

GOD'S MEDICINE FOR DIFFICULT DAYS - PSALM 23:4

Pastor Mike Prah May 17, 2020

"Even though I walk through the <u>valley of the shadow of death</u>, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." Psalm 23:4 (NASB)

"And the name of the city from that time on will be: THE LORD IS THERE." Ezekiel 48:35 (NIV)

JEHOVAH SHAMMAH – The LORD is Here!

I. WHAT TO REMEMBER IN DIFFICULT DAYS

1. VALLEYS ARE UNAVOIDABLE

"In this world you will have trouble." John 16:33 (NIV)

"A person who is born of a woman is short-lived and is full of trouble" Job 14:1 (GW)

2. VALLEYS ARE UNPREDICTABLE

"Disaster follows disaster... <u>In an instant</u> my tents are destroyed, my shelter <u>in a moment</u>." Jeremiah 4:20 (NIV)

3. VALLEYS ARE TEMPORARY

"So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials <u>for a little</u> <u>while</u>." I Peter 1:6 (NLT)

"<u>These troubles and sufferings of ours</u> are, after all, quite small and <u>won't last very long</u>. Yet this short time of distress will result in God's richest blessing upon us forever and ever!" 2 Corinthians 4:17 (LB)

"In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So <u>after you have</u> <u>suffered a little while</u>, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation." 1 Peter 5:10 (NLT)

4. VALLEYS ARE PURPOSEFUL

"... even though you are temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials and temptations. <u>This is no accident</u> - <u>it</u> happens to prove your faith ..." I Peter 1:6b-7 (Ph)

II. WHAT TO DO IN DIFFICULT DAYS

"I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." Psalm 23:4b

1. REFUSE TO BE DISCOURAGED

"I WILL FEAR NO EVIL"

"God will strengthen you with <u>his own great power</u> so that you will <u>not give up</u> when troubles come, but you will be patient." Colossians 1:11 (NCV)

2. REMEMBER THAT GOD IS WITH ME

"FOR YOU ARE WITH ME"

"When you go through deep waters, <u>I will be with you</u>. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you." Isaiah 43:2 (NLT)

3. I RELY ON GOD'S PROTECTION AND GUIDANCE

"YOUR ROD AND STAFF COMFORT ME"

"We know how much God loves us, and <u>we have put our trust in his love</u>. Such love has no fear, because <u>perfect love expels all fear</u>." 1 John 4:16, 18 (NLT)

"The righteous person faces many troubles, but <u>the Lord comes to the rescue each time</u>." Psalm 34:19 (NLT)