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## **“ The Lord is my Shepherd.... ”**

I know I probably say it every time but I'm so grateful to be able to share and contribute in some way. It's the best, it really is. A real blessing to be part of things.

Anyway, this was something that just encouraged and blessed me .... and it's about the riches of God's grace that He's poured out on us in Christ .... And how The Holy Spirit that He's given to each one of us, leads and shepherds us into all the truth, regarding this so great salvation. To the end that we benefit from all His goodness, through faith.

So there you go..., I've gone and given it all away .

But this was the scripture that blessed and encouraged me, that I thought would be worth sharing.

One of those times when the words just grab your attention..., it's from Isaiah..., Isaiah 58:11 NKJV

***“The LORD will guide you continually ... and satisfy your soul in drought ... and strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.”***

And the words there speak volumes when you stop and consider them ... but the key thing here, is The Lord's leading and guidance, ***“The LORD will guide you continually ...”*** and the rest, a consequence of walking where He leads.

It's a theme that's been kept uppermost in my thoughts for a while now ..., of The Holy Spirit within, who leads and guides us into all the truth, transforming our lives in every area through revelation of The Lord Jesus and His finished work. As it says..., ***“you shall be like a watered garden..., like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail”*** .

As young Christians we endeavour to walk worthy of The Lord and what have you and are very self occupied in that respect at first ... but in time realise that it's through faith in all He's done for us, that lasting change occurs.

We'll look at that verse in context later... but in essence, this is all about walking after the Spirit, about a life that's placed in The Lord's hands and willing to walk where He leads....and He leads us into all the truth.

And of course He leads us in the every day things of life too..., sometimes very practical things, that have a bearing on our health or relationships .

But above all it's through revelation of God's great love for us, which we see in the finished work of Christ ... and of our place now in Him by God's grace alone.

And this verse reflects this, saying. ***“The LORD will guide you continually ..... and satisfy your soul in drought ...”***. So irrespective of difficult circumstances, He's there for us and as it says there ***“will satisfy your soul in drought...”*** .

And then speaks of our body, (***“The Lord will....strengthen your bones”***)..... and our soul, (***“you shall be like a watered garden”***), and our spirit, ***“..like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.”***

And scripture makes the distinction here, that we'll be like a 'watered' garden. So the picture is one of being cared for and flourishing..., never lacking for water, which speaks of The Spirit, that He's poured out on us richly.

And of course, a garden at that time was a special place, usually enclosed, in a courtyard or something like that.

With fruit trees, fragrant plants and shrubs..., things pleasing to the eye..., that just gave pleasure to the owner.

Which for us, speaks of a life that's filled with the fruit of the Spirit and the beautiful fragrance of Jesus' character.

In Genesis 2, verses 8-10, we see this, where it records that God made the very first garden and it was all of these things, fruit trees, pleasant to the eyes ... and that all important factor that it was well supplied with water.

(Genesis 2:8-10)

In Jeremiah 31:12 you'll see another mention of a watered garden and again how it refers to the soul, a joyful heart.

***“Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, Streaming to the goodness of the LORD—***

( From the Concordance > Streaming means, just like a flowing stream that leaps and gurgles past stones as it makes it way along. )

***Streaming to the goodness of the LORD— For wheat and new wine and oil, (typifying God's Word and His Spirit) For the young of the flock and the herd; Their souls shall be like a well-watered garden, And they shall sorrow no more at all.”*** ( Jeremiah 31:12 NKJV ).(

2.

It's that lovely, Old Testament poetic way, of describing their joy and cheerfulness as they're returning home. *"Streaming to the goodness of the LORD..."* and that *"their souls shall be like a well watered garden"*, which again just doubles up on this picture of hearts that are at peace and just full of joy in The Lord.

Which is what The Lord wants for all of us.

To truly enjoy all His benefits and be completely free from all condemnation and fear. Which is what happens when we walk by faith in those things that The Holy Spirit has revealed to us, concerning this so great salvation.

Sometimes things are so deep rooted aren't they, that we're unaware of the reason for our fear or anxiety but always the answer is found in a deeper revelation of God's love for us and of how perfect Jesus' sacrifice was on our behalf.

Then there's the final portion of our verse, that refers to our spirit, *"like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail..."*, describing The Lord in us, like a fountain ..., we're one with him, scripture says. *"He that is joined to The Lord is one spirit..."*. (1 Corinthians 6:17)

And something interesting here, is that the word translated as 'fail'..., *"whose waters do not fail..."* which is quite right, because the picture there is of a constant flow, which is characteristic of a spring...; but that word 'fail'..., in Hebrew, actually means 'lie'..., *"whose waters do not lie"*. (*kazab, pronounced kazav*).

