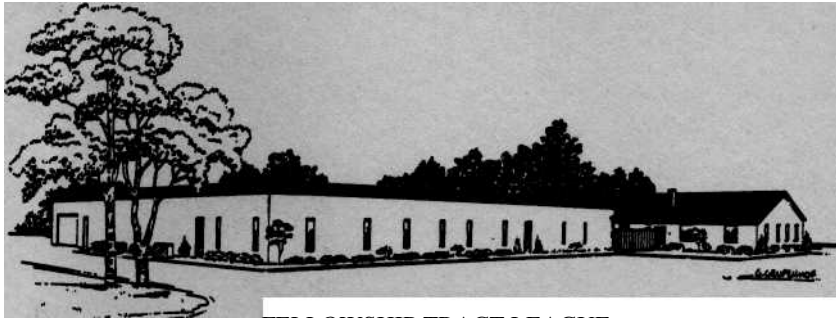


PSALM

23

by
J. WILLIAM KANOY
Th.B, B.R.E., B.D.



FELLOWSHIP TRACT LEAGUE
BOOK DIVISION

P.O. BOX 164

LEBANON, OHIO 45036

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. J. William Kanoy was born on November 26, 1928 in Jamestown, North Carolina. He was converted on June 3, 1945, and called into the ministry of our Lord one year later. Dr. Kanoy graduated from Bible college and did post-graduate work. He held three earned degrees and an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.



For 28 years, Dr. Kanoy was pastor of Church Street Baptist Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. In addition, he was president of Greensboro Bible College, which he founded 26 years ago. He also conducted meetings in Bible conferences in almost every state in the U. S. as well as some meetings abroad. For 25 years, he preached almost daily. Dr. Kanoy was the author of 25 books.

Dr. Kanoy was married to Betty McMahan Kanoy for 48 years. They have three children: Billy Ray Kanoy, Patricia K. Whitt and Pamela K. Bush. They also have six grandchildren. Mrs. Kanoy resides in Oak Ridge, North Carolina.

Dr. Kanoy ascended into Heaven on May 18, 1995.

Dr. Kanoy truly kept the faith, fought the fight and finished the course.

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VERSE 1

*"The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want. "*

- I. Sheep. Nature and habits of sheep. Most particular of all other animals.
 - A. Sheep are born; Shepherd never gives birth to sheep.
 - B. Sheep are an object of property, not a wild animal.
Only domestic animal that cannot exist without man.
Horses, dogs, cats left to themselves will become wild.
Not sheep, they will be killed by wolves or winter.
Sheep are
 1. Property (of God).
 2. Purchased possessions.
 3. Price was great (blood).
 - C. Nearest like a man than any other animal. (We are the sheep of his pasture.)
 1. They are dumb. Cannot train them to do anything.
"Lambe" "Dumbie".
 - a. Minds are blind.
 - b. Know their shepherd.
 2. They are defenseless.
 - a. Don't hear well or see well (14 feet).
 - b. Not swift in flight.
 - c. No weapon for defense (Rod of shepherd).
 3. They have no sense of direction. If ever lost cannot find way back. Must be brought back by Shepherd; must be found by Shepherd.
 4. They are easily disturbed.
 - a. Least little thing will frighten them (Least thing will tear up a church now days.)
 - b. Prone to stray.
 - c. Weak, very little strength. (Philadelphia Church Revelation 3:8)
 5. They are willing to die. (Dumb before the shearers. Isaiah 53).
 - a. Follow the shepherd for protection and food.
 - b. Give up wool for comfort.
 - c. Give their life for meat.

- d. Flock together. Do better in flocks and not separate.
 - e. Clean natured animal. Not goats, they eat anything.
 - f. Affectionate animals, loving eyes, lick hand, not hog.
 - g. Follow one another, one can lead another astray.
- D. Relationship of sheep to shepherd.
- 1. Favor him. (Hear my voice. John 10:4, 16).
 - 2. Follow him. Only a sick sheep will follow a stranger.
 - 3. Furnish him.
 - a. Flesh - eat - food.
 - b. Fat - make a salve and ointment.
 - c. Fluid - milk - cheese.
 - d. Fleece - profit.
 - e. Fellowship - file line, turn face toward sheep, talk in its ear, sheep will rub against leg. (John said, "Our fellowship is with the father, and with the son Jesus Christ." I John 1:3).

