
Campbell 召會華語聚會週訊

主後 2011 年 10 月 23 日 第 11-42 期

CHRIST AS THE SHEPHERD IN HIS RESURRECTION AND CHRIST AS THE KING IN GOD'S KINGDOM

Psalms 22—24 are a group of psalms revealing Christ from His crucifixion to His kingship in the coming age. In Psalm 22 we see Christ's death, His resurrection, and His many brothers produced in His resurrection to form His church. Psalm 23 is concerning Christ as the Shepherd. This Shepherd today is in His resurrection. Psalm 24 is concerning Christ as the coming King in God's kingdom. ...

CHRIST AS THE SHEPHERD IN HIS RESURRECTION

Psalm 23:1 says, "Jehovah is my Shepherd." Christ is our Shepherd and we are His flock. The church in the Bible is called a flock. In John 10 the Lord said that He was the good Shepherd who would collect the sheep from Israel and from the Gentiles to form them into one flock (vv. 14-16), which is the church (1 Pet. 5:2; Acts 20:28).

Jehovah, of course, is the divine God, and we are mere humans. How can God, the divine One, approach us human beings to be our Shepherd? If God would come to us in a direct way, that might frighten us to the uttermost. The Bible tells us that this happened when God appeared to various people (Rev. 1:17; Gen. 17:3; Dan. 8:17; Matt. 17:6). The Bible also tells us that no one can see God (1 Tim. 6:16; John 1:18; Exo. 33:20). How can the divine Triune God be so close to us, just as a shepherd is to his flock? Furthermore, how can we sinners, the fallen people, be the flock of the divine Shepherd? According to our fallen nature we are snakes, vipers (Matt. 23:33), and "scorpions."

Psalm 23 implies that this Shepherd is the One who became a man, who died for us to redeem us and wash away our sins, and who entered into resurrection to become a life-giving Spirit (1 Cor. 15:45b) to regenerate us. As such a One, He can change our nature. Since He has taken these three steps—1) incarnation; 2) crucifixion for redemption; and 3) resurrection for regenerating—He is altogether qualified, equipped, and suitable to be our Shepherd. He is not only God but also a man. He is not only divine but also human. He died for our sins, He was resurrected, and in His resurrection He became a life-giving Spirit.

The Lord Jesus today is the Spirit (2 Cor. 3:17). As the life-giving Spirit, He is our Shepherd inwardly. He is not only with us but also within us. We were snakes and scorpions, but we have been redeemed, we have been washed in His blood, and we have been resurrected (Eph. 2:6) and regenerated. As those who have been redeemed, washed, resurrected, and regenerated, we are the sheep of God's flock, the church. By Jehovah, the Triune God, being incarnated, crucified, and resurrected to

become the life-giving Spirit, He is qualified to be our Shepherd. By His redeeming, washing, resurrecting, and regenerating us, we are qualified to be His flock. He is qualified to be our Shepherd, and we are also qualified to be His flock. Psalm 23 is altogether a psalm on Christ as the Shepherd in His resurrection.

We can also see Jehovah as the Triune God in this psalm. Verse 2 says, "He makes me lie down in green pastures." The color green signifies the riches of life. When we see the green trees and pastures, we see the riches of life... The green pastures signify the Lord Jesus. The Lord Jesus spoke concerning this in John 10. He said that His sheep would hear His voice and follow Him out of the fold to enjoy the green pastures as the flock (vv. 9, 16). In John 10, Christ is the door (v. 9), the Shepherd (v. 11), and the pasture (v. 9). Christ Himself is our pasture, our nourishment. He is the feeding place for all the sheep. In John 6 Christ said that He is the bread of life (v. 35) to nourish us (v. 57). The "bread" for the sheep is the green pasture, so the green pasture is Christ. Christ can be our green pasture through His incarnation, death, and resurrection. After His incarnation, death, and resurrection, He is growing here as the green pasture for our nourishment. Psalm 23:2b says that Christ as our Shepherd leads us to waters of rest. The waters of rest are the Spirit. The Spirit is the water, and Christ is the pasture. Verse 5 says, "You anoint my head with oil." Hebrews 1:9 refers to the oil of exultant joy. This oil signifies the Spirit. John 7:39 says that before Christ's resurrection, the Spirit was not yet. This means that the Spirit was not yet consummated. The Spirit of God has been consummated through Christ's incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection. In Christ's resurrection, the Spirit of God became the life-giving Spirit (1 Cor. 15:45b). Now He is available to us because He has been consummated. In Psalm 23, the Spirit as typified by the waters and the oil signifies the consummated Spirit after Christ's resurrection.

