PSALMS 23

PEACEFULL WATERS

***WRITTEN BY: Tommy Romans Feb. 2016***

**Psalms 23: 2** – He leadeth me beside the Still waters, which means Peaceful Waters! Do we really know the importance of water? O the beverage of life; health giving, refreshing, thirst quenching and satisfying water! And O the beauty of it, it gleams in the dew drops, it sings in the summer rain, shines in the ice crystals that seem to turn to living jewels. It sleeps in the glacier, dances in the hail shower. In its frozen form, it covers the ground with a blanket of Pure White.

**THE MINISTRY OF THE RAINDROP**

 Can you tell us little rain drop just how important your ministry is? O yes! You see, the Lord sends me, I come from above to do what He called me to do. I seek the low places, I come to a thirsty world. I fill the pools, I sing in the stream, my voice is heard in the brooks. I fill the wells, the lakes and oceans. On my way down from the lofty heights, I realize my ministry! The earth and all forms of life both small and great cannot live without me. Though I am small, I AM LIFE! Cup your hand and hold it out when it rains and behold the miracle in just one drop of water when I fall into your hand. God put in me healing, refreshing strength! And when I combine with and join all the others, I form a river that flows into the sea!

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**YOU HAVE A MINISTRY**

 O Child of God, you have a Ministry! Just like that little rain drop – you carry what others in this world need. You might say within yourself – I am not that important, I’m not much, what can just one drop of water do? Let’s hear from ONE drop of water: So tell us little rain drop! OK! Though I come at times with the wind, I come in showers and you behold me in the beautiful lakes and hear my

voice singing in the mighty waterfalls, yet my Ministry is not always outward! Don’t you know that I also withdraw from view? Yes, it’s a personal ministry. I sink into the dry, dirty, thirsty soil but don’t worry, I’ve got a work to do! I’m on a mission for the thirsty. When I’m done, you will see again in the petals of a flower and the fragrance of the Rose.

When I am finished with doing what God has sent me to do, you’ll see my reward in the cluster of the vine and the fruit of the trees. You might view this little raindrop as a tear of regret and think I’m not

much, but the dry parched ground needs me. By God’s help, I will soften that hard soil and as it drinks me in, I will find that root of the thirsty Lilly. It will be glad that I came and will drink me in with delight. You will then see the effect of my ministry in the snowy white blossom. I will perfume the air in the whole rose garden! You might have thought me insignificant and a waste, but I came back in Resurrection Life in others! Yes, I came from above, from the Father to give the thirsty a drink!

 Yes Child of God, you are important! You carry life within you that people need. Just how important? The rich man in Hell cried for just one drop of water, but look around you, there’s a whole world crying for it now!

 Now, saying all that, the Shepherd knows His Sheep need Water both natural and Spiritual. The body of a Sheep is made up of 70% water. It feeds every cell and tissue of its body, even to the joints and marrow. If it doesn’t get that water, dehydration sets in and they become weak. They can’t hold up and they die. O how much we need the Spirit of the Living God that is typified by water.

 The great renown Shepherd man Philip Keller said – “when Sheep are thirsty, they are restless and they will set out in search of water to quench their thirst.”

**Ps. 80:1** – Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock!

The Lord refers to us as His Flock. In order to feed on God’s goodness, we must follow Him! He leads us by His providence, by His Word and by His Spirit. Thank God, He directs our eyes, our heart and our feet. WE MUST FOLLOW THE SHEPHERD!! When the Holy Ghost had David to pen this verse, He stressed – STILL WATERS. He doesn’t say that He leads them to troubled waters or a restless sea nor to dirty noisy rolling flood waters, but to the Pure quiet and Peaceful Waters!!

**A RESTLESS WORLD**

 We live in a noisy world of clamor. This is a loud generation, people rushing about, continuous voices, amusements, sounds and entertainment and all that is mixed in with the stress – no wonder so many peoples’ minds are in turmoil and have no peace!

 God cried out through Jeremiah – My people have forsaken me, the fountain of Living Water! People now days cry for everything but God to satisfy their soul. They pursue careers, social ties, education, companionships, jobs and games but have no time for our great Loving God who is the Life-giver. They drink from the world’s wells and its fleshly pools but go away panting, empty and not satisfied. They have no Spiritual life and no deep settled peace, but are like the restless sea. I want you to know that nothing in this world will ever satisfy your cravings!

