



**=I AM SERIES=**

**I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

**JOHN 10:14**

**INTRODUCTION:** The Lord Jesus taught about things that were well known by the people. It was not an unusual sight, in fact, it was an everyday occurrence for the people in the Middle East to see a shepherd leading his sheep across the field or down a path. No doubt the Lord Jesus looked out and saw such a sight and said, "I am the Good Shepherd." Let us notice some things about this Good Shepherd.

**I. HE KNOWS HIS SHEEP.**

- John 10:14, "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of Mine." Notice also in verse 27 He says, "I know them." Notice Nahum 1:7, "The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and He knoweth them that trust in Him." II Timothy 2:19, "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His. And, let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." What He is saying here is that He knows every sheep by name and He knows every detail about every sheep. Ah, this is a wonderful truth! Though our Lord has many sheep, He knows us all by name. He knows everything about us. He knows our problems, He knows our burdens, He knows our sicknesses, He knows our ailments, He knows our weaknesses, He knows the good things, He knows the bad things, He knows all about us.!

**II. HE GIVES HIS SHEEP ETERNAL LIFE.**

- John 10:28a, "And I give unto them eternal life."

**III. HIS SHEEP SHALL NEVER PERISH.**

- John 10:28b, "And they shall never perish."

**IV. NO ONE SHALL PLUCK HIS SHEEP FROM HIM.**

- John 10:28c, "Neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand."

**V. HIS SHEEP FOLLOW HIM.**

- John 10:27b, "I know them, and they follow Me."

**VI. HE IS KNOWN OF HIS SHEEP.**

- John 10:14b, "...and am known of Mine."

**VII. HE LAYS DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS SHEEP.**

- John 10:15b, "And I lay down My life for the sheep." (This pertains to Calvary, of course.)

**VIII. OUR LORD IS ALSO CALLED "THE GREAT SHEPHERD."**

- Hebrews 13:20, "Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant." In other words, He is not only the "Good Shepherd," but He is the "Great Shepherd!" He is more than just an ordinary shepherd.

## IX. HE IS THE CHIEF SHEPHERD.

- I Peter 5:4, "And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away." Now we come to the superlative. He is first the "Good Shepherd," then He is the "Great Shepherd," now He is the "chief Shepherd." He is the greatest shepherd of all. What a wonderful Saviour we have!

## X. HE IS WITH HIS SHEEP - PSALM 23.

- **He is above us.** Psalm 23:2a, "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures." This is a wonderful truth. When a little lamb would keep running away, the shepherd would try and try and try to keep him in the fold. After awhile he would take the little lamb's leg and gently break it so the little lamb could not run. This meant that the little lamb could not go away any more. The Lord Jesus often takes us and punishes us to keep us from running away.
- **He is beside us.** Psalm 23:2b, "He leadeth me beside the still waters." Notice the words "Still waters." A little lamb will not drink from troubled waters, and so the Lord makes the waters still. He is beside us while we drink.
- **He is with us.** Psalm 23:4, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear not evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me." Notice the words, "for Thou art with me."
- **He is before us.** Psalm 23:5a, "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies." Notice the words: "Thou preparest a table before me."
- **He is over us.** Psalm 23:5b, "Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over." Notice the words, "Thou anointest my head with oil." Oil here is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.
- **He is behind us.** Psalm 23:6a, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."

## XI. HIS SHEEP SHALL NOT WANT.

- **They shall not want for pasture.** Psalm 23:2a, "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures."
- **They shall not want for water.** Psalm 23:2b, "He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake."
- **They shall not want for leadership.** Psalm 23:3, "He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake."  
**They shall not want for comfort.** Psalm 23:4b, "Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."
- **They shall not want for food.** Psalm 23:5a, "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies."
- **They shall not want for companionship.** Psalm 23:6a, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."
- **They shall not want for eternity.** Psalm 23:6b, "And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

**CONCLUSION:** Anyone who knows a shepherd knows several things about sheep. In the first place, sheep are probably the dumbest animals in the world. They must have help. So are we unable to cope with life alone. We must look to our Shepherd. Then also, sheep follow each other. The shepherd leads. One sheep follows him and each sheep follows along in another's path. We are that way. We love to follow other people. We follow leaders. This means we should be sure we fellowship and associate with people who are following the Shepherd. Then also, any shepherd will tell you he knows something about each sheep individually and that he knows each sheep by name. So does our Lord. A shepherd will also tell you that a good sheep will not follow another shepherd. This is the way we ought to be. We should follow only our Lord and none other. Thank God for the joy of being part of this wonderful fold and of having a wonderful Shepherd!

**MEMORY VERSE:** John 10:14 "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of Mine."