

Our Source of Certainty  
In Uncertain Times (Part 5):  
*The Lord Takes Care of Us*

Psalm 23:5-6

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

*He makes me lie down in green pastures.*

*He leads me beside still waters.*

*He restores my soul.*

*He leads me in paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.*

*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.*

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in  
the house of the Lord forever.*

Psalm 23:1-6

I. The Lord takes care of us now (vv.5-6a).

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A. The Lord takes care of us graciously.

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. (v.5)*

David is describing how the Lord is like a gracious King who hosts a great banquet for his honored guests.

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David is describing how the Lord is like a gracious King who hosts a great banquet for his honored guests.

*You prepare a table before me*

*You anoint my head with oil.*

*My cup overflows.*

David says that the Lord did this *in the presence of my enemies.*

"Even the good man has enemies. He would not be like his Lord if he did not."

- Charles Spurgeon

*If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.*

*Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you (John 15:19-20a)*

“With Him the calf is always the fatted calf; the robe is always the best robe; the joy is unspeakable; and the peace passes understanding. There is no grudging in God’s goodness. He does not measure His goodness by drops like a druggist filling a prescription.

“It comes to us in floods. If only we recognized the lavish abundance of His gifts, what a difference it would make in our lives!”

– Haddon Robinson

B. The Lord takes care of us continuously.

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life (v.6a).*

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*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life (v.6a).*

*Mercy is often translated love or  
lovingkindness or steadfast love.*

God's *goodness*: “giving us what we do not deserve”

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God's *mercy*: "withholding what we do deserve."

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God's *mercy*: "withholding what we do deserve."

*Follow*: "to pursue, to chase, to run after."

“These two attributes of God – “goodness and lovingkindness” – actually represent God Himself, who is continually pursuing David. It is the figure of speech known as personification, which assigns humanlike qualities to inanimate objects. To be sure, these two attributes represent God, who is personally following David and caring for his every need.”

– Steven Lawson

*For the Lord disciplines the one he loves*  
(Hebrews 12:6a).

*Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? (Roman 2:4)*

“I am convinced that one of the reasons the prodigal son “came to himself” and finally returned home was because of the kind of father he had.

There is no magnet with a stronger pull than genuine love. Love has drawn back more wanderers and softened more hard hearts than this world will ever know.

It is fitting, then, that you and I are followed  
“all the days” of our lives by goodness and  
lovingkindness. God knows what will best  
do the job!

Mark it down, my friend, God knows how to deal with His children. More specifically, He knows how to deal with you. His dealings follow you all the days of your life. Your circumstances right now are part of His plan for you.”

– Charles Swindoll

*Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.” (John 14:23)*

II. The Lord takes care of us forever (v.6b).

*and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
forever. (v.6b)*

*Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. (John 14:1-3).*

*Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6)*