



SEXUAL LIES & SOULISH TIES

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A PSALM OF DAVID

23 The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

³ He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

For His name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

For You *are* with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil;

My cup runs over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

All the days of my life;

And I will dwell^[a] in the house of the

LORD

Forever.

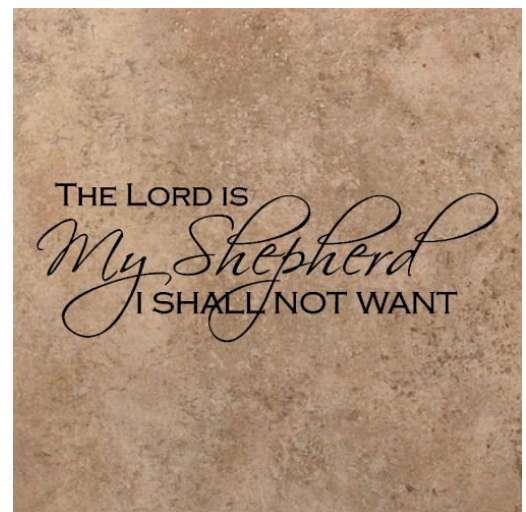
THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

The Lord needs to be our "go-to person" when our libido is getting the best of us. He needs to be the ONE we have the X-RATED conversation with, after all, He already knows how we feel and what we're going through and may I add; He knows better than we do! He knows how great the temptation is to yield. He will in a gentle, caring and nonjudgmental way, help us get through to a "safe place."

I SHALL NOT WANT

Our flesh longs for deep satisfaction and pleasure. Some people have an ability to control fleshly desires while others are too hungry and too thirsty, and it's obvious. Our Lord tells us in Matthew 5:6: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.

No magic wand makes people hunger and thirst for righteousness. So, how should we pray? Well, we should pray for the Holy Spirit to help us to want to hunger and thirst for righteousness; the Holy Spirit will respond gladly to an invitation to prime the pump on desiring to hunger and thirst for the Lord; He alone can do it. Jesus said in John 6:35, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst."



HE MAKES ME TO LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES

Sometimes we have to be instructed to do what is best for us when we do not know what is best for ourselves. We may have quiet and rest imposed on us. If we can surrender to stillness and quietness, even for a moment; there is a guaranteed refreshing that will anchor us in the Lord. The Word gives us this scriptural insight in the following passage **Mark 8:6**: So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. And He took the seven loaves and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and they set them before the multitude.

Jesus knew it was best to assemble the people in some semblance of order. By default, due to circumstances, they had been fasting for three days without food. During that time, Jesus fed them spiritually. Next, He blessed them with food for their physical bodies; more than they could have dreamed! Imagine how refreshed they were as they headed for home after being given sustenance for both their bodies and souls.



It is necessary for our souls to be stilled and quiet especially when we're in a state of vulnerability. The soul will always fight to have its way unless we make it behave and submit to the direction of the spirit of the Lord.

HE LEADS ME BESIDE THE STILL WATERS

Sheep are skittish, and a skilled shepherd knows it is dangerous to have sheep too close to loud and tumultuous waters. A wise shepherd leads his sheep near quiet streams of waters; this is where sheep can drink in peace.

We, too, cannot afford to put ourselves in situations that are too tumultuous for our flesh. Running hot then cold, on a euphoric mountaintop at high noon and a few hours later we are wallowing in the valley of despair.

HE LEADS ME BESIDE THE STILL WATERS ...

We are on today and off tomorrow; our flesh screams, ENOUGH!! We set ourselves up for instant failure when we walk into situations knowing we see flashing lights and warning signs. Sometimes the lure of the outside is greater than the power level of God on our inside. This is where the enemy will attempt to strike if he knows there may be a momentary window, in which the deck is stacked in his favor!

Don't think for one minute his low-life, no-good; worthless tail won't seize the moment to look us square in the face and holla' TRICK! We can't afford to kid ourselves. Each of us knows how much of the power of God is resident in our spirit man We are aware if we are weak. We are aware if we are strong "...strong in the Lord and the power of His might." **(Ephesians 6:10)**. There is nothing wrong with us doing our 'spiritual litmus test' so God can locate us!

Sometimes we have to be instructed to do what is best for us when we do not know what is best for ourselves.

HE RESTORES MY SOUL

The Bible clearly states that the God we serve today is the same God that was around yesterday. He will be around forever. I believe in looking at the entire Bible; it is all the Word of God. Everyone is in a tizzy over some "supposed shortage" of male prospects as mates. Well, "...there is nothing new under the sun."

(Eccl 1:9). Let's look at what He says in **Isaiah 4:1**:

And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, "We will eat our own food and wear our own apparel; Only let us be called by your name, To take away our reproach."

