

The Power in This Relationship Rests in Christ

Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd;

Introduction:

“The power of a relationship with Christ is the ability to become something you don’t have the ability to become on your own.”

I. The commander of our relationship and His name.

The LORD . . . Psalm 23:1

A. In His name there are the attributes of God.

“Yahweh, I Am Who I Am – God almighty, unchanging and unchangeable, I am self-sustaining, self-existent – the Creator, not the created. I Was, and I Am, and I Will Be – from everlasting to everlasting, First and Last, Beginning and End, Alpha and Omega.”

- Robert Morgan

B. In His name there is the authority of God.

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Matthew 28:18

II. The commander of our relationship and His nobility.

The LORD IS . . . Psalm 23:1

A. His nobility is revealed in His intensity.

“God—our Shepherd—doesn’t check the weather; he makes it. He doesn’t defy gravity; he created it. Though he creates, God was never created. Though he makes, He was never made. Though he causes, he was never caused. Hence the psalmist’s proclamation: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.” (Psalm 90:2)

- Max Lucado

B. His nobility is revealed in His immediacy.

“The sentence does not say the Lord was my Shepherd, or He will be my shepherd. He is my Shepherd, presently. Jesus though timeless and eternal, is now and He is accessible, a God of the moment, a God of every moment.”

- Robert Morgan

. . . saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. Revelation 1:8

III. The commander of our relationship and His nature.

. . . My Shepherd Psalms 23:1

A. His nature is one of great affection.

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. 1 John 4:8

“Here’s the wonderful thing about our salvation: in the Lord Jesus, we have sovereignty and sympathy, a King and a Shepherd, sovereignty and sympathy, a God who is able, a shepherd who is available, a God in the heavens and a shepherd in our heart.”

- Adrian Rogers

B. His nature is one of great sacrifice.

... Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. John 10:7

“The Middle Eastern sheepfold was very simple: a stone wall, perhaps ten feet high, surrounded it, and an opening served as the door. The shepherds would sleep at the opening of the fold and actually become ‘the door’. Nothing could enter or leave the fold without passing over the shepherd.”

- Warren Wiersbe

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. John 10:11

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Hebrews 13:20