 Look around you dear friend, at all the pursuits of our generation! There’s no special quiet time for God. The Spirit of the Lord is calling to us, can’t you hear Him? God’s Pure, Clean, Satisfying, Thirst Quenching, Life Giving Water RUNS DEEP! You will never find it in this world running to and fro, busying yourself with its many cares! Remember while Martha was cumbered about with much serving, her sister Mary was sitting at the Feet of Jesus, hearing His Word! What a place to be! Teach me O Lord. Here I am, speak to my heart the Spiritual things that feed my soul. O Jesus, just to have your PEACE!

**IT’S TIME FOR QUIETNESS**

 **Psalms 40:10** – The Holy Ghost inspired Word says: Be STILL and know that I am God. O yes Lord, lead us to those peaceful steams away from the raging waves of strife. O for silence!! O when the gentle Spirit brings a calm and a Peace deep within! Glory! So many cannot cope with their problems and troubles because of constant voices, sounds and turmoil. Can’t you see, it’s time to still away, enter your closet and shut the door to all your troubles outside and you will find Jesus there to give you PEACE!

**Lam. 3:41** – Let us lift our Heart with our hands unto God in the Heavens. Pour out your soul to Him, reach for Him and you will find Peace.

 O Spirit of the Lord, so sweet and gentle! He is symbolized as a Dove, not a screaming eagle. Thank God He comes in the soft gentle quiet Dew in the middle of the night. So many of God’s people are like wild mustangs and stallions with untamed spirits always on the run!

 Did you know that Sheep cannot drink from fast flowing raging water? They are different from other animals. Fast flowing water runs up their nose and it strangles them. The water must be quiet and still. Sheep are also afraid of noisy rapid flowing water, it scares them. They shun noisy streams! He leadeth me beside the Still Waters or as the Hebrew text says – the Peaceful Waters of Rest!

**WE NEED THE DEW**

 Keller said, “I remember those quiet times with my flock. I can see them knee deep in Dew drenched grass. If the moon was full, they would graze all night by the moon light out on the quiet mountain side and fields. There was never any prettier picture than seeing the still waters of the big silver droplets of dew hanging on the leaves and grass at day break! If there was a drought going on, my sheep still thrived and was kept renewed by the Dew! O how important and needful the water.

 The old Patriarch Job speaking of his blessing in the Lord, said – **Job 29:19** – My root was spread out by the Waters, and the Dew lay all night upon my branch. O the mystery of the blessing of the Dew! As Isaac was dying, he blessed Jacob saying – God give thee the Dew of Heaven, not the rushing rain, but the soft soaking Dew; in other words, let you days be filled with peace! Listen children, Spiritually speaking, Dew will do for you what a strong rain can’t! A pouring rain will soon run off, but the Dew will soak in. God fed and sustained Israel for 40 years in the wilderness with manna. How did He do it? It never came to them in the day time when it was noisey and everyone was rushing busily about! **Num. 11:9** – And when the Dew fell upon the camp in the night, the Manna fell upon it. O in the stillness, O in the quietness when all is still, a deep settled peace can be found! Our spirits so many times are restless. We need those quiet times with God, it is the secret to success.

 Quiet thyself before God, feed on His Word and listen to the Shepherds voice. Those times of prayer and meditation, will refresh and revive.

**O THE PEACE JESUS HAS**

**AND GIVES**

 Listen to Jesus: **John 14** – Peace I leave with you, My Peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth (it doesn’t have peace to give) give I unto you. ( I have it to give!) Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

**A PURE CLEANSING WATER**

 Not only do we need the calm peaceful waters but we need Clean Water. When you came to Jesus repenting of your sins, the Lord saved you and His Blood washed those sins away, when it was applied to your heart.

**A SECOND CLEANSING – SANCTIFICATION**

 After Salvation, there is another cleansing. This one is not by the Blood of Christ, it is with Water! This Water is for daily cleansing. We will not survive in this ungodly and unclean world without this water. We must have this precious water to be presentable to Christ.

**Eph. 5:25** – As Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for it, that He might Sanctify and Cleanse it with the washing of the WATER BY THE WORD, that He might present it to Himself a Glorious Church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that I should be Holy and without blame.

 Show us O Lord the power and the effects of your Word that is symbolized by Water! O the Blessing of it. It gets out the spots and wrinkles in our clothes. I’m sure that everybody in their right mind would want to be presentable and neat their dress and appearance when they went out in public. Surely you would want to be neat and not have wrinkles and spots in your clothes that others would notice! Thank God for washing machines that fill with this precious water with the added detergent cleansers that removes the soiled spots from out earthly garments! We’re grateful for the invention of the iron and the power of electric that heats it to iron out the wrinkles of our dress shirts and skirts. Amazing how much attention is paid to our garments and our outward appearance but not our hearts.

