

**Series Psalm 23 "The Lord Is My Shepherd"
"I Shall Not Want For Guidance"
Psalm 23:3
Part-4**

Psalm 16:11 You will make known to me the path of life;

Psalm 23:3 Our passage **contains 3 truths:**

- 1. Guides Me:**
- 2. Guides In Righteous Paths:**
- 3. Guides For His Name Sake:**

The Author of Psalm 23 is called a "Psalm of David" written 3000 years ago.

**Book: "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23" By Phillip Keller
(A Shepherd 8 years)**

The Thought Of Our Passage: The LORD Is My Shepherd And Since The Lord Is My Shepherd - I Shall Not Want For Guidance.

- 1. He Guides Me**
- 2. Guides In Righteous Paths**
- 3. Guides For His Name Sake**

1. He Guides Me:

**Psalm 23:3 He guides me in the paths
The Shepherd always proceeds the flock; He leads through his
example: John 10:4**

Sheep are unique in that they can't survive without a shepherd.

**Sheep Are Notorious Creatures Of Habit: "A Shepherd Looks at
Psalm 23 By Phillip Keller**

We Are People of Habit:

**The shepherd has a plan in which he knows when it is time to move
to a new grazing area.**

**The greatest single safeguard which a shepherd has in handling his
flock is to keep them on the move.**

We Must Be Willing To Be Led: John 10:4

**People Are Stubborn: Isaiah 53:6 turned to his own way; "doing
what I want" this is my right to do my own wish and carry out my own
ideas. Proverbs 14:12; Proverbs 16:25**

Stephen to the religious – **Acts 7:51** **“You men who are stiff-necked**
Matthew 9:36

2. Guides In Righteous Paths:

Psalm 23:3 The Reality Of God’s Leading: He guides me David said this before, **Psalm 23:2** **He leads me** beside quiet waters.

John 10:27-28

How does God lead us? What is God’s will for my life?
Proverbs 3:5-7

- 1. Trust in the LORD with all your heart** Word **Trust** – to believe, live by faith in God!
- 2. do not lean on your own understanding.** Don’t try and figure it out on your own.
- 3. In all your ways acknowledge Him,** You must want His will in all things. **And He will make your paths straight. God’s Promise, God will direct our paths.**
- 4. Do not be wise in your own eyes;** Our society teaches the opposite
- 5. Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.** Reverence for God, don’t go against Him.

Ephesians 5:15-17 in verse 17 So then - Therefore Therefore what? Christians have a new nature, operating in wisdom.

do not be foolish, *“senseless, foolish, stupid”* without reflection or intelligence.

but understand - be wise, *“to set or bring together, to set or join together in the mind, to understand”*

what the will of the Lord is. The wise not only know the will of God, but they understand what the will of God is.

We should not pray to know some aspect of the will of God when we know we are in violation of His will.

We Should Not Test God With Fleeces, Like Gideon's Judges 6:36-40

**God’s Will Is Not To Be Determined By Opposition.
God’s Will Is Not To Be Determined Through Bible Roulette.
God’s Will Is Not To Be Determined By Feelings.**

When we speak of the will of God, we are speaking of 2 specific areas:

- 1. The General Will Of God -**
- 2. The Particular Will Of God -**

Romans 12:1-2; Psalm 37:4

I looked up the term "**Will of God**," it was used **434 times**.

John 7:17; 1 Peter 2:15

God Leads Me Through His Word: Psalm 119:105

God Leads Me Through By The Holy Spirit: John 16:13

God Leads Me Through Life Situations: Romans 8:28; John 4:34

Where He Leads Me: paths of righteousness – *"not just a straight way, a righteous way, we stray by sinning, but God leads us into upright moral paths"*

righteousness – *"in the right"* **wickedness** – *"in the wrong"*

He guides me in the paths of righteousness It does not mean it will always be easy, always smooth, but it is always right! **Psalm 25:10**

Mark 6:45-53 Jesus led His disciples into a storm –

Four times in Scripture is the phrase "**hear His voice**" and "**harden not your hearts**" **Psalm 95:7-8; Hebrews 3:7-8, 15; 4:7**

3. Guides For His Name Sake:

For His name's sake. *"for His purpose and His glory"* term **His name's** *"the nature and the character of God"* His character is holy, 'for the sake of showing His abilities and His character'

Reason For His Leading: *when I am being led in 'paths of righteousness', it's for the sake of demonstrating His abilities and character. (We Can Witness God on display! WOW!)* **Revelation 4:11**
Psalm 103:14

As His sheep what witness are we revealing to others about the shepherd? 2 Corinthians 2:15-16

We need to stay close to the shepherd, you stay close to those you love,
John 15:10

"A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23" By Phillip Keller gives 7 practical steps we can take to honor God (our Shepherd) to experience and enjoy His guidance.

- 1. Instead of loving myself most - I am willing to love Christ the most, and others more than myself:** Love is not a feeling it is a deliberate choice, it is action. **1 John 3:16**
- 2. Instead of being one of the crowd - I am willing to be singled out, set apart from the crowd: Matthew 7:14**
- 3. Instead of insisting on my rights - I am willing to forgo them in favor of others: Philippians 2:3-5**
- 4. Instead of being the boss - I am willing to be the bottom of the heap. ("Top Ram" I am willing to be a "Tail-ENDER")**
- 5. Instead of finding fault with life and always asking "Why" - I am willing to accept every circumstance of life in an attitude of gratitude:**
- 6. Instead of exercising and asserting my will, - I learn to cooperate with His wishes and comply with His will:** Our relationship with God is centered in yielding to His will, making God's will my will.
- 7. Instead of choosing my own way - I am willing to choose to follow in Christ's way:** To simply do what He asks me to do. **Philippians 2:13**

Application:

- 1. We Need To Look To The Shepherd.** Sheep Get Lost Because They Lose Sight Of The Shepherd.
- 2. We Need To Listen To The Shepherd.** Sheep Know His Voice, We Need To Listen For His Voice.
- 3. We Need To Love The Shepherd.** We Can Love Lots Of Good Things But Jesus Is The Best.