

The Power of This Relationship Is In Reliability of Its Compass

... He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Psalm 23:3

I. The direction the Shepherd brings to the sheep.

A. It is a direction with a preeminent captain.

... He Psalm 23:3

“The story is told of a man on an African safari deep in the jungle. The guide before him had a machete and was whacking away the tall weeds and thick underbrush. The traveler, wearied and hot, asked in frustration, ‘Where are we? Do you know where you are taking me? Where is the path?!’ The seasoned guide stopped and looked back at the man and replied, ‘I am the path.’”

- Max Lucado

“Jesus doesn’t give hope by changing your jungle, he restores our hope by giving us himself!”

B. It is a direction with a pre-determined course.

... He leadeth me Psalm 23:3

“When God created animals, He seemed to design some of them as educational tools; eagles soar, ants are diligent, deer are surefooted, serpents are shrewd, but sheep can do none of these things. The one single notable characteristic about a sheep is they need a shepherd. Sheep are mentioned more than any other animal in Scripture to teach us about ourselves.”

II. The determination that the Shepherd brings to the sheep.

A. The Shepherd gives the sheep a chosen path.

... in the paths Psalm 23:3

All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Psalm 25:10

B. The Shepherd gives the sheep a choice path.

... of righteousness Psalm 23:3

“There can be no spiritual strength sufficient to walk in the paths of righteousness unless time is taken to lie down in the green pastures of the divine Word by the still waters of prayer.”

- Robert Morgan

III. The dedication the Shepherd brings to the sheep.

A. It is a dedication for a new cause.

... For his Psalm 23:3

Calvary

*“At the top of the hill is a cross. At the base of the cross are bags. Countless bags of innumerable sins.
Calvary is the compost pile for guilt. Would you like to leave yours there?”*

- Max Lucado

B. It is a dedication for a new country.

... name's sake. Psalm 23:3

“What Is the Point of It All?”

“He makes me . . .”

“He leads me . . .”

“He restores me . . .”

“You are with me . . .”

“Your rod and Your staff . . . comfort me . . .”

“You prepare a table . . .”

“You anoint my head . . .”

*“We may be the canvas, the paper, or the scalpel, but we are not the ones who deserve the applause.
Why does God have anything to do with us? For His name's sake.”*

- Max Lucado