

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1311

March 22, 2020

Psalm 23:2, “*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*”

This time of year things are beginning to turn green on the Earth. We are in the early days of Spring. Some flowers are already budding and some trees are already beginning to spout leaves. We can see life returning as plants and trees begin to turn green.

Green in the Bible has always represented life and things going well. Consider just a few of the 41 verses in the Bible that mention “green.”

Genesis 1:30, “*And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein [there is] life, [I have given] every green herb for meat: and it was so.*” This is the first time we find the word “green” in the Bible. The LORD is telling us that every green herb that grows we can eat. As the growing season nears, we’ll be planting gardens to feed us and crops to feed our livestock. We can do this because the LORD decreed that the green plants you grow and harvest all can be used for food.

Psalm 23:2, “*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*” One of the most well known passages in the Bible is Psalm 23. It is a passage of great comfort of how the LORD leads us and

takes care of us as a shepherd does his sheep. One of the places the LORD takes us is green pastures. The green pastures in this passage is a place of rest where we lie down. Green pastures represent life, times of warmth, and a soft, comfortable place to rest. In the LORD we have all of these. We have life, spiritual warmth of God’s love, and will have an eternal place of rest in Heaven. We will forever be able to lie down in “green pastures.”

Psalm 52:8, “*But I [am] like a green olive tree in the house of God: I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.*” The Psalmist was telling how that being in the house of the LORD he was like a green olive tree. Olive trees of this area were so vital to life. They provided, food, oil for burning, cooking, and a healing balm. They would grow in the most unlikely places and could live as long as 2,000 years. The olive tree was vital to life and gave life to others. Olive trees represent the word of God in Zechariah 4 and Revelation 11. In this way the psalmist was like a green olive tree. He was full of life, thriving, and passing this life on to others.

Jeremiah 11:16, “*The LORD called thy name, A green olive tree, fair, [and] of goodly fruit.*” Following the thoughts above of how the people of God are like green olive trees, the LORD calls the name of His people, “a green olive tree.” We as the people of God are to be a green olive tree, flourishing, growing and spreading spiritual life to others. We provide spiritual food, warming, balm, and comfort.

Mark 6:39, “*And he commanded them to make all sit down by companies upon the green grass.*” This passage reminds me of Psalm 23:2. Here Jesus literally had the people sit down in “green pastures.” He was not only nourishing them with spiritual teachings, but was feeding them with physical food as well

This is where Jesus took five loaves and two fishes and fed the 5,000. After they had finished eating, they took up 12 baskets full of food. The people were literally sitting on green grass. This shows this particular area was full of life. They were receiving spiritual teachings from Jesus that would give them eternal life if obeyed.

The last two times “green” is mentioned in the Bible are in Revelation. The first talks about destruction to green grass and the second is a prohibition not to hurt any green thing.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Shirley Parson** and **Shirley Edwards**. Remember **Archie & Judy Manning**. Archie is very sick with cancer. **Taylor Dennis** broke his foot while skateboarding.

—During the Covid-19 virus concerns, we are only having one service on Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. central. Sunday and Wednesday evening services will be online only on YouTube at 6:00 p.m. We will change back to our regular schedule as quickly as possible.

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Revelation 8:7, “*The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.*”

Much persecution of God’s people is seen in Revelation. It seems the above verse shows how that the persecution was burning up all green grass. This of course is not literal. Like most of Revelation, it’s a figure of speech to show that sin will burn and destroy that which is green. It’s like a fire or plague spreading upon the green grass destroying whatever green growth there is. Sin does this to righteousness. Just as grass returns after a fire, there is hope in the last verse that mentions green.

Revelation 9:4, “*And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.*” No matter what destruction comes upon the Earth due to sin, those who follow and obey the LORD cannot be hurt.

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Sunday, March 15, 2019		
Classes	12	I John 1:8-2:2
Preaching	15	John 5:14 - How to react to pandemics
Contribution	\$1225.00	
Evening	14	Ezra 7:1-28
Wednesday, March 18, 2019		
Classes	n/a	Isaiah 21:1-17

Bible Quiz

What day did Ezra leave Babylon and what day arrive at Jerusalem?

Last Week’s Answer— Prospered (Ezra 6:14)

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The sinful forces that go upon the Earth have been commanded not to hurt any green grass or tree. This doesn’t mean that the people of God will never suffer. We will, but what is done to us has no lasting effect. They cannot hurt the green grass or trees. We have eternal life. Just as the first time green is mentioned, it’s for the physical life, the final time we see the green grass and trees, those of God, cannot be hurt at all, and have eternal life.

—Marty Edwards❖

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)