Which is quite something, isn't it? When The Holy Spirit..., that fountain within us, is known as the Spirit of truth.

*"...when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.*

*All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you."* (John 16:13-15)

And that's the heart of this study really, it's in those words, **"The LORD will guide you continually..."**.

In that everything that God our Father has planned, prepared and now freely given to us in Christ, we receive by faith..., which comes when The Holy Spirit opens God's Word to us, through the ministries and in our own personal walk.

And this is The Lord's promise isn't it, of life and life more abundant? That our body, soul and spirit, our whole being, should be enriched and blessed through faith in Him and all He's done for us.

And having believed, we'll see our lives flourish and become fruitful ...and we'll also become a blessing in this world, like an oasis in a desert place..., or as it says here...,

***"you shall be like a watered garden..., like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail"***.

And of course it's not about revelation in the sense of new doctrine or what have you. But rather it's things that we've heard perhaps many times before, isn't it? The Lord confirming and reaffirming these things to us..., building us up and establishing us in Christ.

Transforming our lives through a deeper personal revelation and appreciation of The Lord Jesus and all that He's done for us and of our place now in Him.

It's all for this one purpose isn't it? To see us rooted and grounded firmly in God's love and in His grace... and by faith to receive everything that's been freely given to us in Christ.

In a previous study we looked at where The Lord Jesus described the gift of The Holy Spirit, as a fountain within us, springing up unto everlasting life. You might remember ***'pege'***, which means a fountain or spring?

This was where The Lord was talking with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well and spoke of the living water that He would give, which would be a fountain (***pege***) within that person.

And He was referring to the gift of The Holy Spirit, that would be given to all who believe on Him.

And the thing is., when you think of a spring., apart from the most obvious and vital thing, that water is life giving ... and that The Lord is our life, we're one spirit now ...; Apart from that, a spring speaks of a constant flow that you can depend on. Unlike a cistern that gradually empties and then needs to be refilled, a spring speaks of freshness, of constant renewal..., of abundance. And it's that 'abundance' of supply that I was hoping to bring out there.

And Paul spoke of this ..., it was by way of encouragement and he said, *"... Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day."* (2 Corinthians 4:16 NKJV)

And in another place, that *"... we have this treasure in earthen vessels"*, (2 Corinthians 4:7).

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And for me..., 'abundance' is the word that kept coming to mind in that study and in this one too..., almost like it's being flagged. Not the actual word itself as such ... but the abundance in everything to do with this so great salvation. His love..., His Grace..., His beloved Son..., His Spirit..., our inheritance in Christ ..., all of it is way over and above.

When The Lord, spoke of himself as the Good Shepherd, He said...,

*"I am come that they may have life and life more abundantly"* and when you check out that phrase, '*more abundantly*'..., it's one word (*perissos*) and it means '*beyond measure*'. (John 10:11 NKJV)

The outpouring of God's Spirit and the rich blessing in Christ that He's given to us, is beyond measure.

And that's what I hope comes across ... because this is all about inheritance, blessing, provision., all of these things .... and it's all from our Father's heart..., that's been freely given ... and is received through faith.

And it's all through revelation of the Lord Jesus and His finished work. The Holy Spirit leading us into all the truth and ministering life to us.

***"The LORD will guide you continually ... and satisfy your soul in drought ... and strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail."***

You know, there's a lovely scripture in Titus 3:4-7, where it says,

*"But when the kindness and the love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life."* ( Titus 3:4-7 NKJV )

It's the Gospel message isn't it? With the emphasis, like a spotlight, on the love of God that's been revealed in Jesus and then on the abundance of grace that accompanies this. We're so richly blessed, it's staggering really.

But it's this word 'abundance'.... and it touches on something that's at the very heart of this 'so great salvation', which when you say it, sounds so obvious...but this is **all** about God's Grace.

With Grace being the expression of His great love for us.

With no one word able to truly define grace because it's just that..., the love of God that's poured out .

*"For if by the one man's offence death reigned through the one..., much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ".* ( Romans 5:17 NKJV )

We've got Paul, obviously moved by the Spirit to write what he did, using the phrase.... ,

*"the EXCEEDING RICHES OF HIS GRACE, IN HIS KINDNESS TOWARDS US IN CHRIST JESUS"* (Ephesians 2:7 NKJV) Almost tripping over himself in his attempt to find the words to express the abundance of God's Grace.