II. Shepherd.

A. Shepherd's Redemption.

- 1. Three things mentioned. Verse 1.
 - a. Sheep.
 - b. Shepherd.
 - c. Supply.
- 2. Lambs, sheep and shepherds mentioned 1,140 times in the Bible. The Bible is full of the shepherd, ministry of God. Mr. Spurgeon said Psalm 23 is a "He, Me" Psalm.
- 3. Abraham, Lot, Jacob, Joseph's brethren, Moses, David all were shepherds.
- 4. In the Old Testament, sheep died for the shepherd. In the New Testament, Shepherd dies for the sheep.
- 5. God opened the
 - a. Virgin womb - gave us the good shepherd. (John 10:11).
 - b. Virgin tomb - gave us the great shepherd. (Hebrews 13:20).
 - c. Virgin sky - gives us the chief shepherd. (I Peter 5:4)
 He died to save the sheep - Salvation.

- He lives to keep the sheep - Security.
 He is coming to reward the sheep - Service.
6. Moses had to learn to lead the sheep before he could lead a nation. Christ had to redeem the sheep before he could reign over them.
 7. Jesus as Shepherd.
 - a. Why did Jesus become a Shepherd?
 - 1) All we like sheep had gone astray. We need a shepherd to lead us.
 - 2) God would not trust the care of the sheep to an hireling.
 - 3) He was the Son of God (the only).
 - b. What has the Shepherd done for the sheep?
 - 1) Gave his life.
 - 2) Door of the sheepfold. (John 10)
 - 3) Given eternal life.
 - 4) Keep them forever.
 - c. What are the characteristics of sheep in relation to the shepherd?
 - 1) Hear his voice.
 - 2) Know him, he knows them, ear mark.
 - 3) Follow him.
 - 4) Will not follow a stranger.
 They that hear him, know him. They that know him, follow him.
- B. Shepherd's Relationship.
1. Finds them. Other sheep have I. I must bring.
 All religions seek God. Christianity is God seeking man!
 2. Feeds them. Gives life to them. Be born again.
 3. Feeds them. Green pastures. Cup runneth over. Only one kind of sheep gets restless (a hungry one).
 4. Foregoes them. Never drives them. (A butcher drives sheep).
 5. Fondles them. Love, picks them up.
 6. Fleeces there. Cuts off wool.
 - a. Sake of sheep.
 - b. Not make a new crop.
 - c. Get wool caught in briars and bushes.
 - d. Sickly and weak.

7. Flails them. Chastens, 4 steps.
 - a. Cleanses. (John 15:1-4)
 - b. Chastise, Child train, embarrass, use the rod.
(Hebrews 12:5; Greek "Pedegore")
 - c. Castaway. (I Corinthians 9:27)
 - d. Carry you home. (I Corinthians 11:30)
 8. Furbishes them. Washes or cleanses the sheep.
 9. Features them. Likes to show off fat and good sheep.
 10. Folds them. There shall be one fold. "I shall dwell in them."
- C. Shepherd's Resources.
1. Lowly life. Youngest son, not the elder; only one son then the daughter.
 2. Lonely life. Men forsook him. God forsook him. Never went home in 33 years.
 3. Laborious life, hard life.
 - a. One of peril - robbers and weather.
 - b. One of a pilgrim - valleys and rocks, meager supplies.
 - c. One of program - constant care of the sheep.
 4. Loving life. Gave his life for sheep (fall of Adam)
 5. Lifting life. Up to higher levels or plains. (Psalm 40:2)
 - a. He lifts us from - penalty of sin.
 - b. He lifts us up - power of sin.
 - c. He lifts us out - presence of sin.
- D. Shepherd's Riches.
1. Our Saviour is a Shepherd. (John 10)
 - a. He is a provider of his sheep.
 - b. He is a protector of his sheep.
 - c. He is a preserver of his sheep.
 2. He is the true shepherd.
 - a. He never forgets one of his own - knows them.
 - b. He never fails one of his own - knows their need.
 - c. He never forsakes one of his own - knows the dangers.
 3. He is the abiding Shepherd. (Hostings, page 394, Vol. 23)
 - a. Shepherd's heart to love us.
 - b. Shepherd's eye to watch over us.
 - c. Shepherd's voice that we hear and know.
 - d. Shepherd's memory - calleth us by name.