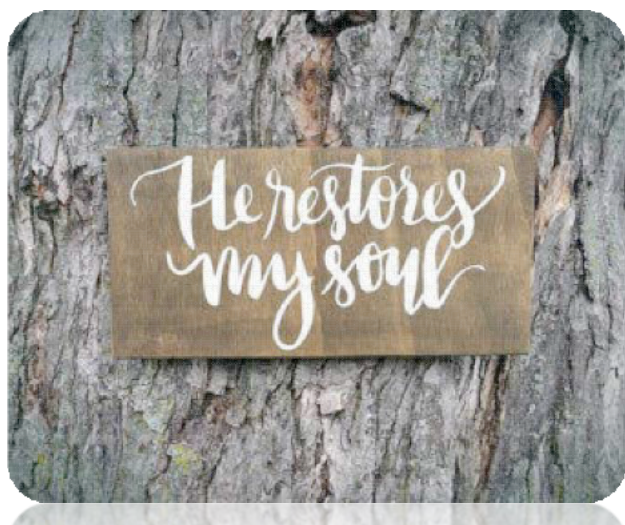
Well, La – de – da...there is no guessing game of how our souls get so entangled and crazy. First of all, let me say this, WE ARE NOT LOOKING FOR SOUL MATES. Let me say it one more time; WE ARE NOT LOOKING FOR SOUL MATES. Do we not understand how dangerous it is to tie our souls to anyone on planet earth? Who hatched this craziness? **Isaiah 4:1** clearly lets us know that the 'share – the – man – plan' has been around for eons, long after God told Moses to bring it to an end.

Moses did not do as he was told and it resulted in a severe plague of destruction to King David and his son Solomon many generations later.

HE RESTORES MY SOUL...

Let's take a look at this dynamic, hypothetically. If Sam is hanging out with Sue for six months and they are having the time of their lives and, they are supposedly a couple by all accounts of their families and friends, but no commitment is made, then what is next? I mean really, what is next? Is Sue okay with this arrangement? She is indefinitely hanging out in a limbo relationship with Sam and doesn't know the how's, what's, where's and whys. Let's say that Sam and Sue have finally given in to the pressure and have sex. The sexual act has happened and now they have tied their souls together and formed a 'soul-tie.'

Now, the God, who is the same, yesterday, today and forever, has a rule about this...a God-concept, if you will.



The Bible says, in **Matt 19:5**:

"For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh' 6 So then, they are no longer two but one flesh..." (NKJV)

We also read in **1 Corinthians 6:16**: " Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." (NKJV)

So we see that sexual intercourse within the marriage covenant, makes you one flesh; according to **Matthew 19:5** and sexual intercourse outside of a marriage covenant, still makes you one...the two are now one, (1), regardless of the circumstances; you become hard-wired, in the realm of the spirit, as one...period. Please let this concept of "1" sink in, even if you "don't love her," even if you "don't feel she turns you on," even if you "can't see yourself spending the rest of your life with her." Each and every time any man or woman has sexual intercourse with anyone, it results in them making themselves one with that person. Imagine the life of "call girls" or gigolos or pimps.

OK, so let us get back to our hypothetical scenario. Sam and Sue have formed a soul-tie and now six months down the road, Sam's boss promotes him to a new position and transfers him from the Midwest out to California. Sam has waited a long time for this big promotion.

HE RESTORES MY SOUL...

Well, he has no plans to ask Sue to marry him, not with all the visions of L.A. divas dancing around in his head. At least not now, anyway. One day. Maybe. So off and running, Sam heads for California and, he meets a new woman, no sooner than he exits the airplane; he meets Sally in baggage claim. Within a couple of weeks, he and Sally have socially, emotionally, psychologically become so bonkers over one another, they decide to have sex with one another.

Unbeknownst to Sam, however, is the fact that Sally had just broken off with Zach two months prior. So how many folks went to bed with Sally and Sam? Four if these were the first time encounters for all parties involved. Now, mind you, if each of them had been with at least 'one' other person before Sally and Sam had their encounter, then Sally and Sam were in bed with at least eight people. Notwithstanding that in a real scenario, no one can honestly account for how many persons someone has been with before they get to them.

Each conjugal act allows souls to be deposited as well as sexual fluids. No wonder many Christians are loopy, daffy, schizoid and everything crazy...they have too many people inside of them. Pieces of their souls are all over the city, state and, nation. Why?

When a male sleeps with multiple women and has not made a covenant promise or became delivered; he has shredded a piece of her soul and has taken it with him. Wherever he goes...EVERY SINGLE ENCOUNTER! How is that?

