

GOODNESS & MERCY

Psa.
23:6

MY DIVINE COMPANION
With Prayer Points & Bible Helps

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***"Surely Goodness and
Mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the
house of the Lord
Forever."
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MY DECLARATION

As I step into another day, week, months and year, I declare to my father as follows:

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

So be it, AMEN!

INTRODUCTION

This document should serve as a post code, pointing toward basic expectations and the enabling grace to be guided, supported and empowered by two important companions provided by the Lord; GOODNESS and MERCY.

Having a divine companion sounds like a powerful source of unconditional support and guidance which offers confidence with love, providing guidance in uncertainty, through life's complexities, with the assurances of comfort in trials, peace in difficulties as well as transformative abilities to grow and become who we deserve to be.

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

Psa. 1:1-3

There's a divine force of attraction capable of changing negative tendencies and situations for positive expectations, thereby impacting divine transformation to empower and manifest potentials.

Every bad dream, dashed hopes, unmet goals and recurrent frustrations shall be suspended. But the Lord shall manifest in us the power to become victorious, overcomers, blessings and much more.

"The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:

The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:

The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace."

Num. 6:24-26

UNDERSTANDING GOD'S GOODNESS AND MERCY

This year, the Lord shall open our eyes towards Goodness and lead our feet to places of Mercy.

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

Psa. 91:1-2

Jesus shall raise our hands to conquer and achieve His Goodness and help us attract His Mercies in all our endeavors wherever we exist. He will raise the bar and help us

manifest His Goodness and Mercies despite all odds.

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

GOODNESS here implies God's persistent kindness, divine favor and enduring presence made active and programmed to follow, pursue and overwhelm the children of God. It is capable of confronting, overcoming and overturning any form of bad luck, bad dreams and frustrations orchestrated against the people of God.

"No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every

tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD."

Isa. 54:17.

This reaffirms God's character and nature to bless and show kindness to those who are ready to trust and follow Him through His eternal focus linked to His enduring hope.

MERCY here points to God's ever faithful love toward His people, coupled with compassion, enduring kindness and persistent care that manifests in His relationship with mankind. Mercy is God's character describing His nature that endears

Him to mankind, irrespective of culture, beliefs and status.

"O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;"

Psa. 107:1-2

"O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy endureth for ever." Psa. 136:1,4.

THE NATURE OF GOD'S GOODNESS AND MERCY

There are awesome qualities of God's goodness and mercy, a believer must be intentional in actions to achieve them.

A clear understanding of these awesome realities guarantees boldness before the Lord and guides our paths as we toil and labor in our fields of life.

1. God's Goodness and Mercy has no Biased

God's goodness and mercy does not reject people, it gives no preference to skin color, race or tribe. The principles that guide these natural

forces are neither sentimental nor tribal. Every child of God must understand and trust God for these awesome attributes. These two companions, goodness and mercy are divine qualities available for all of mankind to demonstrate God's loving kindness and enduring compassion in life. They that trust in His divine order will always find comfort in His provisions both in the Church and in the world.

"He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as

eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Isa. 40:29-31

2. God's Goodness and Mercy are always available.

God's goodness and mercy are not limited by time or circumstances, they are constantly available and accessible. They are like an open door-available whenever you turn to Him, in season and out of season, even in scarcity as in plenty

"It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.

They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lam. 3:22-23

3. No One is too Old to attract God's Goodness and Mercy.

"Even to your old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I declare Your might to another generation, Your power to all who are to come." -

Psalm 71:18

This verse shows God's faithfulness doesn't end with age; it's a lifelong journey of experiencing His goodness! How's that resonate?

God's goodness and mercy and not restricted or limited by age, whether young or old, or in-between. No even location can influence His goodness and mercy, they follow and locate you wherever, however and whatever you are in life.

4. God's Goodness and Mercy, not dependent on position or status.

God's goodness and mercy does not depend on social standing, wealth, power, achievements, etc. They are for everyone, regardless of background or status.

"I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all."
Eccl. 9:11.

EXAMPLES OF GOODNESS AND MERCY

Numerous examples abound in the scripture to confirm the awesome qualities of God's goodness and Mercies.

1. THE BLIND BARTIMEUS: God does not need human approval for your validation.

"And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me. And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me."

Mk 10:47-48

The goodness and mercy of God is not biased. Imagine a blind beggar, Bartimeus, blind a marginalized, likely poor and overlooked. Despite people's interference to push him aside from the favor of God, he pushed forward with a cry for mercy, and Jesus harken and attended to him.

God can lift an ordinary man from the road side and change his condition with His goodness and mercy. The goodness and Mercies of God is greater than people's condemnation, it has no reservations but always accessible to them that seek after Him.