- e. Shepherd's knowledge - understands our needs.
 - f. Shepherd's nearness - always near night and day.
 - g. Shepherd's strength - to keep us.
 - h. Shepherd's tenderness - caring for the weak ones.
 - i. Shepherd's faithfulness - that we may fully trust him.
- E. "My Shepherd" expresses ownership. He is mine. I am his.
1. Identified with him. There are no "ifs", "buts", "I hope so".
 2. Psalm 18:2 talks of "my salvation", "my fortress", "my rock", "my deliverer", "my God", "my strength", "my buckler", "my tower".
 - a. We have heard "my bicycle", "my baby", "my toys", "my wife", "my sweetheart".
 3. We are his
 - a. By creation.
 - b. By redemption (purchased me).
 - c. By sustaining (Leads me by his Spirit and keeps me by his power).
 4. He is mine
 - a. In January, February, every month.
 - b. Sunday, Monday and everyday.
 - c. In sunshine and shadow.
 - d. When I'm here and when I'm there.
 - e. In war and in peace.
 - f. In prosperity and in adversity.
 5. "My Shepherd" is the language of
 - a. Faith.
 - b. Love.
 - c. Assurance.
 - d. Confession.
 - e. Grace
 6. Verse 1 is like husband and wife.
 - a. "The Lord is my Shepherd" - that is the husband.
 - b. "I shall not want" - that is the wife.
What God hath joined together let not unbeliever divorce.

III. Supply. "I shall not want."

- A. George Henderson says I shall not want for

1. Rest.
 2. Refreshment.
 3. Preservation.
 4. Guidance.
 5. Peace.
 6. Companionship.
 7. Comfort.
 8. Sustenance.
 9. Anything.
- B. James H. McConkey says I shall not want
1. When bread ceases. ("Man shall not live by bread alone.")
 2. When toil comes. ("Toiled all night and caught nothing.")
 3. When purse is empty. (fish and coin)
 4. When wolf comes (He gives his life for the sheep)
- C. Notice all the "nots" in the Bible. Here are a few.
What a difference that word makes.
1. Not want (Psalm 23:1)
 2. Not come into condemnation. (John 5:24)
 3. Not serve sin. (Romans 6:6)
 4. Not be shut at all by day. (Revelation 21:25)
 5. And fear not. (Matthew 10:28)
- D. I shall not want.
1. His riches are unsearchable.
 2. His joy is unspeakable.
 3. His power is unlimited.
 4. His faithfulness is unfailing.
 5. His word is unshakable.
 6. His love is unchanging.

NOTE: This is a verse of God's goodness and grace. It presents an analogy of the shepherd and his total provision for his sheep. The ability is never in the sheep, but in the shepherd. We like sheep are helpless and are entirely dependent upon the Shepherd.

- E. Word "want" changes its meaning over the years. It means to "worry over". Worry is a sin. Paul said in Philippians

4:6, "Be careful for nothing."

We are prone to worry:

1. Over our families.
2. Over our foes.
3. Over our food.
4. Over our finances.
5. Over our friends.
6. Over our future.

NOTE: I shall not worry when

1. Sickness comes.
2. Sorrow comes.
3. Shadows come.
4. Silent reaper comes.

F. A little girl quoted Psalm 23 as "The Lord is my Shepherd,
He is all I want."

1. "Want" is translated as "need". (Philippians 4:19)

VERSE 2

*"He maketh me to lie down in green
pastures: he leadeth me beside
the still waters. "*

In verses 2 and 3, three things are seen:

1. Rest. "He maketh me to lie down."
2. Refreshment. "Beside still water."
3. Restoration. "He restoreth my soul."

I. Why does the Shepherd make the sheep rest?

- A. Because the shepherd can see much farther than the sheep.
Mountains ahead, valleys ahead.

