

“He Restores My Soul”
Psalm 23:3, page 548

Introduction:

1. We have discovered that:
 - A. “The Lord is my shepherd.”
 - B. “I shall not want.”
 - C. “He leads me.”
2. Today we will consider the possibility of being restored in our souls.
3. This is a difficult subject and can be easily misunderstood.
4. This subject raises three questions in my mind, and together we will search for some answers.

I. What is our soul?

- A. Scripture references concerning the soul:
 1. *Genesis 2:7: “And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”*
Adam Clark: “It is by it that man is a living soul, that is, a living man; for the soul is the man.”
 2. *Matthew 10:28: “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”*
- B. The Greek Lexicon:
 1. Psucho: “The soul is the seat of religious and moral sentiment.”
 2. “The soul, the inner self.”
- C. American Heritage Dictionary:
 1. “The animating and vital principle in human beings, credited with the faculties of thought, action, and emotions.”
 2. “The spiritual nature of human beings, regarded as immortal, separated from the body at death....”
- D. The soul:
 1. Is not the personality we possess.
 2. Believers and non-believers possess a soul.
 3. Is not the body or mind.
 4. Separates human beings from all other animal life.
- E. I believe the soul is the eternal part of God that all human beings possess.
 1. The sin of Adam and Eve broke the relationship they had with God.
 2. The sin of Adam and Eve, however, did not destroy their souls.
 3. Adam and Eve remained eternal souls.
- F. *I Corinthians 15:45-47, page 1125.*
- G. *Hebrews 4:12: “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*

II. How does our good shepherd restore our souls?

- A. Restore = “to bring back into existence or use; reestablish.”
- B. Restoration begins with our salvation.
 - 1. Sins are forgiven. *Romans 10:8-13*, page 1107.
 - 2. We become a new creation in Jesus. *II Corinthians 5:17*: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”
 - 3. Salvation is about a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- C. Restoration continues through sanctification. *I John 1:1-9*, page 1194.
 - 1. Katharizel = “to cleanse, render pure.”
 - 2. “Future-oraist” tense = past event with a continuing action into the future.
 - 3. Our good shepherd continues to restore us daily.
 - 4. Sanctification is about righteous living.

III. What is my part in this restoration?

- A. Salvation, *Romans 10:8-13*, page 1107.
 - 1. Confess my sins.
 - 2. Believe in my heart.
- B. Sanctification:
 - 1. Walk in the light, *I John 1:1-9*.
 - 2. Daily obedience.
- C. Personal/honest evaluation of my current relationship to God.

Conclusion:

- 1. There is a progress in *Psalms 23*.
 - A. Shepherd.
 - B. Sheep.
 - C. Meeting our needs.
 - D. Leading us.
 - E. Restoring us.
- 2. Next week we will consider righteous living.
- 3. *Psalms 23* is like building a house.
 - A. Start with the foundation.
 - B. End with putting on the roof.
- 4. I encourage you to start with the foundation and then travel toward heaven.