And he qualifies this at the start with...,

*"But God, who is rich in mercy, **because of His great love with which He loved us...**, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (**by grace you have been saved**)..., and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus..., that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.*

***For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,"*** ( Ephesians 2:4-8 NKJV )

That's what impressed me each time we visited the spring in that little village of Pyli, on Kos., the constant flow. The abundance of water.

I'm thinking in terms of The Holy Spirit within us as a fountain .... and honestly, that really was hard to get used to., those six large spouts just constantly pouring out water like that, 24/7.

And with The Lord there's no off valve either. His presence within., "*I'll never leave you or forsake you*" being His promise to us. (Hebrews 13:5)

Leading us into all the truth and building us up..., His love and provision, His kindness..., every moment .

With us, you know how it is, we can be up one day and down the next... but The Lord is always full on, always there for us. How much or how little I choose to take is my choice... but even then, the goodness of The Lord is relentless in His desire for us to

#### 4.

fully enter in to all that He's prepared for us, "surely goodness and mercy shall follow me (pursue me) all the days of my life." (Psalm 23:6)

But I love that scripture in Titus 3 that we looked at...., perhaps we could just read it again...., "But when the kindness and the love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life." ( Titus 3:4-7 NKJV )

And Paul said....,

"Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God..., that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God." ( 1 Corinthians 2:12 NKJV )

And Peter also spoke of this, when he felt moved to remind the church, that "... **ALL** things that pertain to life and godliness have been given to us" ..., along with "exceeding great and precious promises, that through these we may be partakers of the divine nature" .

And when you read this passage, it says that all these things, this abundance of grace, is given 'through the knowledge of Him...', so there it is again it's through revelation of Jesus, which includes all that He's done for us..., that faith is present and we get to own all that our Father has blessed us with.

"... as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue..., by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature..., having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

( 2 Peter 1:3-4 NKJV )

And our verse, "you shall be like a watered garden", is a poetic way of describing the divine nature. A life that's filled with the fruit of The Spirit, the beautiful fragrance of Jesus' character....., which is a consequence and nothing to do with effort on our part.

Clearly though, the important thing is to walk where He leads.... and of course we walk by faith, not by sight..., according to God's Word which we've believed, The Good News of our salvation.

"Receive with meekness the implanted word..", James says, "...which is able to save your souls."

Then goes on to say about walking by faith according to our new identity in Christ. (James 1:21-25 NKJV )

So from start to finish, it's all about 'beholding' the one who loved us and gave himself for us, that we might be saved and brought to glory.

"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so (in the same way) walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. (Colossians 2:6-7 NKJV )

I don't know if you ever listen to any 'Hillsong Worship' songs on YouTube...? I expect you do...but if not, have a listen, the songs are so uplifting and at the start of one called 'Behold', which is a great song, with great words, there's the line...., "Behold the Father's heart ..., the mystery He lavishes on us." and lavish is the word..., in that this "so great salvation" is all about the riches of God's love and Grace that's revealed in The Lord Jesus, that just keeps on giving. It's that word, 'abundance'.

Our old nature will always have this idea that we've got some good points that merit God's approval... but in our spirit, we know that this so great salvation is all about our Father's great love for us and His grace that's been poured out on us so richly.

The songwriter certainly had something from The Lord... because even the title, 'Behold', implies it's revelation that The Holy Spirit gives ... and how the Lord Jesus and all that He's done for us, reveals the Father's heart. It's a great song.

Anyway, when this verse in Isaiah 58 stood out, it just seemed to confirm what I believe is The Lord's desire, for us to appreciate just how richly blessed we are..., beyond measure.... and that "we have this treasure in earthen vessels", scripture tells us. (2 Corinthians 4:7)

Those 3 elements, His presence...His leading...and His provision of abundant grace., which is how Paul describes it, "For if by the one man's offence death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ." (Romans 5:17 NKJV )

5.

It's clear., that just like Paul said in another scripture..., we need our minds to be renewed. Our natural thinking of getting what we deserve, just falls flat in the face of God's great love and abundance of grace that's revealed in The Gospel message.

And our verse in Isaiah 58:11, is echoed in Psalm 23..., which again is all about His presence with us and how He leads and guides us and of abundant provision.... *"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not lack..."* .

Isaiah 58:11....., *"The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your soul in drought..."* . It's the same thing .