II. Maketh.

- A. Not force, but gentle persuasion. (Touches the thigh of
place of strength.)

- III. Sheep will not lie down unless:
 - A. Free from fear. (II Timothy 1:7, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear.")
 - B. Free from friction. Social behavior in the flock. (Church at Corinth)
 - C. Free from flies. Parasites around eyes and body.
 - D. Free from need of food. Must be satisfied.

- IV. Green pastures speaks of sustenance. Still waters speaks of refreshment. He has put his word above his name. (Psalm 138:2)
 - A. Manna. (Exodus 16, compare John 6)
 - 1. Manna - white - purity - tasted like honey - sweetness. (Exodus 16:31, Compare Psalm 119:103)
 - 2. Christ is enfolded in Old Testament. He is unfolded in New Testament.
 - 3. We need to walk with God like Enoch, but we need to learn like Mary - "Sitting at his feet."
 - 4. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd. (Isaiah 40:11)
 - 5. He satisfieth the longing soul. (Psalm 107:9)
 - B. Water. (Exodus 17, compare with John 7)
 - 1. Water Gate not repaired. (Nehemiah 3)

- V. He leadeth me. (Also verse 3)
 - A. The sheep follow because they know the shepherd's voice. (A.T. Pearson: Butcher drives the sheep. Shepherd leads the sheep.)
 - B. Israel found God's guidance through the wilderness in four ways.
 - 1. Trumpets. (Old Testament and New Testament)
 - 2. Cloud - Holy Spirit
 - 3. Father-in-law - pictures the servants of God. Hobab gave good advice for he had experience in the wilderness. (Judges 4:11)
 - 4. Ark (Jesus). Picture of Jesus in whom rests the unbroken law.

- VI. Sheep chew the cud, clean animal, proper diet, parts hoof, steady walk. (Psalm 1:1) Ruminant means to chew the cud.

- A. The shepherd delights to have the sheep lying down.
 - 1. Putting on fat.
 - 2. Growing wool.

VII. Still waters - type of the Holy Spirit.

- A. He does for us spiritually all that water does for us physically.
 - 1. Water cleans.
 - 2. Fertilizes.
 - 3. Gives life.
 - 4. Is a vital necessity.

NOTE: Still water runs deep.

- VIII. We must know the value of the shed blood of Psalm 22 if we are to enjoy the green pastures, still waters, table spread of Psalm 23.

VERSE 3

*"He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me
in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake. "*

- i. He restoreth my soul.
 - A. Restoreth.
 - 1. Hebrew means to renew or bring back to a place once enjoyed.
 - 2. There is the doctrine of restoration taught in the Bible.
 - 3. The word "Meshibah" "restoreth" is translated in Psalm 19:7, converting.
 - B. Three phases of restoration.
 - 1. Restoration from disorder and decay. (Psalm 80:19)
 - 2. From sorrow and affliction (Ruth 4:15)
 - 3. Restoration from death. (I Kings 17:21-22)
Relaxation. Recuperation. Rehabilitation.
 - C. What is it He restores.
 - 1. To the flock.

2. To the fold.
 3. To the fellowship.
- D. Sheep are prone to wander; 14 feet in front of them. Can't jump a fence unless away from it. Never close to fence.
1. Break the leg of habitual strayer to break it of the habit.
- E. My soul. Not a soul, not the soul, not some soul. What is my soul? My soul is I. It is the eternal me.
1. When wandering in sin.
 2. When weakening in service.
 3. When wilting in self.
- F. Dog, cat, horse can find its way home; but not a sheep. Sheep stray easily.
- G. God restores by:
1. Warning.
 2. Exhortation.
 3. Trouble.
 4. Chastening.
- Peter was restored by a look. David was restored by judgment. Abraham was restored by trouble.
- II. He leadeth me in paths of righteousness for his name sake.
- A. It is his responsibility to lead, ours to follow.
- Shepherd would get sheep out of fold, from the porter or watchman and lead them out and go before them.
1. Where he leads us. Paths of righteousness.
(Titus 2:11-12)
 2. Why he leads us. For his name sake.
 - a. Soberly. World within - thoughts, tongue, temper.
 - b. Righteously. World without - we are to manifest practically what we are judicially in heaven.
 - c. Godly. World above - seek those things above.
(Colossians 3:1)
- B. Paths. Not rest, but progress.
1. What the Christian life is like: a "walk", "run", "step", "path", "way"
 2. It may not always seem right. "All paths of the Lord are mercy and truth." (Psalm 25:10)
 3. Short cuts often prove the longest way around. "God led them not through the way of the Philistines,

