

WINTER 2022

LESSON 02

He leads me beside still waters

by Steve Porter

“OAKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS”

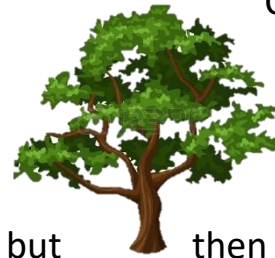
LESSON 02:


“They may be called ‘oaks of righteousness’, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified. They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.” (Isaiah 61:3-4)

(The Lord God is speaking to you)

My Precious Child,

I see the long wait through which you’ve been struggling and I am touched by your infirmities, you’ve stood firm and held on to My promises through many heartaches, believing for a breakthrough, yet at times you’ve been tempted to give up, I’ve heard you ask, “Lord, how long?”, but I want to encourage you to look at them through the eyes of heaven. I **SEE** the bigger picture; those challenges are making you **STRONG**. I know the outcome—I **SEE** you as an **OVERCOMER**, **FAITHFUL** and **VICTORIOUS** to the end. I understand that you’re ready for the pressure to stop, but **REFUSE** to short-circuit the process until **I AM READY**, and **TRUST** Me until then.



Consider the ‘**oak**’. A tiny acorn falls to the ground and  break open to take root. Notice that it grows quite slowly. At first its roots are shallow and its trunk is narrow, but then come the storms and winds and heat that make it stronger over time, and its roots grow deeper until, one day, that oak is beautiful and mighty tree, that stands strong in the face of the most devastating stormy winds. It spreads protective leafy arms over the earth, providing shade and shelter from the relentless heat. Its roots hold water and prevent soil erosion. It’s thing of beauty to behold.

In the same way, you are a thing of beauty to behold, growing strong, standing firm in the face of trouble. You can be confident that I love you and will **NEVER** leave, for I abide in you, closer than a brother. Call upon Me and I will answer and strengthen you, encouraging you and cheering you on, until the process is complete. And one day soon you will look back and be glad, and your reward will be great, for **I AM** is **PROUD** of you, like a father who can boast about his precious, amazing child. You are Mine, and **NEVER, NEVER GIVE UP**. Just **TRUST** that I know **BEST**, and will provide all you need to make it through to **VICTORY**.

