

Psalm 23: The LORD is my Shepherd

The 23rd Psalm is a Psalm of _____, a Psalm that celebrates right _____ between God and Man.

In the twenty-third psalm, God reveals himself primarily as our _____. As we _____ The relationship that David is talking about here between himself and God is a _____ relationship, that should be getting deeper and more fulfilling for us all of the time.

23 The LORD is my shepherd,

The LORD

Who is my Shepherd? The capital LORD in your bible tells you that the word used here is _____, the divine name of God.

When we read this psalm, we tend to focus on all of the 7 things that the Lord does for _____ that are mentioned.

But look how the Psalm begins and ends. The psalm is about _____, what _____ does. The tone of the 23rd Psalm is at its heart very _____. Up to now in the Psalms, God has been referred to as king, deliverer, or even rock or shield, but calling God our shepherd emphasizes the _____ between God and us. David is thinking about the _____ and care that God gives us _____. The trust that the sheep place in their shepherd, confident that He will lead them rightly because of who _____ is.

Psalm 23 is a song of David proclaiming his _____ as one who has lived, having put his trust and faith in God as his Lord, and who will carry this confidence through death and beyond to “dwell in the house of the Lord forever”.

Who's shepherd his he?

My shepherd--Personal shepherd

God is only _____ shepherd if _____ are _____.

The 23rd Psalm is written from the perspective of the _____. King David is giving us a picture of what it's like to be one of God's sheep. Psalm 100:2 says **Know that the Lord Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.** And again in Psalm 95:7 **For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.**

Calling us believers sheep is not so much a complement to us, as it is a picture of the total _____ that we have on God as our shepherd.

King David calls himself a _____. Sure, he is King over Israel, but he is most fundamentally also a sheep, just like all believers, under the care of the Great Shepherd, the Lord. It's important to remember that first and foremost, we are all fellow brother and sister sheep under the care of our _____ Shepherd.

See God doesn't look at things the same way that men do. God looks at the _____. It's often the ones that people overlook that God uses and elevates because they're not going to get prideful and full of themselves.

Shepherding sheep was the traditional _____ of Israel. It was because the Israelites were shepherds that they came to live in the land of _____. As we read in the Exodus of God sending his plagues to the Egyptians, we see over and over, God _____ the land of Goshen from the plagues. God made a _____ between the Israelites and the Egyptians in these plagues, using the separation of the two peoples.

See this lifestyle of _____ the Lord and letting the Lord be our shepherd is going to be _____, or _____ or disgusting to non-believers. This life we have been called to _____ us, just like it separated the Israelites living in Goshen from the Egyptians elsewhere in Egypt. As Christians we are _____, _____ for service to God.

I shall not [be in] want

Notice that the LORD is his shepherd _____—present tense. The Lord is now my shepherd, and notice that David is saying, so I won't be in want in the _____. It's a statement of _____ and _____ in God's power to _____.

"want" means a lack of something that is _____. It's not so much that the LORD will give us everything that we desire. In Psalm 84:11 it says **For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.**

No good thing does God withhold from those who walk uprightly, but many of the things that we _____ are _____ good for us, at least in the way and in the timing that we want to see that desire fulfilled.

prayer is always answered. Sometimes the answer is _____, sometimes the answer is _____, and sometimes the answer is _____.