

4) "Your rod"

- Explains further why he will not fear.
- "Rod" is the shepherd's club (club with spikes on its end).
- Picture of God's protection from outside enemies.
- Nothing can happen unless God permits it.

4) "and Your staff"

- "Staff" is the shepherd's crook for guiding the sheep away from danger so they won't hurt themselves.
- Picture of God's guidance which He provides so David won't hurt himself.
- (-Divine protection and guidance keep us from being afraid when in extreme danger of death.

4) "they comfort me."

- Comfort only makes sense if there is a change in condition.
- See initial fear, then realization of God's protection, then comfort.
- "They" is for emphasis.

5) "You arrange a table before me."

- Shift here to picture of a royal host and his guest.
- (This picture covers the evening and night; the shepherd sheep picture covered the daytime).
- Host provides food and nourishment for guest.
- Frequentative imperfect implies repetitive.
- The Lord, like a royal host, arranges in His providence for David's nourishment.

5) "In front of my enemies."

- The host protects his guest against his enemies.
- "In front of" has the idea of "to the mortification of" BDB.
- Enemies are forced to look on in utter humiliation.
- "Enemies" is a participle, implying continual sense.

5) "You cause my head to be fat with the oil."

- "The oil" because it refers to something definite.
- "Be fat" is Piel, has causative sense here.
- Verb is stative, perfect tense (only one in Psalm).
- => A state which comes into existence and continues.
- The royal host anoints his guest with oil to honor him.
- This produces joy in the heart of the guest (cf. Psa. 45:7 "oil of gladness" [showing effect]), and refreshment (cf. Luke 7:46 -- Simon the Pharisee did not anoint Jesus).
- See that the Lord provides the joy which David needs.