

Series: Psalm 23 "The Lord Is My Shepherd"
"I Shall Not Want For Rest"
Psalm 23:2

Psalm 23:2 Reveals Our Great Need For Rest Both Physically & Spiritually

Psalm 23 A Psalm for the living!
Called a "Psalm of David" written 3000 years ago.

Verses 1-4 The Lord My Shepherd:

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| 1. I Shall Not Want: | Verse 1 |
| 2. I Shall Not Want For Rest: | Verse 2 |
| 3. I Shall Not Want For Restoration: | Verse 3 |
| 4. I Shall Not Want For Guidance: | Verse 3 |
| 5. I Shall Not Want For Safety: | Verse 4 |

Verses 5-6 The Lord My Host:

- | | |
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| 6. I Shall Not Want For Provision: | Verse 5 |
| 7. I Shall Not Want For Eternity: | Verse 6 |

"A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23" By Phillip Keller

The Thought Of Our Passage:

"Since The Lord Is My Shepherd, I Shall Never Want, Nor Shall I Lack For Rest."

- 1. Shepherd Gives Rest:**
- 2. Hindrances To Rest:**
- 3. Experiencing His Rest:**

1. Shepherd Gives Rest:

**Psalm 23:2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; Context -
Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.**

The LORD –YHWH Pronounced Yah·weh in English.

It is **Jehovah**, which means "The Name!"

*"To Be, the Becoming One, the Self Existent One, Timeless,
Self-sufficiency"*

my shepherd This is personal; **this is the heart of the Psalm!**

There are 17 personal singular pronouns in Psalm 23

I shall not want. The word **want** – *"not lacking, not deficient, in proper care" also the idea of being utterly contented so as not to crave for a thing."*

Psalm 23:2 Literally, *"He makes me lie down in pastures of tender grass.
He leads me beside the waters of rest."*

The Shepherds two pronouns preceding the two verbs - He makes me, He leads me

He makes me lie down in green pastures; It is the Great Shepherd that knows what the needs of the sheep are. (Being Healthy Means Resting)

Jesus, our great Shepherd, has done everything for us! **John 6:35**
Jesus, before He was crucified, said, **John 14:27**

He makes me lie down

The very nature of sheep does not allow them to lie down

Sheep are Dumb (less intelligent)

Sheep are Defenseless – Sheep can run, but even that can be of no help because they run into worse danger. **Short, weak leg muscles, bad eyesight, and dwarfed horns** make for easy prey for wolves and mountain lions.

Psalm 7:1-2

Sheep Are Directionless – Sheep move with their heads down, taking small steps. Following their nose to tasty fodder, a little nibble here, a little nibble there, farther and farther away, they go.

Sheep have no homing instinct:

Sheep must be sought and brought back to the fold or the pen (stubborn)

Scripture repeatedly notes we are like sheep:

Isaiah 53:6; Jeremiah 50:6

1 Peter 2:25

Sheep Are Easily Distracted –

He makes me lie down in green pastures; The shepherd that knows what is best must lead them to the green pastures to lie down.

He leads me The shepherd must lead. He leads by example; he shows the path and may need to clear the path.

beside quiet waters. *"Waters of rest," quiet waters "place of repose, a resting place, a quiet place" Sheep now need to drink; they have eaten, and now they need water.*

Sheep need water, *Their bodies are comprised of 70% water. Humans are 60%. They can get water from the dew on the grass in the morning. If there is heavy dew, they can go months without a pool. (Dew, deep wells, or springs and streams)*

Water is a symbol of The Holy Spirit - John 7:37-38

Mankind is spiritually thirsty, and we keep drinking from the wrong sources of water. Jeremiah 2:13

Isaiah 40:11; Matthew 9:36; John 6:35

2. Hindrances To Rest:

In order for sheep to experience rest, there are four requirements:

1. Rest From Fear: Sheep are timid animals.

Two dogs have been known to kill as many as 292 sheep in a single night of unbridled slaughter. **Pregnant Ewes chased by dogs or predators** will slip their unborn lambs from their bodies to the ground.

2. Rest From Friction: Rivalry, tension, and cruel competition within the flock. A pen full of chickens is called a "**Pecking Order**"; with cattle, it is called "**Horning Order,**" and among sheep, it is called "**Butting Order.**"

In a flock, it is some old Ewe. She is the one driving others away from the best grazing or area to bedground. **Ezekiel 34:15-16, 20-22**

Butt Heads – 3 John 9-10

3. Rest From Flies: The summer sheep can be driven into distraction by bugs — **nasal flies, bot flies, warble flies, and ticks.** Parasites and insects can torment sheep. Flies and ticks cause great stress for sheep.

The attentive shepherd keeps a constant lookout for these pests. Shepherd will apply **Oil** to the sheep, which symbolizes **the Holy Spirit.**

For us, it is "You Bug Me!" or "This Bug's Me!"

4. Rest From Famine: Need fresh pastures The shepherd had a task like a farmer in that he had to do work of removing stumps and rocks and working the land so that it could be conducive to grass.

3. Experiencing His Rest:

Psalm 23:2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. How to experience The Shepherds Rest:

- 1. Rest In The Lord – We have Fear, Friction, Being Bugged, and Hungry. We need to repent (Turn from our sins), believe, and place our faith in Jesus. Do We Have Unconfessed Sin?**

God Forgives Us. Isaiah 30:15

1 John 1:9

Rest In His Finished Work - Matthew 11:28-30

- 2. Feed On His Word – Habit of the Word. Job 23:12; Psalm 19:7-11**

- 3. Resting In The Promises of God’s Word - Psalm 4:8, 10**

Matthew 28:20 We will never be alone! He will be with us!

Application:

1. The Confusion Is Over Need Vs Wants. Our World Is In Great Need For The Shepherd, But Instead, They Settle For Wants.
2. Necessity For Rest Is Revealed In The Words “He makes me” And “He leads me,” A Great Reminder That A Relationship With God Begins With Resting In God In Christ.
3. If We Are Experiencing Fear, Friction, Being Bugged, And Hungry, We May Need To Repent (Turn From Our Sins) and Then Believe And Place Our Faith In Jesus. If We Know Jesus, It Could Be Unconfessed Sin.