

Jesus in the Psalms: The Lord is my Shepherd

Psalm 23 (p.497)

Here's a Psalm for the living. It speaks of God's provision and protection in the most pastoral terms.

1 The LORD is my shepherd...

A sheep's life depends on the type of man/woman who owns it.

2 He lets me lie down in green pastures...

Providing green pastures in Israel meant a great deal of hard labor.

3 He renews my life; He leads me along the right paths for His name's sake.

God as Shepherd cares for men/women so that His mercy will be known throughout eternity!

4 Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff—they comfort me.

The rod was primarily an instrument of correction.

The staff is a beautiful symbol of guidance and protection.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies ...

Satan is a "roaring lion" seeking whom he may devour.

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Satan is a "roaring lion" seeking whom he may devour.

5 ...You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows...

The only effective antidote for **scab** is to apply linseed oil, Sulphur and other chemicals that can control this disease.

6 ...and I will dwell in the house of the LORD as long as I live.

Forever? Literally, *for length of days*. Cf. John 10:28.
“I give them **eternal** life, and they will never perish—ever!”

CONCLUSION:

Want the blessing of Psalm 23?
You have to decide if you want Jesus as Shepherd. According to John 10, His sheep hear His voice and **follow**.

The Lord is my Shepherd	<i>That's Relationship!</i>
I shall not want	<i>That's Supply!</i>
He makes me lie down in green pastures	<i>That's Rest!</i>
He leads me beside still waters	<i>That's Refreshment!</i>
He restores my soul	<i>That's Healing!</i>
He leads me in paths of righteousness	<i>That's Guidance!</i>
For His name sake	<i>That's Purpose!</i>
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death	<i>That's Testing!</i>
I will fear no evil	<i>That's Protection!</i>
For You are with me	<i>That's Faithfulness!</i>
Your rod and Your staff they comfort me	<i>That's Discipline!</i>
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.	<i>That's Hope!</i>
You anoint my head with oil	<i>That's Consecration!</i>
My cup runs over	<i>That's Abundance!</i>
Surely goodness & mercy will follow me all the days of my life.	<i>That's Blessing!</i>
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord	<i>That's Security!</i>
Forever	<i>That's Eternity!</i>

-Source unknown

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