

# The GOOD SHEPHERD

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"Then Jesus said unto them again, "Truly, truly, I say unto you, I am the Door of the Sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the Door; by Me if any man enters in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief comes not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am **the Good Shepherd**; the **Good Shepherd** gives His life for the sheep. But he who is a hireling, and not the shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep, and flees; and the wolf catches them, and scatters the sheep. The hireling flees, because he is an hireling, and does not care about the sheep. I am the Good Shepherd, and I know My sheep, and I am known by them. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; they also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice; and there shall be one flock, and One Shepherd. Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it up again. No man takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. This commandment have I received of My Father."  
(John 10:11-18)

**Good:** from the Greek word kalos which means "beautiful", but usually translated "good" (literally or morally)."

**Shepherd:** from the Greek word poimen which means "a shepherd ("pastor" in Latin), a herdsman."

Speaking of the Father, consider also the words of Psalm 23:

"The LORD-**Jehovah** is my Shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me to lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside the still waters.  
He restores my soul.  
He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.  
Yea, even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; for You are with me.  
Your rod and Your staff they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil; and my cup runs over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever."

Consider this messianic prophecy from the Prophet Ezekiel:

"And I will set up **One Shepherd** over them, and He shall feed them, even **My Servant David**; He shall feed them, and He shall be their Shepherd. And I the LORD will be their God, and My servant David shall be a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it." (Ezekiel 34:23-24)

This prophecy was given long after the death of King David. The title '**My Servant David**' is a prophetic title of the promised Messiah, the Christ, the Branch who would be descended from King David – Jesus – who is our **One and only Good Shepherd** !

Just as the Father was a Shepherd to David, so also is the Father a Shepherd to us through Christ Jesus. There is only One Shepherd - for the Father and His Son are One!

# The GOOD SHEPHERD

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Concerning the sheep, God's people throughout the world, the Church, consider this:

"He Himself bore our sins in His own body on the cross, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes you were healed. For you were as sheep going astray; but now you have returned unto the **Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.**" (1 Peter 2:24-25)

Concerning faithful leaders in the Church, consider this prophecy concerning Jesus, which will be fulfilled in the future after His second coming:

"When the Chief Shepherd shall appear, you shall receive a crown of glory that does not fade away."  
(1 Peter 5:4)

**Chief Shepherd:** from the Greek word *archipoimen* which means "Chief-shepherd"

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, the Chief Shepherd, and with the Father our One and Only Shepherd, who's voice we have heard; and who feeds us through His word; who knows us; and who has laid His life down for us by bearing our sins in His own body on the cross, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.

"Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, that **Great Shepherd** of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."  
(Hebrews 13:20-21)

**Great:** from the Greek word *megan* which means " very large, or very great, mega, in the widest sense"

## JESUS is...

**the Good Shepherd !**

...the One Shepherd !

...the Chief Shepherd !

...the Great Mega Shepherd !

who laid down His life for His sheep,  
for those who have entrusted their lives  
to the one and only Shepherd and Overseer of their souls.

**JESUS!**

Lord Jesus, You are my Shepherd!  
You lead me in paths of righteousness!  
You lead me to green pastures!  
You lead me beside still waters!

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever!**