

LESSONS FROM PSALMS TWENTY-THREE

Scripture: Psalm 23:1-6

Ray O. Brooks

I. THE SECRET OF A HAPPY LIFE. vs. 1-3

- A. Happiness is not found in things.
 - 1. Those who seek satisfaction in things continue to seek for more and more.
 - 2. The rich men in Luke's gospel were never satisfied.
- B. Happiness is found in a Person ...The Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 1. Not in hearing about Him, but in having a personal relationship with Him.
 - 2. The LORD is MY Shepherd.
- C. Jesus is the answer to the longings of the inner soul of every person.
 - 1. I shall not want.
 - 2. Psalm 107:9 says "He satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness."
- D. Jesus is the green pastures on which our souls feed and lie down in contentment.
- E. Jesus is the oil that stills the troubled waters of life.
- F. Jesus is the power who restores my worn sin troubled soul.
- G. Jesus is my guide who leads me in well known paths of righteousness for His Name's sake.
- H. Jesus is the goodness and mercy that accompanies me all the days of my life.

II. THE SECRET OF A HAPPY DEATH. vs. 4,5

- A. The question is not will I die? But will I have a happy death?
- B. A happy death is based on my having made the right choices in life.
- C. Death becomes only a shadow to those who in truth can say, "The Lord is my Shepherd."
 - 1. To have a shadow, there must be substance and Light.
 - 2. Death is the substance and Jesus is the Light.
 - 3. A shadow cannot harm you. Only the substance can harm.
 - 4. Physical death is the shadow of the second death.
- D. Knowing that my Shepherd is with me releases me from the fear of death. I know that I will only pass through the shadow.
- E. Knowing that my Shepherd is in control will give me comfort in the time of death. FOR His rod and His staff will comfort me as I pass through that shadow.
- F. I will find strength in the hour of death through...
 - 1. Feasting on the Bread of Heaven.
 - 2. Drinking of the Water of Life.

III. THE SECRET OF A HAPPY ETERNITY. v.6

- A. Supreme happiness is fulfilled dwelling in the house of the Lord forever.
- B. Jesus spoke of this house in John 14:1-4.
- C. John wrote about in Revelation 21:1-5.
- D. A happy eternity comes only to those who have made the right choices in living a happy life and dying a hate, death.
- E. Jesus gave the answer in John 14:6..."I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me."