

Intro:

Recommend resources: Phillip Keller's *A Shepherd Looks at the 23rd Psalm*; J. Douglas MacMillan's *The Lord Our Shepherd*.

Main Point of Text: David comforts himself with assurance of perseverance due to God's ever-present, Personal care.

Sermon Point: The Good Shepherd Will Always Guide You.

Move 1: *Jesus will always Personally lead you through life.*

Vs. 1a: "The Lord is my shepherd". Thus, you are/will be fine! Great! He is shepherding you. The word "shepherd" is a verb participle: lit., "the one shepherding me". Word means to pasture, tend to, associate with, be a friend. The LORD is constantly present with you to see you through. Parts 1-4 (themes): The Good Shepherd Will Always Guide You ... Provide for You ... Protect You ... Satisfy You. The Good Shepherd is Jesus. Heb. 13:20. Jn. 10:11: clearly declaring He is the Lord of Ps. 23. *And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.* (1 Pet. 5:4) For ... *the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.* (Jn. 10:2-4) He does this *for His Own name's sake* (vs. 3): the shepherd's reputation is in His sheep's survival. He marks them with His own signature in their ear. Like Jesus your foreheads with His ownership (Eph. 1:13; Rev. 14:1; 22:4). Mt. 28:20: because of Ps. 22! Thus Ps. 24! Jn. 10:14: *I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.*

Move 2: *This is why you are always personally following Jesus through life.*

Vs. 1a: "The Lord is my Shepherd." You are His sheep, and you know it, and you keep following Him only, no matter what. ... *when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.* (Jn. 10:4-5) You hear Jesus' call to gather around Him as His flock, and you do. He comes to speak, you come to hear Him. He prepared His Table and Cup for you tonight, you came to eat and drink. 1 Cor. 11:26. *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.* (Jn. 10:27-29).

Move 3: You will never be alone through life and through death.

There is never a time that you will be alone in life, nor in death: vs. 6. Phil. 1:6. *For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.* (Mat 18:11-14) Jesus won't just walk with you along life's road. He will take you from your death bed to heaven: vs. 4. You won't pass through death on your own. You won't walk *in* death, but *through* it, and only its *shadow*. Rev. 2:11; 20:6: second death won't touch you.

Conclusion:

Acts 7:55-60; Heb. 13:5b.

The Good Shepherd Will Always Guide You.