



The Shepherd's Psalm

Psalm 23

December 28, 2025

- **THE BIG IDEA:** In Psalm 23 the Christian is reminded of the One that they belong to. In this Psalm we see a God that loves, provides, protects, and preserves His people. The Christian is the one that has heard the voice of the Good Shepherd and has followed Him.

Psalm 23 (NASB95)

23 1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. 3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I 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 have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Lord's Provision

- + The entire Psalm, maybe even the entire Bible, can be summarized by the **first** verse.
- + **Yahweh** is David's shepherd
- + The only Shepherd that can provide is the Good Shepherd.
- + The person that has the Lord as their Shepherd does not **lack** anything that they truly need.
- + "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst." - John 6:35
- + As a sheep to the Good Shepherd, we live in total **dependence** upon Him.

The Lord's Protection

- In verses 1-3, we see the Lord **before** us. In verses 4-5, we see the Lord **beside** us.
- A Christian does not need to fear death because all the Christian will ever face is death's shadow.

- We do not need to fear death's **bark** because Christ took death's **bite**.
- "If we will allow God to lead us where he will, we will find that a table has been prepared for us, our heads have been anointed with purest oil, and our cups have been filled to overflowing with the wine of true joy." - James Montgomery Boice

The Lord's Presence

- The Christian goes from the Lord's protection in a fallen world to the Lord's presence in a place of sinless perfection.
- When David reflects on his life, all he can see is the **goodness** and **kindness** of his loving Shepherd.
- "They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat; for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their **shepherd**, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes." - Revelation 7:16-17

"I must remember that I am not my own shepherd, and that I am not to guide myself any more than the sheep is to guide itself; but that I am to look to my great Shepherd, to watch for indications of his will, and to receive those indications either from his Word, or from his providential dealings with me, or from the operations of his gracious Spirit within my heart; and then that I am to follow where God leads me, having nothing to do with the making of the road, but only following the Lord my Shepherd wherever he leads me."

Charles Spurgeon
