

Message #1: My Shepherd

- by Pastor Ron Laney

Psalm 23



Living without
Worry or Fear

PS 23

Message #1

My Shepherd

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Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restores my soul; He leads me in the
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.



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Psalm 23

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.



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Psalm 23

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the
house of the LORD Forever. (NKJV)



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Big Biblical Theme

The Shepherd & The Sheep

- **The Shepherd**
= God and/or Leaders
- **The Sheep**
= God's people
- **Sheep & Goats**

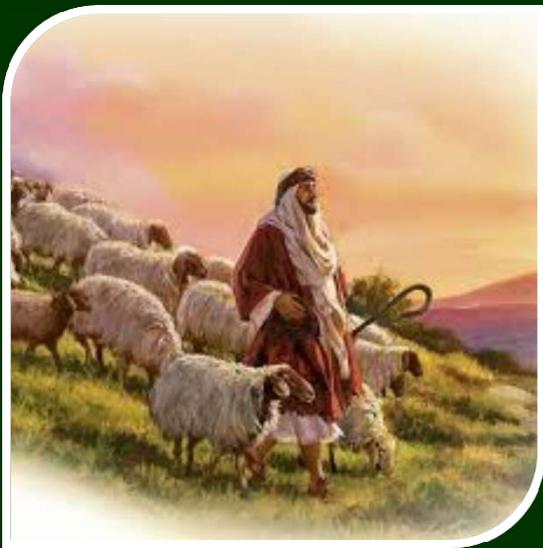


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Psalm 100:3

Know that the LORD,
He is God; It is He who
has made us, and not
we ourselves; We are
His people and the
sheep of His pasture.



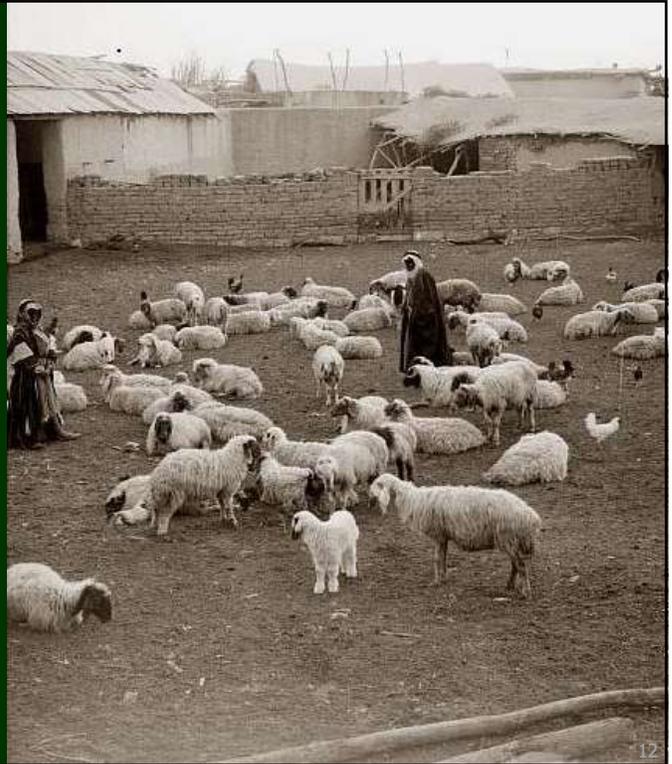
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Shepherd & Sheep in a Corral

(images from
Preserving Bible Times)



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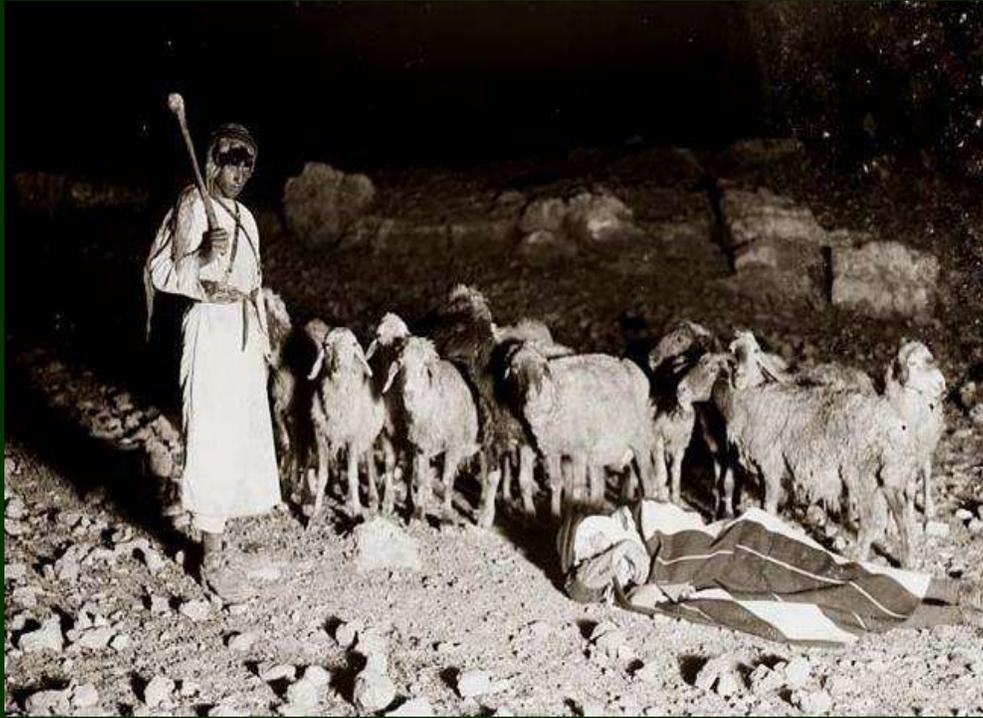
Ancient Pic of David just before He killed Goliath

