

## Our Shepherd Psalm 23

Many claim to be sheep in the fold of the great shepherd, Jesus Christ.  
Consider Jesus' lesson about shepherding sheep - **John 10**

### Know One Another

Shepherd knows His sheep - **John 10:3,14,16,26**

His sheep know Him - **John 10:3-5,14,27**

Listen to His voice

**John 8:31-32** So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

**John 12:48** He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.

**1John 2:24** As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.

**1Thessalonians 5:21-22** But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil.

### Shepherd Leads

His sheep follow Him - **John 10:3-5,16,27**

**Psalms 23:1-3**

More than just hearing

Wise/foolish man - **Luke 6:46** Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?

**1John 2:3-6** By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

They will not follow stranger - **John 10:5,8**

**John 6:68-69** Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God."

### Shepherd Protects His Sheep

The shepherd gives complete safety and satisfaction - **John 10:7-15,27-29**

**Psalms 23:4-6**

**1John 4:4** You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

**1John 3:9** No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

Our great shepherd gives us peace of mind and a home in Heaven.

**John 14:27-28** Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. You heard that I said to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

**1Peter 1:3-5** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

### Illustrate:

A gentleman traveling in Syria, relates how he stopped to watch three shepherds who were at a well watering their flocks. The three flocks were all mingled together at the watering place. The traveler could see no difference between them, and he wondered how they would get them separated again without great trouble.

But presently one of the shepherds stood forth and called out, "Menah," the Arabic for "Follow me," and sure enough thirty sheep immediately separated themselves from the indiscriminate mass and began to follow the shepherd up the hill.

Then, a second shepherd lifted the cry, "Menah," and a second flock separated themselves and started after him, while the rest of the sheep remained as unconcerned as if no one had spoken at all.

The traveler was so astonished that as he saw the third shepherd preparing to depart, laying his hand to his crook and beginning to gather a few dates fallen from a palm beneath which he had been resting, he stepped up to him and asked: "Would your sheep follow me if I called them?" The man shook his head.

"Give me your shepherd's cloak and crook and let me try." the traveler said. He even wound the shepherd's turban around his head and standing forth began to cry, "Menah, Menah!" but no sheep stirred. They only blinked at him lazily in the sunshine.

"Do they never follow any one but you?" asked the traveler. "Only when a sheep is sick; then the silly creature follows any one," the shepherd said."

### Whose Voice Are You Following?