

I Shall Not Want

Scripture

*"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."
Psalm 23:1*

Reflection

David's words do not mean that believers will never experience physical need, hardship, or disappointment. David himself knew hunger, danger, uncertainty, and sleepless nights. Yet even in those difficult seasons, he knew that God was with him.

The promise of Psalm 23 is not a life of ease or wealth. It is the assurance that the Good Shepherd will provide what His people need spiritually. In Him, we are not abandoned, neglected, or left without hope. He provides comfort when we are hurting, peace when we are anxious, and strength when we are weary.

One of the greatest enemies of contentment is comparison. We look at what others possess, accomplish, or receive, and we begin to question God's care. Instead of recognizing His provision, we focus on what we believe is missing.

Contentment grows when we stop measuring our lives against others and begin trusting the wisdom and care of the Shepherd.

Illustration

A child may sit at a table with a full plate and still complain because someone else received a different meal. The child overlooks what has been provided because attention is fixed on another person's portion.

Comparison often keeps us from recognizing the goodness God has already placed before us.

Application

Identify one area where comparison has created dissatisfaction in your heart. Confess that attitude to the Lord.

Make a list of three ways God is presently providing for you spiritually. Thank Him for His comfort, guidance, protection, and presence.

Prayer

Lord, forgive me for comparing my life with others and overlooking Your provision. Teach me to trust Your wisdom and rest in Your care. Help me find contentment in Your presence rather than in possessions, recognition, or circumstances. Amen.