LOL ;-)



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**Abraham,
Isaac &
Jacob
lived like this**

**...and
many others**



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Ideas

Ideas >> Thoughts >> Decisions >> Quality of Life

- The Word of God is constantly speaking to us ideas about God, about life & how to live, about you, about our world.

**Will you embrace God's ideas or
will you follow after other ideas?**

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**Big
Idea**



**The LORD is
My Shepherd
I shall not want.**

**No Worries, No Fear,
No Lack**

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Big Idea



The LORD

is my Shepherd...

- Elohim - Eternal, God of Majesty & Glory
- Our Creator - Maker & Sustainer of Heaven & Earth
- El Shaddai – Almighty, Only Wise God
- Yahweh - The Great I AM - The Unchanging, All-Sufficient, Eternal, Self-Existent, Self-Sustaining LORD of All

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Big Idea



Our Faith

Psalm 23 – Yahweh = The Good Shepherd who takes care of His people.

Jesus, John 10:11

"I AM the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep."

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Big Idea



Remember the Miracles of Jesus?

- Turning the water into wine
- The 2 miracles of the fish & the loaves

Jesus is living off of the **limitless** resources of Heaven and anything is possible, if He is involved.

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Another Idea

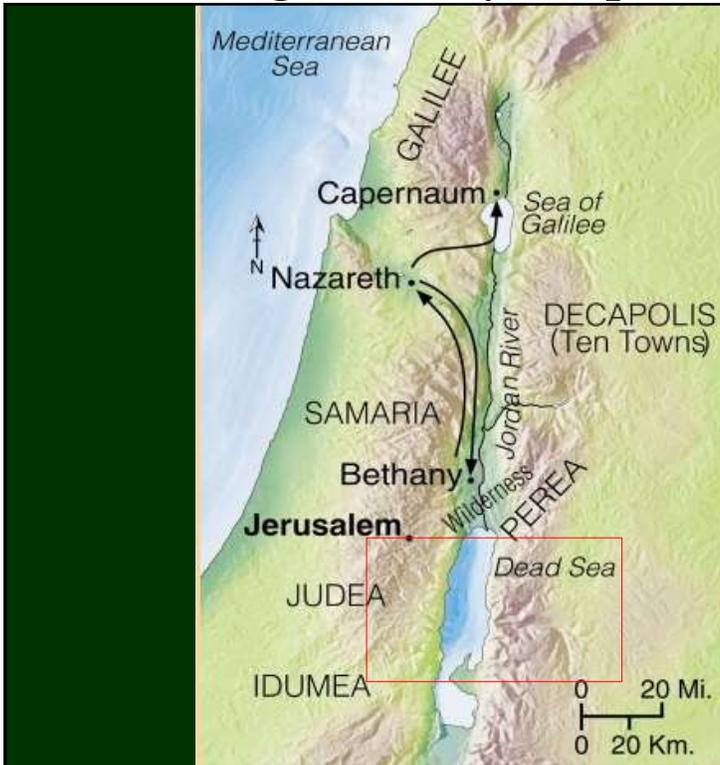
- You get this idea from knowing the land and the scenery of David's life
- Shepherd country was mostly desert

Desert pics

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David's Setting

- Judean Desert or Wilderness
- Rugged, steep, dry
- Setting of Psalm 23

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Judean Wilderness / Desert An Oasis



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Judean Wilderness / Desert



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During Rainy Season



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Idea



- Life is like walking through the desert
- God's will for us is to live in this rough & rugged world and live without worry or fear.
- You've got responsibilities and things to do. And God wants you to live carefree (not careless), from anxiety, dread and despair right in the middle of it all.
- Psalm 23 paints a picture of a relationship with God that makes it possible for you and I to find rest while we work, peace in the deserts of life, joy in the journey and hope in all things.

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**What makes the difference for the sheep in
the this life that is like a "desert"?**

Your Shepherd



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The LORD is
My Shepherd
I shall not want.

Jesus Leads, I Follow

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(my synopsis of vs 1-2)

The LORD is my Shepherd
I shall not lack any good thing.

**In the deserts of life, my
Shepherd knows where the
green pastures are and He
knows where the good water
is...I will follow Jesus.**



Jesus provides for me...
I have everything I need!