

A Song of Trust: I Shall Dwell (Ps. 23:6)

Goodness and Mercy

- David concludes the Psalm by describing the results of his relationship with God
 - Goodness (*tov*): The blessings that God bestows upon those who seek Him
 - Mercy (*hesed*): The loving kindness and favor of God

Twin Paths

- The language here can have two distinct meanings, both of which are viable and supported elsewhere in Scripture
- They differ based on the meaning of two phrases
 - “Shall follow me”:
 - To pursue/chase after
 - As one who is being hunted (see Ex. 21:13-14; Deut. 19:6)
 - Normally used negatively
 - To follow behind
 - That which is left in one’s wake (Deut. 16:20; Jdg. 3:28; Ps. 34:14)
 - A more positive connotation
 - “The House of the LORD”:
 - The Tabernacle/Temple
 - Earthly place of worship where God’s presence was thought to dwell among His people
 - Heaven
 - The eternal abode of God, not accessible to humans before death/resurrection
- So, David is saying:
 - God’s goodness & mercy drive him into the Tabernacle to thank God again and again
 - The focus on repeated thanksgiving
 - Goodness & mercy follow after him as the result of his relationship with God, until his days end and he spends eternity with God
 - The focus on the impact he has on others
- These are not mutually exclusive
 - It is the dual meaning of the overflowing cup
 - Permanence in God’s presence
 - Overflowing blessings to others

I Shall Dwell

- The result is not a one-time event, but a continual relationship
 - Dwell: to abide or stay permanently
- God’s house has become David’s house too
 - “All the days of my life” have become “forever”
- For us, the Temple is not a place, but God’s people (1 Cor. 3:16; Eph. 2:19-22)
- God dwells in us through His Spirit
 - Thus, we are with Him forever, not just after death
 - Eternal life begins the moment we come to know Jesus, or Good Shepherd (John 5:24; 6:47; 1 John 5:13)

So What?

- Are we trusting Jesus to be our Good Shepherd?
 - To provide, lead, protect, and bless us
 - To welcome us in and give us a permanent place at His side

Meditation Verse: Psalm 23:6