

The Messianic Trilogy

Scripture	Picture	Ministry	Symbol
Psalm 22			Cross
Psalm 23			Crook
Psalm 24	Sovereign	Reigning	Crown

The Gracious Sacrifice became the Good Shepherd who becomes the Glorious Sovereign

"There is an admirable conjunction of diverse excellencies in Jesus Christ. Meeting together in Jesus Christ are infinite highness and infinite condescension, infinite justice and infinite grace, infinite glory and lowest humility, infinite majesty and transcendent meekness, infinite worthiness of good and the greatest patience under the sufferings of evil, absolute sovereignty and perfect resignation, self-sufficiency and an entire trust and reliance on God."

"At the end of this valley was another, called the Valley of the Shadow of Death, and Christian needs to go through it, because the way to the Celestial City lay through the midst of it. Now, this valley is a very solitary place. There was on the right hand a very deep ditch; that ditch is the ditch into which the blind have led the blind in all ages, and have...miserably perished. Again, behold, on the left hand, there was a very dangerous mire, into which, if even a good man falls, he can find no bottom for his foot to stand on.

The pathway here was exceedingly narrow, and therefore good Christian was [struggling in it]; for when he sought, in the dark, to shun the ditch on the one hand, he was ready to tip over into the mire on the other; also when he sought to escape the mire, without great carefulness he would be ready to fall into the ditch. Thus he went on, and I heard him here sigh bitterly; for, besides the dangers mentioned above, the pathway was here so dark, and oftentimes, when he lifted up his foot to set forward, he did not know where he should set it next.

When Christian had traveled in this disconsolate condition some considerable time, he thought he heard the voice of a man, as going before him, saying, "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me." And by and by the day broke; then Christian said, He has turned "the shadow of death into the morning".

Now when morning had come, he looked back, not out of desire to return, but to see, by the light of the day, what hazards he had gone through in the dark. So he saw more perfectly the ditch that was on the one hand, and the mire that was on the other; also how narrow the way was which led between them both; but now all were afar off."

--John Bunyan, The Pilgrim's Progress

"When other comforts had failed, and fame had fled, he clung still to his Bible, and made the Psalms his constant companions. The end was near...it was evident that his life was rapidly passing away. His mind began to wander.

Those who watched at his bedside could not understand the broken utterances spoken in an unknown tongue by his faltering voice. But at last it was found that he was repeating to himself in Hebrew, Psalm xxiii., 'The Lord is my Shepherd.' 'Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.' The last articulate words that fell from his lips were, 'If I die, I die unto the Lord, Amen.' And with these he passed away at midnight on December 7th, 1834."

--Rowland E. Prothero on the death of

Edward Irving