

I AM the good shepherd

I. Introduction-

I AM the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. Jn 10:11

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. Jn 15:13

I AM.....

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." Ex 3:13

I AM is a self-declaration by Jesus, identifying Himself as God

Shepherd= to tend, guide or guard in the manner of a shepherd

A. Shepherd an example of loving leadership and caring

The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. Jn 10:3 & 10

Abundantly; beyond measure, exceedingly expectations

Shepherd; to tend, guide or guard in the manner of a shepherd

B. The Shepherd of Israel-

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. he leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even 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. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Ps 23

C. Sheep need a shepherd-

When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. Mk 6:34

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them. So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. Lk 15:1

II. Jesus is the good Shepherd-

A shepherd looks at Psalms 23, W. Phillip Keller

A. I shall not want-

1. God has supplied all our physical needs-

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. Ps 23:1

My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Phil 4:19

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. Jn 10:3 & 10

Abundantly= beyond measure, vehemently, highly, exceeding abundantly above

2. God has supplied our spiritual needs-

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will. Eph 1:3

Your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Mat 6:7

B. Jesus restores my soul.

He restores my soul. Ps 23:3

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Mat 11:28

Soul; that which breathes, the breathing substance or being, soul, the inner being of man

C. Jesus leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake-

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Ps 23:3

"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. Ex 20:7

Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. I Jn 2:4

D. Jesus protects us-

1. From the fear of death-

Even 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. Ps 23:4

He has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me? Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Heb 13:5

2. Protects His sheep from false shepherds-

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; Ps 23:5

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. Jn 10:10

3. Protects us against temptations and pests-

You anoint my head with oil. Ps 23:5

You have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge. I Jn 2:20

The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Jn 14:26

E. Jesus gives us an abundant life-

1. In this life-

My cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. Ps 23:6

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. Jn 10:10

Abundantly; [beyond measure](#), [vehemently](#), [highly](#), [exceeding abundantly above](#)

2. For eternity-

I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Ps 23:6

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. Jn 14:1

III. The good sheep-

A. The know the shepherd's voice-

The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him. Jn 10:3

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. Jn 15:7

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. I Pet 2:2

B. Good sheep follow the good Shepherd-

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth. Jn 14:15

Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Mat 16:24