The Bible says in **Deuteronomy 21:10 – 14**: Female Captives "When you go out to war against your enemies, and the Lord your God delivers them into your hand, and you take them captive, 11 and you see among the captives a beautiful woman, and desire her and would take her for your wife, 12 then you shall bring her home to your house, and she shall shave her head and trim her nails. 13 She shall put off the clothes of her captivity, remain in your house, and mourn her father and her mother a full month; after that you may go into her and be her husband, and she shall be your wife. 14 And it shall be, if you have no delight in her, then you shall set her free, but you certainly shall not sell her for money; you shall not treat her brutally because you have humbled her.

Do we see what happens? In verse 14 it says she has been humbled and this process this woman has been through relegates her to ultimately ending up on some male's discard heap until her much needed deliverance comes along. This wicked cycle has gone on for far too long, and millions of young girls and women fall prey to it and are victims every day around the world. Lord have mercy!

HE RESTORES MY SOUL...

With every sexual encounter, she is humbled, with no covenant, she is constantly being shredded and reduced. After years and years of these encounters, with no man asking for her hand in marriage, what is the mental and emotional state of these women at the end of the day?

What does the woman need next? She needs the Lord, and only The Lord to come along and restore the shredded parts of her soul. When one shares oneself sexually, the shredded parts of one's soul wanders away. Remember I said, we are not looking for a 'soul-mate?' Do you see the danger? The ONLY person who can go to infinite regions, crags, valleys and holes in this world and bring those shredded pieces of your soul back to you is THE LORD! Glory to God! The Lord is and will be the only one who can call the four winds of the Holy Spirit to gather the fragmented parts of your soul and command that they are re-deposited back inside of you! Oh, we need to shout and give God praise! You talk about getting' me back at 100! He can do it!

When I started this discourse on "the restoring of the soul," we can note that I started with **Isaiah 4:1**. This passage puts the weight of decision in turning the corner on a relationship in the man's court. I realize we women, with our feminine wiles, can influence men greatly when it comes to the affairs of the heart.

Do the math with me; most of the time if there is going to be a 'ring on it,' however, that call comes from the man. Why else would there be a prophecy from Isaiah that long ago about a 7 to 1 ratio of females to males making a decision to settle for mere crumbs if it were not going to happen on planet earth...Oh, we are here, baby! We are here, and it is time for every female to wake up. We cannot just settle for continually being humbled...we are far more valuable than this. Do you notice there is no mention of the male being humbled in these male/female encounters...no, the woman is the one that gets REDUCED! Let us awaken from our sleep and allow the Lord to restore our humbled and shredded souls!

For clarity, let me say, I believe the only time a man and a woman's soul should be tied is when there is a commitment to move toward covenant, which I believe is ultimately marriage to one another. During Old Testament times and even up until the turn of the 20th century in our nation, when a man asked for a woman's hand in marriage, engagement; that was the TRUE beginning of betrothal. A man could be killed by a young woman's father, for playing around with his daughter's heart and soul, it is called "breach of promise." It is a law that is still on the books 'til this day!

HE RESTORES MY SOUL...

Yes, a man and woman moving toward marriage should posture their souls to tie together into a unity that is God – ordained. The tying of souls was never meant to be some casual emotional high that would overwhelm our souls, all that carrying on is of the flesh; in which dwells no good thing. We are getting the cart in front of the horse when we do that. We, as Christians, should test and try everything and everyone in the spirit. **1 John 4:1 says:** "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." (NKJV)

The enemy knows our appetites. He will bring the false and fake to our doorsteps and camouflage it very well. Only we can run the litmus test to assess and try everything in the spirit. We are called to walk and function in the spirit and not in the deception of our souls. If we cannot run our litmus test due to a place of immaturity in our walk with the Lord, then it is up to us to go to those spiritual mothers and fathers in our lives, who can sniff out a demon in sheep's clothing 50 miles away. This is how we stay accountable and protect ourselves. This is not a time to deal with some stupid notion of not having "someone in our mix."

That is another lie from the pit of hell that ole' hooves and horns hatched to keep the family of God; especially babes in the Lord, from getting the much-needed oversight and protection that is available for the asking. Let us awaken and be wise and live.

Some of you are probably thinking, Okay; I hear what you are saying, but these are Old Testament scriptures you have referenced in this discussion of the restoration of the soul. We can take a look at a New Testament passage that sums it up well for this time and season we are living in today.

We read in **2 Timothy 3:1 – 7:**

This know also, that in the last days, perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despiser of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, high minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. (KJV)

I used the KJV of the Bible for this passage because the KJV refers to the women as 'silly' in verse six...and there is no better way to say it...silly. We can look no further than the nightly news, the front page of the newspapers in almost any and every city to see this passage of scripture in Timothy is running amuck all over the world.

HE RESTORES MY SOUL...

We see what time it is. Again, pay attention to what you do and who you are around...we act as if we are blind, deaf and dumb when it comes to some of the nonsense we tolerate. Let us also not forget, this entire litany of persons referred to in 2 Timothy are also in need of salvation. We have to know that if we are with them and around them, it is for the purpose of the light in us to so shine that they will see the good works in us shining forth and may then ask, "What must I do to be saved?"

