

# The Lord is My Shepherd

Psalm 23:1

The Book of Psalms is the Jewish Hymn Book.

Of the 150 Psalms the 23 Psalm is the best known chapter in all of God's Word.

It has only \_\_\_\_\_ words in English but it's the most familiar.....

Psalm 23 can be divided into 3 parts:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Shepherd. "I shall not want"
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Shepherd. "Yea though I walk ..... Thou art with me"
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Shepherd. "Surely goodness and mercy....."

Verse 1 is the foundational verse to everything else David is going to say in Psalm 23.

Now this morning I want us to look at 3 things in verse 1:

I. We have a Shepherd who \_\_\_\_\_ us.

Psalm 23 is all about a shepherd taking.....

Various countries have adopted animals to symbolize their national spirit:

America \_\_\_\_\_ Russia \_\_\_\_\_ Great Britain \_\_\_\_\_

Normally a nation will choose an animal that symbolizes strength.....

But God in His wisdom has chosen a SHEEP to represent us.

Sheep are mentioned over \_\_\_\_\_ times in God's Word.

Over \_\_\_\_\_ times God calls His people sheep.

If you know anything about sheep you know that's not too flattering, for 2 reasons:

1. Sheep are \_\_\_\_\_.

I've been to a circus before and I've seen trained..... BUT never...

2. Sheep are \_\_\_\_\_.

Other animals can run away or they can defend themselves but not sheep.

What sheep need if they're going to survive is a shepherd.

The \_\_\_\_\_ of the sheep is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the shepherd.

Now notice who our shepherd is:

Lord speaks of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd speaks of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus is both Sovereign and Shepherd He is both.....

In John 10:11 Jesus is called the \_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd.

In Hebrews 13:20 Jesus is called the \_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd.

In 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:4 Jesus is called the \_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd.

He is the.....

Watch this: When you and I give our hearts and lives to the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Jesus that becomes our \_\_\_\_\_ is the Lord who becomes our \_\_\_\_\_ !

II. We have a Shepherd who \_\_\_\_\_ after us. v1

"The Lord is my Shepherd" is the Hebrew word "Jehovah-Rohi"

The word "want" literally means "I lack nothing"

Now David is thinking back to something that God told Moses when he was leading the children of Israel to the Promised Land, but because of their disobedience.....  
God reminded Moses in **Deuteronomy 2:7** *The Lord your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He has watched over your journey through this vast wilderness. These forty years the Lord your God has been with you, and you have not lacked anything.*

Now a shepherd has a 3-fold ministry for his sheep:

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ the sheep to shelter.
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ the sheep from danger.
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ the sheep their food.

This is Good !

As our Good Shepherd:

Jesus gives us Nutrition for He is.....

Jesus gives us Hydration for He is.....

Jesus gives us Restoration for He.....

Jesus gives us Direction for He is.....

Thank God we can say with David the.....

III. We have a Shepherd who \_\_\_\_\_ us.

There is ONE little word in Psalm 23:1 that determines whether or not Jesus is our Shepherd or whether Jesus is our Savior \_\_\_\_\_ !

Now a person can believe that Jesus is a Good Shepherd ..... but here's the real question - can you say with 100% assurance.....

The only way to know that the \_\_\_\_\_ is your shepherd is too make sure the \_\_\_\_\_ is your Lord !

When you and I have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ then Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ our past, He \_\_\_\_\_ our present and He \_\_\_\_\_ our future so we can say,

**"surely goodness and mercy....."**