

– Psalm 23 –
The Psalms
The Good Shepherd

A Psalm of David.

¹*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

²*He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.*

³*He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.*

⁴*Yea, 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.*

⁵*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup runs over.*

⁶*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD
Forever.*

► **What are** the rod and staff for?

► **What transformations** do we see take place in this psalm?

► **In what ways** is this psalm a covenantal psalm?

► **What do** the anointing oil and overflowing cup symbolize?

► **What does** the metaphor of us being sheep teach us about ourselves?

► **What does** the spatial language in this psalm tell us about where God is?

► **Why can** the Lord's sheep remain fearless in the valley overshadowed by death?

► **What** (or better, Who) is God's house in which we are promised to dwell forever?

► **How is this psalm** most primarily about Jesus?

Isaiah 53:7 He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.

John 10:14-15 - I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

Revelation 7:15-17 - Therefore the saints are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

APPLICATION

► We never _____ the need to be shepherded.

► There are _____ primary ways the Lord shepherds us:

1. He shepherds us _____.
2. He shepherds us through his under-_____.

1 Peter 5:2-3 - Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

3. He shepherds us through _____ members of the flock.

► We need to be aware of _____ is shepherding us and _____ we are being shepherded.

► Parents are _____ of your children and this psalm provides a beautiful picture of what your parenting should look like.