- although that was near." (Exodus 13:17)
- C. Some paths have a dead end. But his paths are paths of:
1. Righteousness.
 2. Rest.
 3. Refreshment. Water and grass.
 4. Rigor. Through the valley.
- D. For his name sake. (Philippians 2:9-10; John 17:12)
1. God has connected his name and glory with the walk and conduct of his people.
 - a. My salvation is tied up with him. ("None of them is lost.") He will keep his sheep, for it is a calamity, a shame for a shepherd to lose a sheep.
 - b. The Shepherd's reputation is at stake. For a shepherd who permitted a stray lamb to perish is a disgrace, even for years afterwards. (Luke 15:4-6, "Ninety and nine")

THE NAMES OF GOD

No doubt the name "Jehovah" is pronounced in the Hebrew Bible (four letter name) "JHWH" or Jahwe. Jehovah means, "the existing, the abiding, eternal, steadfast, permanent, dependable, true, "Who is and will ever be," or, as the exalted Lord Himself declares. "He who is and he who was and He who is to come." (Revelation 1:4,8; 4:8) In the most manifold way the name Jehovah gives us a picture of salvation, Christian living, and experience and eternal glory.

There are seven names of Jehovah in the Old Testament direct, also revealed in Psalm 23:

1. Jehovah-Rohi - The Lord is my shepherd. Psalm 23:1
2. Jehovah-Shalom - The Lord who is or gives peace.
Psalm 23:2 (Judges 6:24)
3. Jehovah-Rapha - The Lord the physician. Psalm 23:3
(Exodus 15:26)
4. Jehovah-Tsidkenu - The Lord our Righteousness.
Psalm 23:3 (Jeremiah 23:6)
5. Jehovah-Shammah - The Lord is there, the tabernacle of

- God with men. Psalm 23:4 (Ezekiel 48:35)
6. Jehovah-Nissi - The Lord my banner. Psalm 23:5
(Exodus 17:15)
 7. Jehovah-Jireh - The Lord who provides. Psalm 23:6
(Genesis 22:14)

The one other name that sums up all the names is the name "Jehovah-Sabaoth" - The Lord Of Host.

These other names I will briefly mention so you can be looking for them in the future.

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Adonai - means Lord | 450 times |
| 2. El - means mighty God | 230 times |
| 3. El Shaddai - means Almighty | 50 times |
| 4. El Elyon - means most high God | 32 times |
| 5. Elohim - means Creator | 2570 times |
| 6. Jehovah - means redeeming and covenant God.. | 6000 times |
| 7. Eloth - means strong one (Almighty) | 50 times |

Thus altogether the names of God occur in the Old Testament about 6,000 times. This shows their vast and exalted significance in Biblical revelation.

VERSE 4

*"Yea though I walk through the valley
of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. "*

In verse 4 we see three things.

1. Place.
 2. Peace.
 3. Presence.
- I. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death.
 - A. Death is gain; fellowship in tomb.