And the fact that it refers to *"drought"*, suggests that there will be difficult and challenging times, when it's hard going but that His love, His Spirit, His provision., is completely unaffected by circumstances. In fact, in our scripture from Isaiah, it actually makes that point., saying, that He will *'satisfy'* our soul in drought. So nothing meagre or mean about this....and that even in the most difficult of times He's there, a very present help in time of need.

Which also we see here in Psalm 23, in that it says, *"You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies"*.

And even in circumstances that are clearly intimidating, *"through the valley of the shadow of death"...*, the thing is, that He's there with us and leading still, *"... I will fear no evil for you are with me...your rod and staff they comfort me"*.

And of course the key word there is *'through'*, not *'remain'*.

And always He enlarges us through these things and brings us out into a good place.

But psalm 23 is full of the same isn't it? Of The Lord's presence and leading and the consequence of this. It's so marked.

*"The Lord is my shepherd., I shall not lack.*

*"He makes me lie down in green pastures..."* (there's abundance right there isn't it? Rich pasture. And I think there's something more there, in that we get to eat good stuff from God's Word, rich nourishing Word that builds us up. )

*"He leads me beside still waters..., He restores my soul."*

*"He Leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake"*.

Right the way through, this theme of being guided and shepherded, just like our verse in Isaiah..., *"The Lord will guide you continually..."* . That same image of being led by The Lord and the rich blessing of God that accompanies this.

And the paths of righteousness that's spoken of here in psalm 23..., if you check out the word *'paths'*, they're well trodden, established tracks, which for us speaks of the Gospel, The finished work of Christ that we are called to believe and to walk in.

Not weird or flaky stuff ..., or that lethal mixture of grace and works .... but like Paul said, in his final meeting with the elders of the Church of Ephesus...,

*"So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified."* ( Acts 20:32 NKJV. )

It's the Gospel message that reveals the love of God in Jesus and all He's done for us, isn't it ?

Whether it's in the types and shadows of the Old Testament with the lamb sin offering, when God's plan of salvation was there ...but hidden. Or in the New Testament where it's revealed..., The Good News of our salvation through faith in Jesus.

The Holy Spirit opening God's word to us and constantly reaffirming the certainty of our salvation and promise of eternal life.

And thinking of these *'paths of righteousness'* that He leads us in..., it's God's righteousness, isn't it ? That's gifted to us through faith in Jesus our Saviour.

In Paul's letter to the Romans, speaking of the Gospel., he said, *" for therein, is the righteousness of God being revealed, from faith to faith"*.

Nothing that we've done, other than to say *"Thank you Father"*

*" But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe."* ( Romans 3:21 NKJV )

We looked at this earlier in Titus 3:4-7,

*"But when the kindness and the love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us.... .*

There's a verse in Isaiah, that refers to this, which says...,

*"The work of righteousness will be peace..."* (referring to The Lord's finished work on the cross in obedience to The Father)

6.

*"...and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever". (we benefit, having believed on Him). ( Isaiah 32:17 )*

The New Testament equivalent to this verse I suppose, would be in Romans 5..., where Paul says,

*"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...., through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God". ( Romans 5:1-2 NKJV )*

The cross changed everything.

*"For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." ( Romans 5:10 NKJV ).*

And from day one, we're encouraged to *"desire the sincere milk of The Word that you may grow thereby"...* and thereafter The Holy Spirit continues to establish us in God's love and the finished work of Christ.

An ever increasing revelation of this 'so great salvation'..., *"from faith to faith",* scripture says.

In the Greek it's, *"ek pistis, eis pistis"....*, literally, *"out from faith, unto faith"*. (pistis = faith[noun]...from peitho [the verb] ).

Which describes perfectly the act of walking and the placement of our feet as we walk.... and of course we walk by faith, not by sight .

( In the Greek text there are slight grammar changes but that's what it means and it comes from, *"ek pistis, eis pistis"*. )

Obviously, not in the sense that we then forget, or leave behind those things we've learnt and been assured of..., in fact quite the opposite... but in the sense of, *"every place that the sole of your feet shall tread upon, I have given to you"* (Joshua 1:3).

It's in those well trodden paths of Righteousness that The Lord leads, which will cause our lives to really flourish. *"...will strengthen your bones..., you shall be like a watered garden..., like a spring of water, whose waters fail not"*.

The Holy Spirit constantly affirming and reminding us often..., in fact all the time really..., just how complete and perfect Jesus' sacrifice was.... , reconciled through His blood and placed in Christ ...greatly loved.. and to walk in this.