This psalm also tells us that Christ's shepherding of us is in five stages. The first stage is of the pastures and the waters of rest (v. 2). Pasture and waters are for our nourishment, including cherishing and enjoyment. The second stage is the stage of the paths of righteousness (v. 3). The paths of righteousness indicate our walk. After we enjoy Christ, are filled up with Christ, and are nourished by Christ, we walk on the paths of righteousness. The third stage is the valley of the shadow of death (v. 4). The valley, the shadow, and death are not pleasant. Christ's shepherding leads us through the valley of the shadow of death. The fourth stage is the battlefield (v. 5), where we are fighting against the adversaries. At the battlefield a table, a

feast, is spread for us. Finally, the last stage is to dwell in the house of God all the days of our life (v. 6).

	May-10	Jun-10	Jul-10	Aug-10	Sep-10
Balance Carry Over (前月結餘)	46,714.29	13,802.77	19,044.29	26,058.73	22,026.57
Income(收入)					
General Offering(一般奉獻)	6,250.00	9,725.00	7,500.00	4,410.00	8,431.00
Designated Offering(指定奉獻)					
Building Fund(會所貸款)					
Needy Saints(聖徒供給)	600.00				450.00
Lord's Workers(主的工人)					
Conference & Training (特會訓練)	914.00	3,939.50	1,290.00	435.50	1,442.50
The Lord's Move to Europe (歐洲開展)					
Fellowship Unto Gospel (福音推廣)	755.00				
Love Feast (愛筵飯食)					
Support to Lyon	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Total Offering from Campbell (本地聖徒奉獻):	8,819.00	13,964.50	9,090.00	5,145.50	10,623.50
Gift from Santa Clara(Santa Clara 召會餽送)	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
Total Income(總收入)	13,819.00	18,964.50	19,090.00	10,145.50	10,623.50
Expense(支出)					
Mortgage(房屋貸款):	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
Property Tax (地產稅)					
Utilities & Maintenance (水電/維修費用)	466.96	538.98	675.56	446.10	916.22
Supplies (日用品)	243.56				
Administration (一般行政)	225.00				239.27
Lord's Workers(主的工人)	1,900.00	1,900.00	1,900.00	1,900.00	1,900.00
Love Feast(飯食愛筵)	275.00	275.00			
Needy Saints(聖徒供給)	2,500.00	600.00			350.00
Fellowship Unto Gospel (福音推廣)	30,600.00	700.00		132.56	109.00
Conference & Training(特會與訓練)	1,020.00	209.00		2,199.00	75.00
The Lord's Move to Europe (歐洲開展)					
Support for Lyon	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Total Expenses(總支出)	46,730.52	13,722.98	12,075.56	14,177.66	13,089.49
Balance(本月結餘)	(32,911.52)	5,241.52	7,014.44	(4,032.16)	(2,465.99)

禱告負擔

- Pray for the young people to sanctify their time to pursue the Lord with their companions.
- Pray for us to be a fruitful bearing branch.
- Pray for the growth of the feeling of the Body of Christ.
- Pray for spreading to nearby cities
- For daily exercise in GOW training: prophesying on Lord's day by daily enjoying His word and pursue the truth and attend Lord's day meeting on time.
- For gospel preaching on West Valley College campus, as well as for English-speaking testimony in Campbell.

報告事項

- Morning Revival on Psalms Week 6
- YP Bible reading : Luke chapter. 25.
- Prayer meeting 7:30PM on Tuesday (10/25) at meeting hall. .
- College student retreat will be held at Alliance Redwood on 10/28-30. Please register with br. Tai.
- Young people Fall conference, Alliance Redwood on 11/11-13. Registration deadline, 10/23, fee \$95
- Winter training Anaheim registration: register with brothers in each group. Deadline is 11/1.