- B. Four causes of death.
 1. Believers work is finished.
 2. Divine discipline.
 3. Glorify God. (Philippians 1:20)
 4. Divine imposition.
- C. We are not to fear shadows.
 1. Dying is a shadow.
 2. Shadow of a dog cannot bite you.
 3. Shadow of a sword cannot kill you.
 4. Shadow of a serpent cannot sting you.
 5. Shadow of death cannot separate the believer from life.
- D. The reason some people fear death is because they aren't dying yet. God will give you dying grace.
- E. The word valley is rendered "gloomy ravine".
 1. Valley of sickness.
 2. Financial loss and ruin.
 3. Disgrace and dishonor.
 4. Valley of bereavement.
 5. Valley of age.
 6. Valley of death.
- F. After the valley of shadow comes "the prepared table", "anointed head", "cup", "goodness and mercy".
 1. Death is dark, gloomy, cold, but only a shadow.
 2. Death is not the house, only the porch to the house.
 3. There must be a light up above in order to have a shadow.
- G. When you walk you are not in a state of fear. You increase your pace when you are afraid.

David said.

 1. I am not afraid.
 2. There is no condemnation.
 3. I am not ashamed.
 4. I shall walk on through.

A Christian may feel the stroke of death, but never know the sting of death.
- H. Walk. (Hebrew "firm step")
 1. Walk of assurance.
 2. Walk means progress.
 - a. Walk of safety.

- b. Walk of serenity.
 - c. Walk of satisfaction.
 - d. Walk of security.
- i. Through - not in, not stay in, not abide in, not remain in, not live in, not camp in, not wander in, not lost in; But "through".
 - 1. Through the shadow into the sunshine.
 - 2. Through the blackness into the brightness.
 - 3. Through the darkness into the daylight.
 - 4. Through the gloom into the glory.
 - 5. Through the twilight into God's tomorrow.
 - 6. Through the midnight into an eternal midday.
 - 7. Through the valley into vision.
 - 8. Through the ravine into the rapture.
- II. For thou art with me.
 - A. The great shepherd will never forsake us.
 - 1. When you are weak. (II Corinthians 13:4)
 - 2. When you are weeping. (II Corinthians 12)
 - 3. When you are weary. (Job 7:13)
 - 4. When you are forsaken by world. (Hebrews 11:37-38)
 - B. One thing that settles the sheep is the presence of the shepherd; not out yonder, but now. (Hebrews 11:6)
- III. Thy rod and thy staff will comfort me.
 - A. Rod and staff.
 - 1. Rod speaks of authority - staff of aid.
 - 2. Rod for defense - staff for direction.
 - 3. Rod used to rule - staff for restoration.
 - 4. Rod used for enemies - staff for sheep.
 - 5. Rod used to govern - staff for guidance.
 - B. Four things seen in rod and staff.
 - 1. Death. No one likes to think of death.
 - 2. Discipline. Rod dipped in red dye. (I Corinthians 10:13)
 - 3. Duty. Help then to walk.
 - 4. Deliverance. From edges; dangerous places.
 - C. Rod is word of God.
 - 1. Rod fits the hand right; was 2-1/2 feet long;

(Staff was 6-1/2 feet long)

2. Uses.
 - a. Punitive (Ezekiel 20:37)
 - b. Investigative - find scab, separate wool.
(Psalm 139:23,24)
 - c. Corrective - break leg, carry on shoulders.
Never went astray again. (Psalm 89:23; Proverbs 10:13; Proverbs 23:14)
 - d. Protective - lions. (Satanic forces)
 - 1) Protects us.
 - a) From fatigue. He restoreth my soul.
 - b) From fear. Thou art with me.
 - c) From foes. Enemies round about.
 - d) From friends. Daggars of saints.
 - e) From fever. At door of fold to see if any wound under wool. His staff keeps me straight; his rod keeps me safe.
 - 2) Protects us from.
 - a) Fear by his presence.
 - b) Foes by his power.
 - c) Future by his promises.
 - 3) Devil is not afraid of sheep. Devil is afraid of Shepherd.

D. Staff. Type of Holy Spirit.

1. Staff means "stay", "support".
 - a. Rest under his chin.
 - b. Identifies the shepherd.
 - c. Lifts the sheep. Drawing power of Holy Spirit.
 - 1) Puts it under legs of lambs.
 - 2) Puts it on neck of ewes.
 - d. Staff used to push little lambs to their mother.
Cry "abba father".

E. Rod used for discipline.

1. Three things you can do when God applies the rod.
 - a. Falsely accuse God.
 - b. Refuse to be child trained.
 - c. Murmur about the scourging.
2. Hebrews 12 tells us how to act.
 - a. Not just make a statement, but a confession of sin.

