

Sunday - March 7, 2021

I Will...Indwell You

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Today's Scripture: Psalm 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

² He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.

³ He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.

⁴ Yea, 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.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup runs over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
Forever.

YOU CAN HAVE THE ABSOLUTE ASSURANCE OF THE INDWELLING PRESENCE OF CHRIST

- *"Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves that Jesus Christ is in you..." II Corinthians 13:5*
- Every believer is given the assurance of the indwelling presence of Christ
- When believers struggle with doubt, one of two things is usually the problem
 - They believe God's assurance is conditional
 - They have never been truly saved.

- If I had to describe what it means to live apart from Christ, I would use a single word - Powerless
- The Bible says that God wants you to live with the absolute assurance that Christ dwells in you
- *“Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” Isaiah 41:10*
- He wants you to know clearly and confidently that He will be with you whatever happens in your life
- *“Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.” Deuteronomy 31:6*

YOU WILL FIND THE STRENGTH YOU NEED THROUGH THE PRESENCE OF THE INDWELLING CHRIST

- *“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Galatians 2:20*
- When you are confident that He indwells you, you will learn to live dependently
- *“So we may boldly say: ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?’” Hebrews 13:6*
- Christ indwells you so that He can Empower you

WHEN CHRIST INDWELLS YOU, HE WILL TRANSFORM YOU

- *“that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height – to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” Ephesians 3:16-19*
- When you let the indwelling Jesus have His way, you are going to change
- If you want to be unchanged, you need to keep your distance from Jesus
- Here is the secret: The more He changes you, the better you like it

HOW DOES THE LORD GO ABOUT HIS TRANSFORMING WORK?

- He transforms you with His abiding Spirit
 - *“I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever – the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.” John 14:16-17*
- He transforms you with His abiding Word
 - *“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be my disciples.” John 15:8*
- He transforms you with His abiding Promises
 - *“For this reason we also, since the day we heard it (salvation of the Colossians) do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.” Colossians 1:9-10*