

LIVING IN THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Part 6: The God of My Valleys

“The Lord is my Shepherd, I have everything I need. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in the right paths for his name’s sake. Even when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me!”

Psalm 23:1-4

God said, “Because the Syrians think that I am only the god of the hills and not that I AM THE GOD OF THE VALLEYS, I’m going only to give you the victory over this huge army so everyone will know that I am the Lord!”

1 Kings 20:28 (NIV)

A. THREE WELL KNOWN FACTS ABOUT VALLEYS

1. VALLEYS ARE A _____ OF LIFE.

“The Promised Land you are about to enter is a land of hills and valleys...”

Deuteronomy 11:11 (NLT)

“Don’t be surprised when you are tested by troubles or painful suffering, as if something unusual is happening to you.”

1 Peter 4:12 (TEV)

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2. VALLEYS ARE THE _____ OF EVERYONE.

“The good man does not escape all troubles – he has them too. But the Lord helps him in each and every one.”

Psalm 34:19 (LB)

3. VALLEYS ARE _____

“Don’t ever brag about tomorrow, since you don’t know what the day will bring forth.”

Proverbs 27:1(NLT)

B. FOUR SIGNIFICANT VALLEYS OF LIFE

- THE VALLEY OF SIDDIM (Genesis 14:1-11)

“...this valley was full of sticky tar pits, and when (they) tried to run away from the battle, they slipped and fell in the pits.”

Genesis 14:10

- THE VALLEY OF ESHCOL (Numbers 13:23-33)

“...in our own eyes we felt as small as grasshoppers next to them.”

Numbers 13:33

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- THE VALLEY OF ELAH (1 Samuel 17:1-58)

“The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley of Elah between them.”

1 Samuel 17:3

- THE VALLEY OF BACA (Psalm 84:5-7)

“Blessed are those whose strength comes from the Lord...As they pass through the Valley of Baca (WEEPING) they make it a place of springs.”

Psalm 84:5-6a

C. THREE TRUTH'S TO REMEMBER

1. REMEMBER _____

“Even when I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me!”

Psalm 23:4

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“When you go through deep waters and great trouble, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown! When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up – the flames will not consume you!”

Isaiah 43:2(LB)

“As for me, God’s presence is all I need! I’ve made the sovereign Lord my shelter.”

Psalms 73:28

2. REMEMBER _____

“We can even rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and that kind of hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured his love into our hearts.”

Romans 5:3-5 (ESV)

“I will transform the Valley of Trouble into a Gateway of Hope!”

Hosea 2:15 (NLT)

3. REMEMBER _____

“For our present troubles are quite small and they won’t last very long. Yet they are producing in us an eternal glory that will last forever and is greater than anything we can imagine!”

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NLT/GW)