It's totally The Lord's lovingkindness and faithfulness that sees to it that we're placed and established on the solid rock of His Word, that unshakeable foundation.

And at the end of Paul's life, if you remember he gave Timothy this instruction, this charge..., saying...,

*"Preach the word; be instant in season..., out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth and shall be turned unto fables."*

( 2 Timothy 4:2-4 KJV )

So obviously those well worn paths of righteousness of the Gospel, are the paths that The Holy Spirit leads us in. No new doctrines or what have you ... but always pointing us to Jesus and that our identity is wrapped up in Him.

*"But we all..."*, Paul said, *"...with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord"*. ( 2 Corinthians 3:18 NKJV ).

And of course in a mirror we see our own image, who we are in Him, by God's grace. It just doesn't yet appear what we shall be, John said ... but when He appears we'll be like Him. ( 1 John 3:2NKJV ) ( 1 John 4:17 NKJV )

You know, I was thinking that there's so many lessons we learn on the way, as we come to fully trust The Lord. And for me..., the greatest and most important, has been to understand that the one true measure of my Father's love for me and for each one of us, is the cross of Jesus.

This Word that we've received, that tells of The Father's deep love for The Son, The Beloved..., which in turn then reveals just how much He loves us..., in that He gave His beloved Son to become a curse on our behalf, that we might be saved.

How in the light of this, whatever the circumstance or situation, I can know of a certainty, that His love is not just constant but intense if that's the right word. Greatly loved. Like Jesus said of Himself, that we too, are in the bosom of The Father, in His heart, loved and cherished.

Perhaps we could finish off with one more look at our verse from Isaiah... and also maybe read it in context. It's a wonderful promise....,

*"The LORD will guide you continually ... and satisfy your soul in drought ... and strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail."* (Isaiah 58:11 NKJV)

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So if we look at it now in context... and like everything else in the Old Testament, we just need to read it now through the lens of The New Covenant... to rightly divide the word and differentiate between the two Covenants.... but obviously the principles and types are all there for our benefit and growth.

And here we see our Father's heart and desire to reach out to folks....and in essence this is about walking after the Spirit, a life that's placed into The Lord's hands and willing to walk where He leads..., which He likens to a true fast, His idea of what a fast is all about.

So if we read from Isaiah 58 verse 5 and read through to verse 14,

*(Isaiah 58:5-14 NKJV )*

*"Is it a fast that I have chosen, A day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, And to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast, And an acceptable day to the LORD?*

*6 "Is this not the fast that I have chosen:*

*To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh?*

*8 Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, And your righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.'*

*"If you take away the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, If you extend your soul to the hungry And satisfy the afflicted soul, Then your light shall dawn in the darkness, And your darkness shall be as the noonday.*

***11 The LORD will guide you continually, And satisfy your soul in drought, And strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.***

*Those from among you shall build the old waste places; You shall raise up the foundations of many generations; And you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Streets to Dwell In.*

*13 "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the LORD honourable, And shall honour Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words..., Then you shall delight yourself in the LORD; And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the LORD has spoken."*

It really is a wonderful promise ..., and if you rightly divide the word and are able to see past the Old Covenant of works..., you can see there The Lord's heart for people ... and that having been so blessed.... He will use us to be a blessing as well, if we're willing.

***"You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail".***

And in verse 13 here, where it speaks of the Sabbath..., again this speaks of God's rest, doesn't it?

Having obtained eternal salvation for us through His blood, He sat down at The Father's right hand .... and having believed on Him..., God has placed us in Christ, we're seated with Him. And everything we do stems from that position of rest doesn't it?

Do you remember that old chorus, *"I am a new creation, no more in condemnation, here in the grace of God I stand, His love is overflowing, His love just keeps on growing, here in the grace of God I stand.*

*And I will praise you Lord, yes I will praise you Lord and I will sing of **all that YOU have done,***

*A love that knows no limit, a lightness in my Spirit, Here in the grace of God I stand."*

That must be over 40 years old and more ..., I might not have it exact ... but it's the truth isn't it? And as fresh now as it ever was. But it gives glory and honour to The Lord.

Anyway that's it..., I think I'll stop there .....,

***" The LORD will guide you continually..., and satisfy your soul in drought..., And strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden..., And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail."***

8.

As always, thanks so much for being able to share and contribute..., I really do see the Lord's lovingkindness in that. Anyway, love to you all ..., bye for now .