



## The Environment that Cannot Hinder

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

November 9, 2025

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my ENEMIES; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. – Psalm 23:5*

This Psalm was ...

- Written by \_\_\_\_\_
- Written from the perspective of an \_\_\_\_\_
- Written as a reflection of his \_\_\_\_\_

### A Table in the Presence of My Enemies ...

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
*in the presence of my ENEMIES. – Psalm 23:5*

- A Few \_\_\_\_\_
- A Rivalry with \_\_\_\_\_
- A Plethora of \_\_\_\_\_
- A Few \_\_\_\_\_
- And a Mixture of \_\_\_\_\_

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ ...  
*You PREPARE A TABLE before me ... – Psalm 23:5*

- Involves seemingly \_\_\_\_\_  
Cf. Ja. 4:13-15; Pr. 16:33; Jer. 10:23
- Orchestrated to bring about the \_\_\_\_\_  
Cf. Eph. 1:11; Lk. 22:31

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_  
*YOU prepare a table before me ... – Psalm 23:5*

- A Sovereign Host does not grant an \_\_\_\_\_  
Cf. Ps. 25:1-2; Gen. 37:18-35; 50:20; 2 Sam. 5:20
- "My \_\_\_\_\_" is tied to "My \_\_\_\_\_."  
Cf. Jn. 10:27-30; 2 Cor. 1:18-20

## So What?

I fear we are waiting for the Absence of Trouble so that we might enjoy the blessings of God. However, God's Grace is best seen and experienced against the Backdrop of Darkness and Adversity. For there we discover that the Lord is indeed My Shepherd.

Is He \_\_\_\_\_?

How are things between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Today?

## Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

### NEHEMIAH MINISTRIES

We look at the craziness of the world around us. The question comes to mind, "**Can God rebuild what appears to be irreparably broken?**" The book of Nehemiah reveals HOW God works so we can respond with an emphatic, "YES, He can!"

If our hearts don't break for what breaks God's heart, we will never be pushed to pray the way we should. When Nehemiah heard that the walls and gates of Jerusalem were destroyed, he MOURNED for many days. He didn't judge the city for its broken walls. He fasted. He prayed.

- Nehemiah prayed prayers of **ADORATION**—focusing on God's greatness, power, and mercy. How He's faithful to keep His covenant to us. How He hears our prayers.
- Nehemiah then prayed prayers of **CONFESSION**—his sins and sins of others...sin that separates us from God and from others. He gave no excuses and didn't try to justify the sin.
- Nehemiah also prayed prayers of **SUPPLICATION**—asking that God's people would be heard and that He would be merciful.

For God to rebuild what appears to be irreparably broken, He looks for a heart that breaks over conditions around us [Neh. 1:3-4a], whether it be the state of our nation, a family crisis, or \_\_\_\_\_. That is His invitation for us to seek Him and pray, recognizing our powerlessness and our dependence on Him. God uses people who see the world through His tears; May we be as Nehemiah and say, "Use me, Lord."

LET'S BE NEHEMIAHS!

- Ask God to break your heart for what breaks His. Ask to KNOW how much we need HIM to rebuild and restore. [Neh. 1:3-4]
  - What looks irreparably broken?
  - Ask God to open your eyes to see if He created you for such a time as this...to be used by Him.
- Pray and fast. Seek the Lord.

YOU ARE INVITED!

Nehemiah asked God to hear his prayers and the prayers of His servants, implying they prayed individually and with others [Neh. 1:11].

**We invite you to come, seeking the Lord with brothers and sisters in Christ, on Wednesdays at 5:00 pm in the conference room. Let's pray for restoration and revival that only God can bring.**



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This Psalm was ...

- Written by **King David**
- Written from the perspective of an **Aged Man**
- Written as a reflection of his **Life**

### A Table in the Presence of My Enemies ...

#### 1. The **Uninvited Guests** ...

*in the presence of my ENEMIES. – Psalm 23:5*

- a. A Few **Boyhood Victories**
- b. A Rivalry with **God's Anointed**
- c. A Plethora of **Adjoining Adversaries**
- d. A Few **Family Feuds**
- e. And a Mixture of **Personal Demons**

#### 2. The **Prepared Table** ...

*You PREPARE A TABLE before me ... – Psalm 23:5*

- a. Involves seemingly **Coincidental Events**  
Cf. Ja. 4:13-15; Pr. 16:33; Jer. 10:23
- b. Orchestrated to bring about the **Purposes of God**  
Cf. Eph. 1:11; Lk. 22:31

#### 3. The **Host** of the **Banquet** ...

*YOU prepare a table before me ... – Psalm 23:5*

- a. A Sovereign Host does not grant an **Unscared Life**  
Cf. Ps. 25:1-2; Gen. 37:18-35; 50:20; 2 Sam. 5:20
- b. "My **Cup**" is tied to "My **Shepherd**."  
Cf. Jn. 10:27-30; 2 Cor. 1:18-20

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How are things between **You** and **Jesus** Today?

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