

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

You prepare a table

The Hebrew here is Shulchan a _____-table.

You Prepare

The shepherd prepares the table for the sheep

A shepherd would make scouting expeditions before the sheep ever get to the mesas, to see how the grass is growing, and which mesas will be _____ for grazing and would also check to see if there were clusters of _____ plants

God prepares the table for us

So how has God prepared our Pasture for us? As he lets Jeremiah know in 1:12 12 Then the Lord said to me, **“You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it.”** God makes sure that everything that He says will happen _____ as God has said it would.

The words of the Lord are pure words, Like silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times. (Psalm 12:6). As Proverbs 30:5 tells us **5 Every word of God is tested; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him.** And this is why we study God’s Word, and look at it carefully, _____ of it is _____. As it says in Psalm 119:160 **The sum of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.** God has carefully prepared His Word so that it is good _____ for the sheep—perfect pasture, without anything harmful to the sheep.

Mesas are good grazing ground because, being _____, the shepherd could easily _____ all of his sheep.

Jesus desires that we walk _____ to him. When the predator comes, when there is a day of adversity, it is always the _____ sheep, the ones who like to _____, the ones who like to _____ and _____ who are _____ by _____ and have their faith _____. That is _____ what God wants for us. So, get _____ to the Lord, and stay close to His _____. Stick _____ little flock.

Like the shepherd, God prepares our _____ before us. Psalm 37:23 says **23 The steps of a man are established by the Lord, And He delights in his way.24 When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong, Because the Lord is the One who holds his hand.**

A table before me

The Israelites had challenged God. 18 As it tells us in Psalm 78 vs 18-19 **And in their heart they put God to the test By asking food according to their desire. 19 Then they spoke against God; They said, “Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?”** And God showed them that He could prepare a table in the wilderness—the table of _____ in the tabernacle; the Table of the _____ of God. Placed, inside the Holy place, on the North side, just outside the Holy of Holies (Exodus 26:35), poles were attached so the table could be carried without touching it directly (Exodus 25vv. 25–28) to protect the priests.

In having such a table in the tabernacle, the Lord was demonstrating that the Israelites were to regard the tabernacle as _____ house.

God gave this _____ back to "Aaron and his sons" who ate it in His holy presence. Eating of the bread of the Presence in God's house signified the Lord was at peace with His people. We the priesthood of the New Covenant. 1 Peter 2:9 says **But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;** Just how was the table of God's _____, the table of _____ spread out before us under the New Covenant?

It was at the _____. At the cross was where Jesus made an eternal _____ between the God the Father and His people, so we may dine in His presence, which is what occurs during communion, when we partake of the Lord's Supper at His table. What do we look to when we are taking communion? (1 Cor 11:23-28)

We look to the _____, the shedding of His _____ for us and the breaking of His _____ for us. We remember the _____ that was paid in order to purchase this peace, this fellowship which we get to have with God.

In the presence of my enemies

Now when you're in the presence of your _____, sitting down to a nice meal is not generally what you have in mind. You don't feel hungry and food doesn't sound good. But King David here is talking about a _____ in the midst of his enemies. David is calm among his enemies because he trusts in the Lord. Psalm 27 verses 1-4 says **The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread? 2 When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell. 3 Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In spite of this I shall be confident.**

Remember Who's table you sit at. The Lord of Hosts is our _____ and _____. And the picture here is that all of those others, the ones who choose to be the enemies of the Lord can only look on in _____ and _____. They could partake; salvation is _____ to anyone;

Romans 5:8 **But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.** John 3:16 **"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."**

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Romans 10:9-10 ⁹that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.