



62. *My Shepherd*

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want,”

Psalm 23:1.

Jesus shepherds His flock ... leading and feeding us. Jesus said, *“I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep,”* John 10:14. It’s comforting to think of Jesus as our shepherd. However, it isn’t comforting to think of ourselves as sheep. Sheep are fearful, foolish, weak, defenseless, stubborn, follow-the-crowd animals. Some are passively submissive. Some are aggressively defiant. Sheep require constant care. And, when left to themselves, they go astray. It’s true that believers are like sheep. And because

of that, it's so important that we follow Jesus our Shepherd.

How many times have you recited the 23rd Psalm? Probably more times than you can remember. Has over-familiarity watered down your sincerity in professing, "*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want*"? That short sentence is very significant. Do you really mean those words when you say them? Consider the following prayer. *Father, I am a weak, defenseless, fearful, foolish, stubborn, follow-the-crowd sheep. On my own, I will disobey and stray from You. So I totally submit to my Shepherd Jesus. I will follow Jesus wherever He leads. And I depend on Him to feed me what He chooses. I shall not want anything that He does not provide. I trust Him as my Shepherd to lead me and to feed me. I am a sheep. He is my Shepherd. Amen.* Will you say that prayer today? It is what you profess when you say, "*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.*"