

**PHYSICIAN SHEPHERD, PSALM 23:1,2**

Let us talk about the great power of thoughts today. Thoughts are of great value. They are like the dust of gold, they are like the sparks of diamonds. Spiritual thoughts from God's Word and God's Truth are like burning glasses as they collect the diffused rays of light from the Truth of God's Word and make them point with warmth and love into the hearts of those round about. When we meditate upon Jesus Christ and have our thoughts upon Him, our hearts are filled with life-giving Rays of Light. *Thought* is the act of thinking, the exercise of the mind. Thoughts are invisible words.

Let us go to the twenty-third Psalm today for a thought, a spiritual thought, a life-giving thought that will change our lives because God created the universes out of thought, out of Word. And God has given power to His Written Word, He has given power to His Quickened Word. The twenty-third Psalm is a marvelous little Psalm. The world could spare all of its large volumes of books about comfort but none is better than this precious delightful little Psalm. It has been the comfort of many. It has dried the tears of many broken hearts. It has converted the deserted and lonely. It has injected peace in many stormy souls. It has uplifted the doubtful hearts into the golden realms of faith. This is one of the greatest and most precious gems in Biblical literature. As long as men are like sheep and go astray and wander from God, they need a Shepherd. Jesus Christ is our Shepherd. Let us consider the first picture that we see of Jesus Christ in the twenty-third Psalm.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want (Psalm 23:1).

So He is our Shepherd to heal us and to minister to us. The word *want* means to fail, to lessen, to be destitute, to be in a poverty condition, to be in a state of deficiency. So Jesus has come to be

## Radio #1

our Shepherd and our Physician Shepherd to minister healing unto us. When John the Baptist announced the coming of the Messiah, the LORD Jesus Christ, in Luke, the third chapter, and verse five, we find that he says:

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth; And all flesh shall see the salvation of God (Luke 3:5,6).

Jesus Christ is the Physician Shepherd and the Salvation of God. First of all, as a Physician, He will heal our valleys. He will heal our deficiencies, our poverty, in the valley, which speaks and signifies our depressions, our inferiorities, and all of these things make up our valleys. Jesus Christ can heal and make us feel secure and well and strong. And we do not have to be a weakling, we do not have to be deficient in moral strength. He will heal us and give us the moral courage and the moral firmness that we need to continue on with Him.

John also declared that every mountain and every hill shall be brought low. In other words, Jesus Christ, the Great Physician, is able to heal us of our inferiorities, our valleys. He is able to heal us of our superiorities, our mountains. Many times in life, we find the way, seemingly, impassable. Yet Jesus is a Great Physician that can fill up the valleys and bring down the mountains. There are many things in our own personality and dispositions and natures that are like mountains, attitudes that we display that are unlovely and unlike Jesus Christ in our power and in our rank and in our authority. And we like to judge, we like to criticize, we like to exaggerate. These are some of our mountains that Jesus Christ must bring down. The Physician Shepherd must heal us in order to deliver us from our needs, our deficiencies, our poverty.

And, likewise, John the Baptist said, "And the crooked shall be made straight." Jesus Christ came as a Great Physician to make those crooked things in our lives straight of the deceitfulness, the subtleness of the flesh. That thing in us that is not like Jesus Christ, that likes to plot and to

plan and to swindle and to scheme in order to get our way at the expense of someone else. So Jesus can heal us of all these things and make the way straight and set our feet in a straight way that we can please Him, we can be like Him, we can be a living witness and a living testimony for Jesus Christ.

Fourthly, John the Baptist said that Jesus Christ, the Salvation of God, the Divine Physician Shepherd would make the rough ways smooth. Not only is Jesus Christ able to work in the outward circumstances of life that are personified as valleys and mountains and crooked places. But He is also able to work inwardly in our own attitudes and dispositions, our souls, those places that are low, those places that are high, those places that are crooked, and, likewise, those places that are rough. There is so much of us, that in our carnal humanity nature, that is harsh and rude and unmannerly, and we are not courteous one to another like Jesus Christ would have us to be.

But the Physician, as we wait upon Him, as we live in His Word, as we get His Word in our hearts, and in our minds, He will heal. His Living Waters of Truth, His Living Light of His Word will minister healing to that which is unlike Him that we can be kind and courteous, compassionate one toward another, and to show the Love of Jesus. The Apostle Paul said that Love is kind and suffereth long, and love envieth not, love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, in other words, does not behave itself in a rough, harsh manner.

So Jesus Christ wants to heal us today and give us a nature, a disposition that is like unto Him that the whole world might be convinced, as they come in contact with us, of the reality of His changing Power, of the reality of His Salvation. Yes, the LORD is my Shepherd. I shall not want. The LORD will make up my deficiency. The LORD will heal my conditions. The LORD will fill up my valleys, will bring down my mountains, will straighten out my crooked places. The LORD will smooth out my rough disposition. So thank God we have a Shepherd, a Physician Shepherd,

Radio #1

the LORD Jesus Christ.

LORD Jesus, we thank You again today for the opportunity that we have to live in a free country that we can lift up our voices in radio land and lift up the LORD Jesus Christ. You said, LORD, if You be lifted up that You would draw all men unto Thy precious own Self. And we ask, LORD, that You would bless today. Bless the hearts of those that listen. Meet the need. Those that are sick, spiritually, those that are sick, physically, be the Great Divine Physician to them and meet their need. In Jesus' Precious, Lovely, Wonderful Name. Amen! □