

NOT MY WAY, BUT YAHWEH (PSALM 23)

In Psalm 23 David begins by confidently stating, “The Lord is *my* shepherd.” Then he goes on to describe the way the Lord personally leads him and looks after him. In this psalm we see the Lord not as an impersonal and distant deity, preoccupied with the affairs of the universe, but as a tender Shepherd who lovingly leads His flock and cares for the needs of His sheep.

Whenever your faith begins to waver and you find yourself questioning God’s goodness and His leading in your life, you do well to meditate on the words of this psalm. Those who follow the Good Shepherd have no cause for concern. Their lives are safe and secure in His hands.

POINTS TO PONDER

A. In Psalm 23 David Expresses His Confidence in the Lord’s Leadership.

- Sadly, many Christians lack confidence in Christ. They doubt His ability to lead them. Through life they make all their own decisions and choices. Rather than seeking the Holy Spirit’s guidance, they base their decisions on personal preferences, what seems best to them, and what they think will bring them fulfilment and lasting happiness.
- When we base our choices on these things, we miss out on many of the great blessings God has in store for us. Instead we ought to let Him take the lead. Our duty is simply to follow Jesus. In every decision, our primary thought should be: **Not my way, but Yahweh!**

B. When The Lord Is Leading You, You May Boldly Make Three Great Claims:

- I shall not want. *Lk 22:35.*
- I will fear no evil. *1Jn 4:18.*
- I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. *Rev 21:3; John 3:3.*

C. Consider God’s Conditions For His Guidance in Your Life:

- *Proverbs 3:5-6.*
 1. Trust in the Lord with all your heart.
 2. Lean not on your own understanding.
 3. In all your ways acknowledge Him.
- The Promise: “*And He shall direct your paths.*”

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME?

- When it comes to the choice between my way and God's way, let it always be Yahweh!
- As my Good Shepherd, I can rest in the fact that HE KNOWS what is best for me; HE WANTS what is best for me; and HE PROMISES to never leave me.