- b. Take it like a Christian ought. (Hebrews 12:5)
- c. Remember why God sends it. (Hebrews 12:10)
- d. It will produce fruit. (Hebrews 12:11)
- 3. Sins unto death. (I John 5:16)
 - a. Lying to the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:4)
 - b. Living after the flesh. (Romans 8:13)
 - c. Defiling the temple of Holy Ghost (I Corinthians 3:17)
 - d. Fornication. (I Corinthians 5)
 - e. Murmuring. (I Corinthians 10:10)
 - f. Misbehaving at Lord's table. (I Corinthians 11:27)
 - g. Rebelling against chastisement. (Hebrews 12:9)
- F. Shepherd's crook. Thy staff.
 Shepherd's club. Thy rod.
 Shepherd's company. Thou art with me.

IV. Other equipment of the Shepherd.

- A. Lamp. Bottom a fleece wick. ("Thy word is a lamp unto my feet.")
 - 1. Between feet to warm. Find sheep in pathway. Fleece coat. Dried him out.
 - 2. Word is comforting.
 - 3. Oil makes light effective.
- B. Script. Bag out of goat's skin. (I Samuel 17:40-44)
 - 1. Supplies.
 - 2. Sling. (I Samuel 17:49-50)
 - a. Holy Spirit power beyond the natural; beyond self.
 - b. Against giant's armor.
 - c. Killed animals before they got the sheep.
 - 3. Flute.
 - a. Wind instrument. (Matthew 12:20)
 - b. Controlling power over sheep. Chew cud.
- C. Garment. (Genesis 3:21; Genesis 37:3)
 - 1. Dress proper for climate. Fleece - sheep lined.
 - 2. Looked like a sheep. Identification.
 - 3. Wore it for protection. White throws off heat.
 Fleece kept him warm.
 - 4. Wore it for propitiation. Something had to die.

(I John 2:2); I John 4:9-10)

- a. Nakedness.
- b. Tattered garments.
- c. Defects of the body.
- d. Cover sick and cold sheep.

VERSE 5

"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. "

- I. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.
 - A. Three things in verse 5.
 1. Entertainment.
 2. Enjoyment.
 3. Enrichment.
 - B. Three analogies in verse 5.
 1. That of a warrior.
 2. That of a priest.
 3. That of a guest.
 - C. Word "prepare" means to set up, to set in a row, to set in order.
 - D. Our fight is on three fronts.
 1. World.
 2. Flesh.
 3. Devil.
 - E. David had many enemies.
 1. Hunted by Saul (like a partridge).
 2. Hounded by Satan.
 3. Haunted by sin.
 - F. In the cave, God prepared a table for David.
In the wilderness God prepared a table for Israel.
 - G. Spiritually the table speaks of fellowship and communion.
 - H. David and Daniel had enemies. Daniel said I will not eat. (Ezekiel 14:14)
 1. Job overcame the devil - infernal enemy.

2. Noah overcame the world - external enemy.
3. Daniel overcame the flesh - internal enemy.

II. Thou anointest my head with oil.

- A. Every believer is a priest. (I Peter 2:5; I Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6; Revelation 5:10; Revelation 20:6)
Everyone in full time service needs the anointing as well as others.
We are priests, and as a priest:
1. Right to confess our sins to God.
 2. Right to come boldly to the throne of grace (middle wall of partition gone.).
 3. Right to offer sacrifices.
 - a. Body. (Romans 12:1)
 - b. Good works. (Hebrews 13:13)
 - c. Praise. (Hebrews 13:15)
 - d. Giving money. (Hebrews 13:16)
 - e. Obeying constituted authority in the local church. (Hebrews 13:17)
Sacrifices of praises, person, purses.
- B. Oil - symbol of Holy Spirit.
Three persons were anointed.
1. Potentates. (Revelation 1:1; I Timothy 6:15)
 2. Prophets - spokesman, declares him.
 3. Priests. Moses anointed Aaron.
- C. Oil and wine were chief medicines of the East. (Luke 10:34)
1. Holy Spirit will give fullness, freshness.
- D. Many reason why Shepherd carried oil bag.
1. Snares, Isms and cults (thorn bush).
 2. Sunstroke. Don't get struck on self.
 3. Scratches. If you do anything for God, you will get some scratches.
 4. Sight. One anointing not enough for the summer. (bugs, parasites)
 5. Sex. Mating season. When two sheep rub together, infection spreads fast.
 6. Snake holes. Pictures of what the Holy Ghost does for the child of God unknown to him.

