



The Living Logos

Teaching Newsletter

June 2019

He Prepares A Table Before Me ~ Pastor Trey Dickerson

This month, I would like us to continue our look at King David’s 23rd Psalm by looking at verse 5. Now notice that in the latter half of this psalm, there is a transition: he no longer is using the analogy of a shepherd and His sheep; he now begins using the analogy of a person being invited into someone else’s home and being shown great hospitality and honor.

Now let’s look at the beginning of **Psalm 23:5**: In it, David says, *“You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies...”* As we begin looking at this portion of verse 5, there is another Scriptural example of being invited to the Lord’s table that we do well to consider:

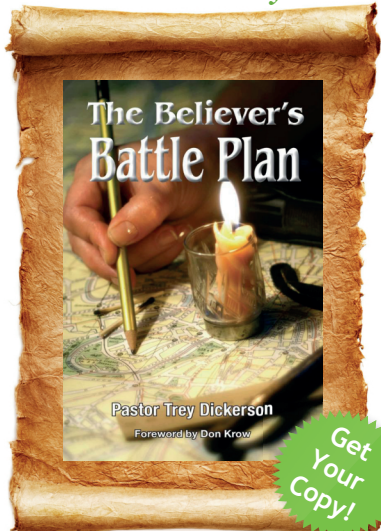
In **Luke 14:15-24**, Jesus used an example to describe how the Lord invites us to His table for a meal and all that were invited began to give excuse one by one as to why

they could not attend. This angered the Lord and compelled Him to begin inviting those who were less noble—the poor, the maimed, the lame, etc.



What is the lesson here? The Lord has prepared this table before us and has invited each of us to come partake, but we must accept the invitation—not having anything or anyone else be more important than attending His supper. So, just because the Lord has prepared a table does not automatically mean everyone invited will partake of it—

Check out Pastor Trey’s Book!



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A WORD FROM SHANNON

Years ago, I worked for a lady who mistreated me because I was a Christian. I even had department directors come to me

and ask why she treated me the way she did. It was very noticeable to others. I considered changing jobs but could not do it because I knew the Lord had placed me there for that season of my life. I sought Him diligently about how He would have me handle this situation. He told me very clearly that I was to submit

myself to her authority and do the job that He had called me to do and that He would deal with her. He also told me that unless I did that, I could not be promoted. I obeyed and saw not only my heart soften towards her but saw her heart soften as well.

Now I did eventually get a promotion, and as wonderful as that was, it couldn’t compare to the spiritual growth I experienced from simply obeying my Lord. Those who honor God, He will honor, and nobody can honor like our God can!

(“He Prepares a Table Before Me” continued)

not because God is holding back, but because those He invites generally don’t make showing up to that dinner a priority in their lives. Let’s change that! Let’s make eating at the Lord’s table a priority, church! **God is not looking for the able, but for the available.** He can and will enable us to do whatever He calls us to.

Just as it was said to the Church of Laodicea in **Revelation 3:20**, the Lord is standing at the door of our hearts knocking, desiring for us to open the door, invite Him in, and dine with Him. And this was written to a church, saints! So, evidently even born-again Christians are capable of not experiencing all that the Lord desires for them.

And what we see in **Psalm 23:5** is that all that God has for us does not just include eating at the Lord’s table; it includes eating *“in the presence of our enemies.”*

Now David was certainly a man who experienced this truth in his life, amen? The Lord honored him time and time again during his time in King Saul’s presence. Yes, even though Saul was driven by iniquity and constantly persecuted David, the Lord continued to bless David and delivered him from Saul’s hands.

This shows us that our God delights in defending us from our adversaries. But the key to experiencing this is found in doing the same honorable things that David did in the midst of his persecution. He continued to honor the king. He did not take things into his own hands. He let the Lord justify and deliver him. Even when he seemed to have every right, he did not touch the Lord’s anointed.

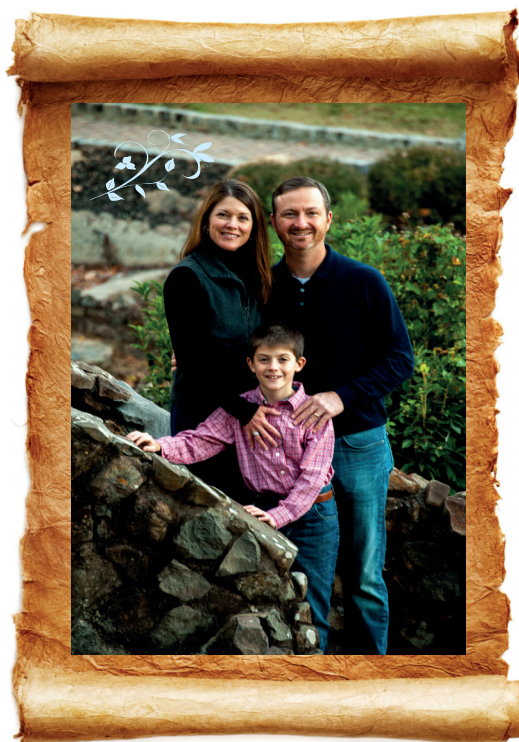
Now the truth is that we are all the Lord’s anointed now. Yes, if you are a part of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, you are an anointed king and priest. Therefore, even when one of your brothers and sisters in Christ (who are also loved by God as much as you are) do things that hurt you, you are to respond like David did, letting the Lord defend you. You and I are still to do good to them.

We are to pray for them. We are to bless them. Bless and do not curse, knowing this that you were called to inherit a blessing! (see **First Peter 3:9**)

But what so many Christians do is this: when their brother or sister does something to them, they fight back. They retaliate. They take matters into their own hands.

However, in doing so, we get up from the Lord’s table. And what we need to understand is—**even if we are successful at avenging ourselves, we are missing the meal.** Do you know how many of God’s children are missing out on the party at God’s table because they decided to let their enemies spoil their fun? And don’t you know that the devil plants people and circumstances in our paths to distract us from staying on the path with God?

Church, when people—even God’s anointed ones—irritate us, we don’t need to miss the meal God has prepared for us because of someone else. We cannot control how others act, but we can sure enough control how we react. Saints, **don’t leave the table for someone who decided not to come to the party!** Amen!



Victoriously,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Trey Dickerson'. To the right of the signature, the text '3John2' is written in a smaller font.



Living Logos Ministries is designed to equip and edify the Body of Christ through God’s Living Word and is supported by the faithfulness and generosity of its partners.

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