"That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he

maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

Matt. 5:45

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

Rom. 8:1

2. THE WIDOW OF ZAREPHATH:

God's provision never dries

"For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth."

I Kings 17:14

The goodness and mercy of God does not respect seasons, it does not pay attention to poverty, it is always available at all times.

The widow of Zarephat was in severe famine, preparing her last meal for her son and herself. When Elijah asked for food, she shared it with him and God blessed her jar of flour and jug of oil- they didn't turn out as the Lord commanded (I Kings 17:14-16). God's goodness and mercy has been provided for you and your household, may it not run out, amen.

3. ABRAHAM AND SARAH: Age is not a Barrier.

"And the LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did unto Sarah as he had spoken.

For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.

And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac being eight days old, as God had commanded him.

And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

And Sarah said, God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me.

And she said, who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck? for I have born him a son in his old age."

Gen. 21:1-7

No one is too old to attract God's goodness and Mercies. Abraham and Sarah had Isaac when Abraham was 100 and Sarah was 90. Despite their old age, God fulfilled His promise. This story demonstrates God's power and faithful works beyond human limitations.

4. OBEDEDOM AND THE ARK OF COVENANT: God can bless anybody.

"And David was displeased, because the LORD had made a breach upon

Uzza: wherefore that place is called Perezuzza to this day. And David was afraid of God that day, saying, how shall I bring the ark of God home to me?

So, David brought not the ark home to himself to the city of David, but carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite.

And the ark of God remained with the family of Obededom in his house three months. And the LORD blessed the house of Obededom, and all that he had." I Chron. 13:11-13.

God's goodness and mercy is no respecter of position or status. A Gittite was blessed because the ark of God was in his house, despite not

being a Levite or high-status Israelite. God demonstrated His favor to a common gate keeper due to the Ark's presence.

OBEDEDOM was neither a priest nor an Israelite leader, but God blessed him abundantly because of the ark confirming that God's goodness transcends human hierarchies.

As the Lord did it before, He will do it again. He is the God of yesterday, today and forever, the Alpha and Omega. May His good His goodness and Mercies flourish again this year.

MY PRAYER POINT

"Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication."

Psa. 55:1

"The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee;
Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion;
Grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel."
Psa. 20:1-4.

1. **I SHALL NOT WANT..**

This is a statement of faith that God, as your shepherd, knows where green pastures abound, so He WILL lead, guide and take you to the places where you will meet supplies necessary for a fulfilled life. Phil. 4:19.

May you find fulfilment in all you do this year and beyond, to the extent of

lacking and wanting nothing (be it physical, spiritual, emotional and otherwise)

May God grant you the ability to lend to the poor and the needy around you.

2. **MAKE ME LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES.**

This is to experience complete provision, peace and rest, symbolizing God's abundant care where all needs are met. Here, you are swimming in plenty which overflows into the ocean of joy. (A state of immense happiness and divine bliss). Isa. 60:5

3. LEAD ME BESIDE STILL WATERS.

Still water represent calm, quiet and tranquil, contrasting with life's storms, anger and affliction. The thought of God is for you to make wealth and dwell in peace and safety to enjoy it. Every form of setback, affliction, and snare that will cause your labor to be wasted and your children disastrous is cancelled.

See Isa. 65:23-24.

You shall not labor in vain, nor bear children for calamity, rather " they shall be offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them." Amen.

4) RESTORE MY SOUL.

God is the ultimate restorer, who brings peace, comfort, strength and guidance to the weary. The peace, strength and comfort of the world is but a sinking sand. True strength, peace and comfort is of the Lord. I know of the truth that many people are trouble day and night due to psychological trauma, unresolved emotional issues, existential concerns and spiritual factors. No amount of thinking can take away your pains and distress rather than turning to God who is the fountain of true peace and joy. May He grant you inner peace, divine guidance, and rest against all odds in Jesus name. Matt 11: 28.

I pray may every area of your life experience abundance, overflow, divine bliss. May God grant healing to your body, marriage, career, business and ministry. Whatever was holding your happiness is broken for your sake.

5) LEAD ME IN THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS. Vs 3

It is very common for a man who is enjoying good life to forget his source of strength and supplies. Solomon said something in Prov. 30:9. This is a sincere prayer that His divine power continue to guide, direct and steer us in the right path.

May God grant us ability to remain humble and faithful in the face of

plenty. May He help us to adhere to high moral standards like honesty, purity, justice and goodness, which are in contradiction to cultural trends and worldly desires.

6) I WILL FEAR NO EVIL. Vs. 4.

