

Psalm 23, Part 1
Hans Ostrem
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PSALM 23 –CSB (Christian Standard Bible)

¹ *The Lord is my shepherd; I have what I need.*

² *He lets me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside quiet waters.*

³ *He renews my life; he leads me along the right paths for his name's sake.*

⁴ *Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, 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 overflows.*

⁶ *Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord as long as I live.*

As we dive into this psalm, we will be looking at some powerful statements in verses 1-3:

1) _____.
"The Lord is my shepherd; I have what I need." Psalm 23:1

Before David was a powerful king, remember he was a just a simple shepherd. Now a shepherd had an important job but according to history, a shepherd's work was considered the lowest of lows.

It was an important job because that simple shepherd had to lead, guide and protect the sheep in their flock.

Simply put, sheep _____ shepherd.
The mighty and powerful King David here in this 23rd Psalm was humbly thinking about the God and creator of the universe. As he thought about his relationship with God, he made the easy comparison of a shepherd and his sheep. God was like a _____ to David and David was like a _____ to God.

"David answered Saul, "Your servant has been tending his father's sheep. Whenever a lion or a bear came and carried off a lamb from the flock, I went after it, struck it down, and rescued the lamb from its mouth. If it reared up against me, I would grab it by its fur, strike it down, and kill it." 1 Samuel 17:34-35;

2) _____.
"He lets me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside quiet waters." Psalm 23:2

The LORD as the shepherd, knew how to make David get rest as he needed it, just as an

earthly shepherd would care for his sheep. We understood earlier that _____ shepherd.

Life gets more and more busy and overwhelming. Our responses are less than ideal; we lose our temper, don't take care of ourselves and often make poor decisions. We simply don't take the needed time to _____.

3) _____.
"He renews my life; he leads me along the right paths for his name's sake." Psalm 23:3

This is a wonderful picture of how God is with us.

He is there to _____ us and _____ us on the RIGHT PATHS.

The closer we are to the shepherd the lesser the chance to stray down a wrong path.

God _____ has a plan for His people.

If God knows what lies ahead and He wants to lead us in a path that is best for us... why do we _____?

Remember these powerful statements;

When I trust God – _____,

When I wait on God – _____,

He is in control – _____.