



THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Psalm 23

August 13, 2023
Pastor Trevor Cooper

Good morning Church! This song, one of the most quoted and read Psalms, unique in its genre and structure. David writes 73 of the 150 psalms and he writes this Psalm 23 as a testimony by David to the Lord's faithfulness through his life. As a hymn of confidence, it pictures the Lord as a disciple's Shepherd-Host. David using some ANE images to unveil his personal relationship with the Lord. God's identity as Shepherd brings peace to our reality and clarity to our identity.

A Psalm of David.

*"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. **2** He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. **3** He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. **4** Even 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 overflows. **6** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."*

Yahweh is described in 4 ways throughout this Psalm:

1. The Lord as Our LEADER. (v 1-2)

- He SHEPHERDS us
- He MAKES me lie down

"If God is having you wait, do what waiters do — serve!"

2. The Lord as Our OWNER. (v 3-4)

- He RESTORES my soul
- He LEADS me in the paths of righteousness

*"But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. **2** When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." **Isaiah 43:1-2***

3. The Lord as Our PROTECTOR. (v 4-5)

4. The Lord as Our PROVIDER. (v 5)

*"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." **Philippians 4:19***

Salvation through Jesus Christ

*The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. **The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness.** Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.*