

A Song of Trust: You Prepare a Table (Ps. 23:5)

From Shepherd to Host

- Up to this point, David has used shepherding imagery to describe His relationship with the LORD
- Now he shifts to an image of a banquet
 - With the LORD acting as a gracious host
- This may seem sudden, but David's focus is still on the LORD who provides, leads, & protects

You Prepare a Table

- The LORD welcomes us to dine and fellowship with Him
 - Inviting someone to dine together has always been a sign of acceptance and love

In the Presence of My Enemies

- The image is not of some future hope where all conflict is put to rest
 - It is an image of our current standing with the God as our Shepherd
- We have a personal peace, even in the midst of struggles with others
 - Which is centered in our relationship with the LORD
- However, when you dine with others, it gives opportunity to build relationships
 - Possibly turning enemies into friends
 - Thus, this may also serve as a symbol of God's desire to bring peace between us and others (Matt. 5:9; Rom. 12:18)

You Anoint My Head

- Fragrant oil was used to wash the heads of guests as they entered one's home
 - It was a sign of blessing and welcoming
- God's anointing rests on us who He has welcomed into His presence through Jesus
- Our Good Shepherd, Jesus, anoints us with His Holy Spirit
 - The presence of the Spirit is connected to anointing with oil all throughout Scripture (Ex. 27:20-21, Lev 8:30; 14:1-18; 1 Sam 16:13; Ps. 45:7; 89:20; Ezek. 16:9; Mark 16:3; James 5:14; Isa. 61:1; cf. Luke 4:18; Heb. 1:9)

My Cup Overflows

- David declares that in God's presence, his cup overflows
 - It is a declaration of the abundance of blessings received from the LORD
 - And if it is overflowing, then we have blessings to share
- A guest's cup fullness is an indication of the desire of the host to have them stay
 - If your cup is empty, it is time to go
 - An overflowing cup means that the LORD desires for us to stay with Him forever

So What?

- Do we know this deep fellowship with the LORD available through Jesus with the blessings of His Spirit's presence with us always?
- Are we sharing those blessings from our overflowing cup?

Meditation Verse: Psalm 23:5