 Listen, we as Christians even though we are saved, blood bought and forgiven, we still have spots and wrinkles in our character. We have our carnal ways and attitudes. We live in a world that is flesh driven. When you wake up in the morning, it’s you against the whole world with all of its lusts and worldly attitudes. You are bombarded every day with sights and sounds, images and words from people of unregenerated hearts. Sin is all around you; you are compassed with evil. We are up against the prince of the power of the air. This world and its mindset is controlled by satan. Temptation is everywhere.

**O GOD, WE NEED THE WATER**

Dear Child of God, you are constantly within earshot and eyesight of desires and actions of sinners and their thoughts and insinuations of immoral looseness. **AND YOU MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO KEEP YOU** from the contaminations of this world! You need this Pure Holy **Water** of God’s Word to keep you clean! O Jesus, we thank you for the Blood that is applied to our hearts if we should mess up and sin. That Blood removes the guilt and makes it clean. But O Lord, we need the WATER OF YOUR WORD that will Sanctify us from our old Adamic nature, from the carnal attitudes and fleshly habits! Children of God just cannot drink from the worlds wells and cisterns – they are polluted! We must be Spirit led by Gods Word! We must draw near to God. The spirit of this world is deadly, dangerous and corrupting. I refuse to dance to its tunes, play its games, dress in its styles and take up it fads – they will defile you – spirit, soul, mind and body!

**STUBBORN SHEEP**

 Phillip Keller said he watched a bunch of sheep one day as they were being led down a mountain to a magnificent stream. The snow fed water were flowing pure and clean between the banks and lovely trees. He said on the way down, several stubborn ewes and their lambs stopped to drink from small dirty muddy pools beside the trail. The water was filthy and polluted not only with the churned up mud from the passing sheep but even with the manure and urine of previous flocks that had passed that way. Keller said, still, these stubborn sheep were quite sure it was the best drink obtainable. The water itself was filthy and unfit for them. Much more, it was contaminated with nematodes and liver fluke eggs that would eventually riddle them with internal parasites and disease of destructive impact. He said all this contamination was caused by the other passing sheep – it’s what they left behind, and now the shepherd that’s leading his sheep is having some of them with the mindset – “I can’t see that it’s going to hurt anything, we’ll just drink from the pools of what the others left behind.” Keller said, little do they know that often time there is a delayed reaction and that considerable time may elapse before the full impact of their misjudgment strikes home! Then suddenly they are in deep trouble and wonder why!

**WE NEED THE HOLY GHOST LEADING**

 Listen close! This is the reason why we must be led of the Spirit of God. He is Holy. We must have Holiness preaching that gives us the Good, Pure, Sanctifying Water of God’s Word to set us apart from this world and keep us clean! This is the reason families are a mess and are full of all kinds of lustful sins of fornication, adultery, immorality; unclean in their habits, their actions and words. O God, what defilement, because there’s no Water of God’s Sanctifying Word being taught to the children! Parents better know where their children are, who they associate with and what kind of environment they are around! The disease of sin strikes through the unholy influence of others who are worldly and not sanctified Holy! O Lord, give us praying Mommies and Daddies that will not allow their children to hang out with sinners or stay all night with them! It is sad to say, but there are homes of supposed to be Christians who are too loose in their dress, their talk and actions and they pass their germs of influence to the innocent and unsuspecting just like the sheep that Keller described above.

**WE NEED HOLINESS PREACHING**

 Thank God, this is the reason we have Holiness Churches that have Pastors who see the dangers and will preach with a burden that ye must come out of the world and be Holy – touch not the unclean thing, be separate from sinners – be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord – abstain from the mud holes of our corrupt society – flee from its defiling entertainments – shun its dirty sounds of music that’s inspired from satans spirits of darkness – sanctify the eyes and cast out the ungodly images of this world and be a genuine Saint of God that’s Blood bought and clean, washed in the WATER of God’s Word, and ready for Jesus to come! He’s coming for the Sanctified and Holy, are you ready? God’s flock is Holy and they follow their Heavenly Shepherd.

 Listen, when you or your children come away from a fellowship or a stay with others who are carnal, foolish and worldly acting – **it takes you away from God’s Divine Holiness.** It’s an influence like leaven that slowly takes you away from God’s Divine nature.

We need the Water of your Word Lord! Would you lead us to those Peaceful, Still Waters that are Pure and Holy!! **Joh 17:15** - I (Jesus) pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

17 ¶ Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be Sanctified through the truth.

**John 15:3** – Jesus said – Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you!

 Jesus is coming for Glorious Church who has made herself ready – are you?

May God Bless my readers until next month when we again take another journey in the Spiritual ways of the Lord!