- III. My cup runneth over.
 - A. My cup of judgment was drained by our Lord.
 - B. Cup running over means abundance. (Matthew 26:42)
 - C. Shepherd put nose of sheep in cup; cause the sheep to get rid of fever. (Nose in cup would cause it to run over)
 - D. It was the responsibility of the host to keep the cup of guest full at all times. If cup was only half full it meant that he was liked very much. But if it was overflowing he was welcome and had access to his presence any time.
 - E. How does a vessel overflow? Only by being kept under a flowing fountain. He is the fountain of living water. (Jeremiah 2:13).

VERSE 6

*"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow
me all the days of my life: and I
shall dwell in the house of the
Lord forever."*

- I. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. Favor of the Lord follows us. "Surely". Faithfulness of the Lord never fails us. "Surely goodness". Fatherhood of the Lord is eternal. "I will dwell".
 - A. Goodness and mercy are attributes of God.
 - 1. Goodness - meets our needs. Priesthood provides. (Hebrews 4:14-16)
Mercy - forgives all faults. Advocacy of Christ. (I John 2:1)
 - 2. Goodness - cares for the temporal.
Mercy - . cares for the spiritual.
 - 3. Goodness - bounty of God.
Mercy - love of God.
 - 4. Goodness - leads to repentance.
Mercy - leads to regeneration.
 - 5. Goodness - convicts us of sin.
Mercy - offers regeneration.

- 6. Goodness - caused the prodigal to come back home.
Mercy - ran to meet the son.
 - 7. Goodness - is God's hand.
Mercy - is God's heart.
 - 8. Goodness - his person reveals.
Mercy - reveals his pity.
 - B. Shepherd leads us; goodness and mercy are the "Rearguards."
Shepherd always has two sheep dogs. Mr. Spurgeon calls
goodness and mercy two heavenly messengers.
 - C. Surely without a doubt. It is an exclamation of confidence.
(Not self confidence; Christ confidence)
 - D. "All the days.
 - 1. Spring days and summer days.
 - 2. Autumn days and winter days.
 - 3. Sundays and fun days.
 - 4. Weekdays and weak days.
 - 5. Sunshine days and shadow days.
 - 6. Peace and peril days.
 - 7. Rest and rush days.
 - E. Before me to guide.
Beside me to gird.
Behind me to guard.
Beyond me to gather.
- II. And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.
- A. "Dwell" means to abide, remain, settle, continue.
 - 1. "Here we have no abiding place."
 - 2. When we come to the end of all the days of our lives,
then what? "House of the Lord forever."
 - B. "House."
 - 1. This is a house, not a tent. (John 14:1-6)
 - 2. This is a home, not a lodging.
 - 3. A home for the people of God; a home in the presence
of God.
 - 4. House means "presence."
 - C. J.J. Van Gorder says.
 - 1. Abraham looked for it.
John saw it.
Saints will walk and live in it.

2. Prophesied city. (Old Testament)
Planned city. (Revelation 21:13-16)
Paved city. Pure Gold.
Protected city. (Revelation 21:1-27; 22:3)
Provisioned city. (Revelation 21:23; 22:2)
Permanent city. (Hebrews 13:14)
- D. Sheep manure. Best balanced fertilizer of any animal.
They leave something behind.
 1. Worthwhile.
 2. Productive.
 3. Beautiful.
 4. Beneficial to themselves and other.
- E. "Forever". For all eternity.
- F. Reception. Since none were lost, the Chief Shepherd sits at head of the table.
- G. John Howard Payne never had a home; wrote the song, "Home Sweet Home".