

## THE LORD IS OUR SHEPHERD

### Psalm 23:1-6

1. The Lord provides for all our needs. Ps. 23:1; 84:11-12; Rom. 8:31-32; John 3:16; Gen. 22:7-8, 14; Phil. 4:19

*LORD = Yahweh, Jehovah = covenant God; the eternal, self-existent God*

*Shepherd = raah = to tend a flock; literally, to graze; to pasture; to rule. To associate with as a friend, to keep company with, companion*

*want = chacer = to lack, want, lessen; by impl., to fail, be abated, need, be lacking, decrease*

2. The Lord gives us peace. Ps. 23:2-3a; Isa. 26:3; John 16:33; 14:27; Rom. 5:1; Isa. 53:5

*leads = nahal = to run with, to conduct; to protect, sustain; to carry, feed, guide, to lead gently on*

*restores = shuwb = to turn back (hence, away); generally to retreat; again*

*stayed (steadfast) = camak = to prop; to lean upon or take hold of*

*peace = eirene = peace, welfare, well-being*

3. The Lord makes us righteous. Ps. 23:3b; 2 Cor. 5:21; 4:25; 2 Pe. 1:2-4; John 14:6

*justification = dikaiosis = the act of pronouncing righteous, acquittal*

4. The Lord protects us. Ps. 23:4; Isa. 41:10; 2 Tim. 1:12; Rev. 13:8; Isa. 53:6-7; Col. 3:3

5. The Lord honors and blesses us. Ps. 23:5-6a; 92:12-15; Eph. 1:3 (4-14); Jer. 29:11; John 1:16

*lovingkindnesses = checed (kheh'-sed) = covenant love, steadfast and merciful*

*follow me = radaph = to pursue, run after, chase, dog, attend closely to*

*grace = charis = [God's] unmerited favor, kindness, graciousness*

6. The Lord uses us to bless others. Ps. 23:5c; Matt. 5:13-16; John 7:37-39; 2 Cor. 1:3-4

7. The Lord grants us His presence—now and forever. Ps. 23:6b; 25:14; Joshua 1:5; John 10:10-11, 27-30; 14:1-3

*secret = coud = a session, i.e. company of persons (in close deliberation); by impl., intimacy, consultation, a secret*

*covenant = beriyth = a solemn, binding agreement made by passing between pieces of flesh*

*life = zoe = life, abundant and eternal*

*abundantly = perissos = superabundant (in quantity) and superior (in quality), excessive*

### REFLECTION AND APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. *Will I thank Jesus for sacrificing Himself for me? Will I continue to look to Him to meet all my needs? What needs can I present to Him to handle today?*
2. *Do I enjoy the peace and rest I have in Jesus Christ? Do I allow Him to lead me continually to green pastures and quiet waters? Do I trust Him to do that?*
3. *Will I thank Jesus for putting His righteousness upon me so I can have a way to the Father? Will I follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in order to become more and more like Jesus, so that others might come to know Him through me?*
4. *Do I know and proclaim that I am safe now and forever with Jesus? Will I choose faith instead of fear because Jesus is always with me protecting me?*
5. *Do I know that the Lord's greatest desire is to bless me? Do I recognize Jesus as the Lord's greatest blessing in my life? Will I live in gratitude for the Lord's honor, favor, and blessing, which He freely bestows upon me?*
6. *How is the Lord filling my cup to overflowing? How might the Lord want to use His overflow in my life to bless others and make them more aware of Him?*
7. *Am I enjoying my Shepherd's presence now? Am I looking forward to a guaranteed eternity with Him? Will I walk with my Shepherd today and live in light of my eternal destination?*