

## Introduction:

The question in life is not, “**Will** we go through difficult times?”

The question in life is, “**How** will we go through them?”

- Will we go through them alone?
- Will we keep a stiff upper lip?
- Will we be crushed under their weight?
- Will we give up in despair?
- Will we go into denial?
- Will we become bitter and resentful?
- Will we “pretend” to protect others?

*OR*

Will we experience the **peace** and **power** of God in ways one could never imagine?

## A Song of Comfort for Those in Crisis:

### Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>*The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.*

<sup>2</sup>*He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,*

<sup>3</sup>*he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

<sup>4</sup>*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

<sup>5</sup>*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*

<sup>6</sup>*Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.*

**Discovering the Secret of David's Unshakable Confidence in the Midst of Crisis:**

**1. I shall not be in want . . .**

. . . because the Shepherd \_\_\_\_\_ all my needs.

**2. I will fear no evil . . .**

. . . because the Shepherd \_\_\_\_\_ me from all evil.

**3. I will dwell in the house of the Lord . . .**

. . . because the Shepherd \_\_\_\_\_ me an abundant life now, and forever.

## How Can You Experience God's Peace and Power in Your Situation Today?

### Understand that . . .

... We are all sheep.

... Every sheep needs a shepherd.

... Jesus wants to be your shepherd today.

<sup>28</sup>"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.  
<sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)

### A Prayer of Faith:

Today, I ask You, Jesus, to be my Shepherd. I ask You to **provide** for my needs and **protect** me from evil. Today, I "take You up" on Your **promise** of an abundant life.

I ask You to forgive my sins and let me dwell in Your house forever.

Today, I surrender my life to Your wise and good leadership. Make **me the person you want me to be.**

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*Signed*