalm 57:7?

David's Mistake and Reflection: Study 3

2 Samuel 11, 12, Psalm 51, R3253

1. How does David's words in Psalm 51:10 contrast with the way he is described in 1 Samuel 13:14? Does he remain a man after God's own heart even after all his mistakes?
2. In Psalm 51:3, David says, "my sin is ever before me," and he proceeds to ask God to purge him with hyssop. What other instances in the Bible mention hyssop? What does it mean to be purged with hyssop? Psalm 51:7, Exodus 12:22, John 19:29
3. It is important to note that in Psalm 51:1-10, David asks for a "clean heart" and a "right spirit". He doesn't ask for his reputation to be cleansed. Why is the inner change more important than the outer problem?

David and Jonathan: Study 4

1 Samuel 18, 2 Samuel 1, R1907

1. In 1 Samuel 18:1-4, Jonathan and David develop a “soul-knit” friendship. Jonathan was the heir to the throne, but he willingly gave up that title to David, who would replace him. Why did Jonathan perform such an act of selflessness? How do we become a “Jonathan” to those around us?
2. In 2 Samuel 1:17-27, David laments over Jonathan’s death in battle. He claims that Jonathan’s love was “wonderful, passing the love of women.” How did this friendship and loyalty contribute to David maintain being “a man after God’s own heart”?
3. Jonathan defended and protected David against his own father, risking his own life for him in 1 Samuel 20:32,33. Jonathan “loved him as he loved his own soul”. How does that affinity relate to our Lord’s command in John 15:13?
4. Brother Russell compares David and Jonathan with the glorified Church and the earthly princes in the Kingdom of God. How are they alike? How are they different? R1907

Lessons and Pictures from David's Life: Study 5

1. In Psalm 89:19-37, Bro. Russell emphasizes that David is a type of Christ, Head and body. How does David's character typify Christ? What can we learn from him? R1936.
2. David's kindness is throughout shown throughout his life in that he possessed that young shepherd meekness. How did he show his kindness? How can we offer kindness to those around us? Rom 12:10, 1 Samuel 20:14-17, Philippians 2:3, R2010.
3. In Psalm 72:18-20, David identifies himself here as the "son of Jesse" (the shepherd's son) rather than "David the High King." Why did he want to be remembered by his humble roots at the end of his life? How important is humility on our walk? 2 Samuel 23:1-5.
4. How does God's promises to David go further than his son, Solomon? Why does God promise that his covenant through his seed will endure forever? Psalm 89. 2 Samuel 7:16, Romans 1:3, Matthew 12:23, R3258.