

THE GIFTS OF
THE
GOOD SHEPHERD

PSALM 23

Psalm 23

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

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth 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 thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Psalm 23 - continued

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth 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 for ever.

Introduction

A. Christ is the good shepherd

John 10:11

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

B. Christ is the shepherd to bring us to God

Hebrews 13:20

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,

Introduction

C. Christ is the shepherd that is coming back who will bring His reward

1 Peter 5:4

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

I. Satisfaction (23:1)

A. Sheep do not worry about tomorrow because they follow the shepherd

Matthew 6:26

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

I. Satisfaction (23:1)

B. Neither should we want or worry about the future

Matthew 6:31

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

Matthew 6:33-34a

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself...

Philippians 4:19

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

II. Serenity (23:2)

A. The shepherd gives his sheep rest

Matthew 11:28

**Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.**

II. Serenity (23:2)

B. Sheep are fearful of violent water

Isaiah 25:4

For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

Psalms 107:29

He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.

II. Serenity (23:2)

C. We must be drawn to rest, meditate, and pray

Psalm 46:10a

Be still, and know that I am God:

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

III. Strength (23:3)

A. Sheep are weak, have poor sight, and a poor sense of direction

Isaiah 53:6

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

III. Strength (23:3)

B. The Lord restores our strength when wounded

Isaiah 58:12

And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

IV. Safety (23:4)

A. The prospect

Proverbs 14:27

The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

B. The proclamation

2 Corinthians 4:8-9

8 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

IV. Safety (23:4)

C. The presence

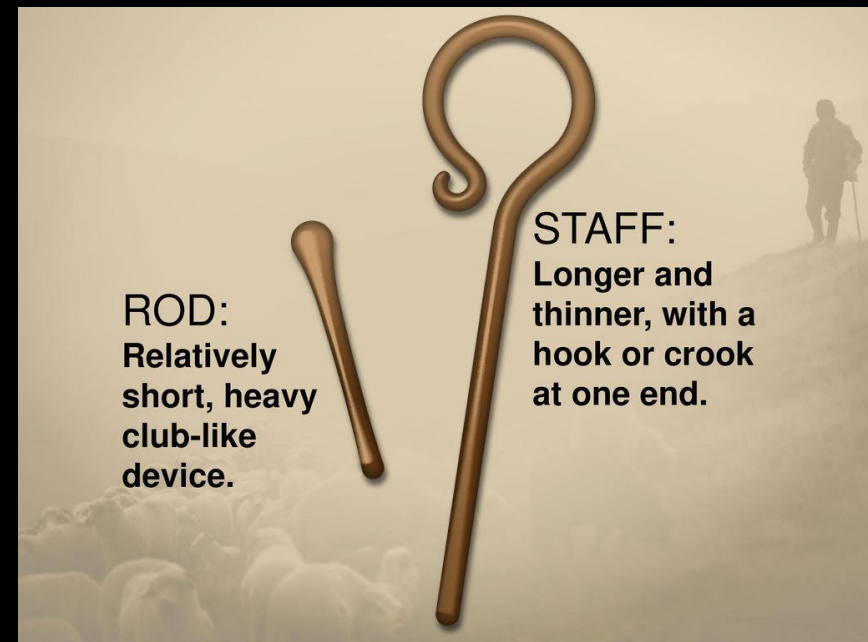
Matthew 28:20b

... and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

D. The power

Psalm 86:17

Shew me a token for good;
that they which hate me
may see *it*, and be ashamed:
because thou, LORD,
hast holpen me, and
comforted me.



V. Sustenance (23:5)

A. The shepherd's preparation

Song of Solomon 2:4

He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.

Revelation 19:9

And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

V. Sustenance (23:5)

B. The shepherd's portion

Psalm 16:5

The LORD *is* the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.

VI. Security (23:6)

A. Its certainty

B. Its content

1. Goodness = Prosperity

Psalm 1:3

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

2. Mercy = Lovingkindness

Psalm 63:3

Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.

VI. Security (23:6)

C. Its consequence

Psalm 27:4

One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

Two Truths For Today

**You Have To Be Part Of The
Flock To Be Led By The Shepherd**

**You Have To Have Accepted The Shepherd
To Be Part Of The Flock**