Absolute reliance in the Lord who is able to supply your needs, give you peace, calm storms and restore your broken heart is enough to drive away fear. No beast can prey on you when your shepherd is with you. Even in your darkest valley you can go to sleep like Daniel because you trust in your Maker. I join the writer of this song to pray for you that,

"No power of hell,
no scheme of man,

can ever plug you from His
hand....."

PEACE BE STILL.

7) **COMFORT ME...**

Yea, though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death, I will
fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy
rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Psa. 23:4.

Two tools mentioned here are
symbols of guidance, leadership and
correction. God is always with us to
gently lead us every step of the way.

May God's presence always be with
you for guidance and direction. Psa.
123: 5. May you not fall by the way
side due to our rejection of God's rod.
May all forms of discomfort be taken

away with the presence of God's staff amongst us.

8. **PREPARE A TABLE BEFORE ME**

"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:" Psa. 23:5.

Prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies, implies, Decoration in the front of unwilling spectators. It is a rare opportunity but God is leading someone to it. See story of Hamman

"Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him." - Psalm 68:1

"For the Lord God will help me;

therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a
flint, and I know that I shall not be
put to shame." - Isaiah 50:7

These verses show God's power and protection. The story of Haman (Esther 3-7) shows how God can turn situations around!

Before Mordecai's decoration...

Haman, the king's advisor, was against Mordecai. Haman plotted to destroy all Jews in the kingdom because Mordecai (a Jew) refused to bow down to him. Haman manipulated King Ahasuerus into issuing a decree to annihilate the Jews.

But God had other plans! Mordecai's

cousin Esther, the queen, bravely exposed Haman's plot, and the king hanged Haman on the gallows meant for Mordecai. Then, Mordecai was honoured by the king

This is a powerful reminder of God's abundant provision and protection. He prepares a table for you, anointing you with joy and abundance. Embrace His goodness and mercy, and let your heart overflow with gratitude. May His provision ever outnumber our needs both physically and spiritually, in the name of Jesus, Amen.

9. **ANOINT MY HEAD**

"thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over." Psa. 23:5.

At this point you are speaking the language of breakthrough!

When you are connecting to Psalm 23:5 ("You anoint my head with oil...") and other scriptures showing God's favour lifting you higher, it always sounds like you are stepping into a place of divine authority, standing out, and accessing opportunities beyond the ordinary!m because seasons and times cannot treat or speak wrong influence to your emergence.

Thou anointed my head with oil implies an unprecedented and surprising crown and exaltation that

lifts you higher than would be expected. He pours out His Spirit upon you, commanding divine authority to make you stand at high places, it stands you out amongst others and grants you access beyond human comprehension.

This is another strong declaration of God's abundance and blessings. God's blessings are meant to spill over into the lives of others. May these reflections inspire you to trust in God's abundant blessings and share His love with others.

10. GOODNESS AND MERCY SHALL FOLLOW ME

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the

LORD forever." Psa. 23:6.

At this point, you would be unpacking Psalm 23 like a child of God!

"Goodness and mercy shall follow me" is not just a promise but a divine magnet drawing favour, breakthrough, and power. You are banking on God's goodness to open doors and mercy to plead your case. This truth is speaking to your current situation and gearing you up for something big.

Goodness and mercy shall follow you is a declaration for divine attraction that draws favour, breakthrough, redemption, and power towards you. These divine companions can make things easier for you. God showcases

your good virtues to stand by you
and allows mercy to always plead
on your behalf

This is a reminder that God's love
and kindness are always with us.
This means His love and kindness
will always accompany us in every
step of the way, even in challenging
times. Trust in His goodness and
mercy, knowing that they will
pursue you everyday of your life.
Let this promise bring you comfort,
peace and hope.

CONCLUSION

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

Psa. 23:6

Divine Pursuit: Instead of being chased by threats, the believer is pursued by God's goodness and mercy.

Constant Care: These blessings are not sporadic but follow the individual "all the days" of their life.

Eternal Security:

The promise culminates in an everlasting relationship with God ("dwell in the house of the Lord forever").

Comfort and Trust: It is often cited as a reminder to trust in divine providence

YOU CAN GIVE YOUR LIFE TO JESUS

By going through the following steps

- 1. Hear the Gospel**
- 2. Believe the Gospel**
- 3. Repent of your sins**
- 4. Confess your faith in Jesus**
- 5. Be baptized for the remission of your sins**
- 6. Continue steadfastly in worship and enjoy
the amazing grace in Christ**

*Rom. 10:10,17; Acts. 2:38-42;
Mark 16:15,16; II Cor. 5:17; Rom. 6:1-4; Rom. 8:1-3*



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