

## SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW PSALM 23! OR DO YOU?

Reading Our Old KJV Text

Our Sermon Text: **Psalm 23:1-6**

1. A psalm for “death”?
2. A psalm for **sorrow** or **joy and celebration**?
3. Keller, *A Shepherd Looks At Psalm 23*
4. Let’s “**whet**” your appetite with today’s sermon, remembering that God compares us to sheep for a reason.
5. “The Good (**Jesus**), the Bad (**us**), and the Ugly (**manure**)!”

**The LORD is my Shepherd;**

David the shepherd is now a “sheep,” like us. (David’s name in Scripture.)

He is our “**Pastor**”; we are **in** His “**pasture**”!

“**Earmark**” (**brand**); **John 10:14**: “**I** know **My** own, and **My** own know **Me**!”

**I shall not want.**

My childhood interpretation!

Are we Americans spoiled or what?

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:**

The work of a shepherd and his helpers! Compare God & His angels!

“**Top ram**” (“**GREASE**”); **Scripture** “greases” us; **it** serves us as “**green**” pastures!

**He leadeth me beside the still waters.**

The waters of life are often in turmoil, not still; rather, they are dirty waters.

“Be still and know that I am God!”

**He restoreth my soul;**

God does the “**restoring**”; sin is the “**destroyer**”! Think: 1 Corinthians 12:3!

“**CAST DOWN**” sheep! Psalm 42:11: “Why art thou ‘**cast down**,’ O my soul?”

**He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His Name’s sake.**

Learn to let **GOD** be the **SHEPHERD**; follow **HIM**, do not try to lead **HIM**.

We create “paths of unrighteousness” via our rebellious, self-centered sin!

**Isaiah 53:6**: “All we like sheep have gone astray.”

But **Jesus** became the “**perfect**” **Lamb of God** to save us (**HIS** righteousness).

Yea, though I walk **through** the valley of the shadow of death,

I will **fear** NO evil:

What does that mean for a flock of sheep—for us “**fearful ones**”?  
Sheep are very “fearsome” creatures (ex. Jackrabbits, “two dogs”-292)

For **Thou art with me:**

“I will never leave you or forsake you,” promises **Jesus!** **COMFORT!!!**  
**Don’t you ever leave Him!!!**

**Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.**

The shepherd’s “**rod**” is both an “**offensive & defensive**” weapon!  
No reason for the devil to “pull the wool over our eyes”!

**Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies:**

What is a “table” for sheep ? (“**Table**” equals *mesa* in Spanish; Kiswahili.)  
The tedious job of getting a “table” **set** for the sheep who have bad habits!  
What “**TABLE**” does **Jesus** set for us “bad **WORSHIP-HABIT** sinners”?

**Thou anointest my head with oil;**

The irritation plight of sheep, as bugs & parasites invade their noses!  
Satan bugs us!  
What a shepherd does! **OIL.**  
What the **Holy Spirit** can do for us DAILY, as He, the “Oil of Joy” oils us. **How?**

my **cup** runneth over.

**My cup is not half-empty or only half-full; it runneth over with blessings!**  
The “**cup**” I saw on the fields of Bethlehem in 1965!

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;**

“**Our sins they are many; His mercies are more!**”

“I am with you to the end,” says **Jesus!**

**Read Keller, p. 133!!!**

**and I shall live in the house of the LORD FOREVER.**

Our **Shepherd** continues to lead us during the **winter** of our lives, **home....**

Thus, I close by asking, “Did you really know Psalm 23? Would you like to know more by reading **Keller’s** book? **YOUR OPPORTUNITY!!!**”