YEA THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH

Many of us may know this tidbit of information about this verse in Psalm 23. When David penned this Psalm, he was making a reference to an actual place that existed in the region in which he lived. It was called, "The Valley of the Shadow of Death."

It was a narrow passage of territory that went down through a treacherous and mountainous region that was so black and dark; it was impossible to see one's hand in front of one's face while traveling through the passage.

The shepherds had to be exact in every step they took. They were mindful of their frightful sheep in tow. Moving too far over by just a few feet in the wrong direction could mean the death of hundreds of sheep.

Remember, the shepherds could not see in the darkness. Shepherds would train in their youth to learn this passage by heart, so whenever they made the journey, they were hopeful that they and their sheep would make it all the way through the wicked valley. The sheep knew the scent of their flock, and the lead sheep knew the scent of the shepherd. The shepherd and the sheep knew how to play 'follow the leader' well.

We read in **1 Corinthians 11:1** "Be ye, followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." (NKJV).

This was Paul's desire for the disciples of Christ. Paul led as an example. With some of the sexual depravity that many of us have to get loosed from, it will require going into some of the deepest and darkest places of our lives; it may require the darkest time frame ever. Whatever it is, there is one thing we can be sure of; when we start out in the darkness of this moment, if we will keep our eyes on the Lord and follow Him step by step; He will surely get us all the way through to the other side. Remember the Shepherd has his rod and staff to comfort and protect us.

YEA THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH...

When we make up our minds to get beyond these weaknesses; we better know most assuredly, that the enemy's plan will be to unload his arsenal on us, in hopes of our destruction before our deliverance...but God! If ever the cliché statement of "GOD'S GOT ME" was applicable, it would be right here in this moment. Without Him to take us through this valley...we would be toast! It would be a wrap! We only have our faith to know that where He leads, if we follow, without turning to the right hand or the left, then we will surely say, even in the midst of it, "It is well with my soul."

GOD'S GOT ME !

YOU ANOINT MY HEAD WITH OIL

There is a yoke-breaking and yoke – destroying anointing that we will be revealed in due season. Many times, some of us just "feel bad" about sexual compromise, especially if we get caught. Sometimes, as soon as a new and fresh encounter comes along, we are ready to "give this one a try," and develop a quick case of amnesia. Some of us can end up on this merry-go-round for years with no real relief or spiritual freedom. The Lord says in **Jeremiah 29:13**
And ye shall seek me, and find me when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

The Lord knows when we are seriously done with something or if we are just fooling around and afraid to turn the reigns of power and authority over to Him. When the Lord anoints our heads with this oil, believe me; it is an anointing our family, our friends, our coworkers, our enemies, our frenemies and every single demon from hell, on assignment to us, will see and know; this one is REAL!

This is the anointing that breaks the stronghold of the enemy off of our lives and destroys the power he has held over us and the evil he has done to us, AS well as, an anointing that blesses us with blessings and favor!

YOU ANOINT MY HEAD WITH OIL...

These are the big guns the Lord has pulled out, and He is ready to make us in every way whole! This is that great manifestation of Matthew 6:33:
But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
All that our hearts desire, every need that is yet to be met...Our God has it all, just a prayer away!

MY NOTES

ABOUT PASTOR BARBARA ERKINS



Barbra Erkins, author of *By Any Other Name It's Still Sex* is currently working on her second book and is Apostle of Key of Life Ministries (formerly The Eagles' Vision Christian Center). An avid student of the Word, she attended Southwest Vision College where she obtained a Theology Degree. She has also been trained in chaplaincy through the Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

Pastor B, as she is affectionately called, has studied and taught the Word for many years and was ordained into the Ministry in 1992. She is a dynamic, passionate and often humorous teacher imparting truth and revelation to the Body of Christ. Pastor Barbara has traveled nationally and internationally sharing the Word of God to everyone she meets. Well versed in scripture, she has ministered in small intimate church groups and mega-ministries such as Apostle Fred & Dr. Betty Price's ministry, the Crenshaw Christian Center in Los Angeles, California. Pastor B is comfortable whether she is speaking with five or five thousand when it comes to her speaking about her Father in heaven!

One of her greatest desires is to see those in the Body of Christ grow up in Him as they go from glory to glory. Pastor Barbara ministers freedom and hope to singles and those called to be Eagles (which is every believer) to soar in the high places! She trains and equips the Body of Christ to become activated and flow in the prophetic gifting that God has called for in the church. She firmly believes that we are people called to change our generation. Pastor Barbra is the mother of one son Justin, a daughter-in-law, Aubrei and one daughter, Jessica. She is also the grandmother of five wonderful grandchildren.

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