



SILENCE OF THE LAMB

BY: PASTOR ALLEN S. TURNER

 eBook

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Praise the Lord Child of God. My name is Dr. Allen S. Turner and I am the proud pastor of the greatest church on this side of heaven by the name of St. Matthews Baptist Church of Livermore California. I am pleased to be able to say that The Lord has unctioned and purposed for me to write this amazing 30 day Study called Silence of the lamb for the Body of Christ.

We are in the midst of a pandemic and if there was ever a time that we needed to know that we are still God's sheep and that He is still our shepherd, the time is now. I believe that the Lord has planned for me to write this amazing 30 day study to encourage you and enlighten you on the fact that not only is He with you, but also He has guaranteed that he will always protect you, provide for you, sustain you, as well as even prepare tables before you in the presence of your enemies. During this 30 day study all that I am asking of you, is for you to commit each day to read the lesson for the day and also to join our prayer line every morning at 6 AM by dialing 408-418-5050 and use the access code 94551#.

I promise you this 30 day study will energize your spirit and feed you so much each day by renewing your faith and confidence in God as our shepherd.

Get ready for a spiritual Holy Ghost filled month of revival, restoration and revelation.

Day 1 – God is our Shepherd

Good morning child of God. It is truly a blessed day when our Shepherd has woken us up this morning and preparing us for a day where He will lead us, protect us, provide for us, and sustain us. Each day child of God we will read Psalm 23 to get focused on the lesson for the day. This psalm was written by a young shepherd boy named David who had first hand experience with taking care of sheep. By being a Shepherd he knew the daily tasks that a shepherd is obligated to do in caring for his sheep. After considering the job of a shepherd he then realized that he himself was being shepherded by The Lord. So he pinned this psalm as a testimony of God's ever caring love as a Shepherd for David as one of his sheep. He says,

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ 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.

Isn't this psalm so refreshing and reassuring to your heart and soul. Even though it is one that many of us have heard and rehearsed for years, it still feeds our soul and spirit with a promise of God our shepherd always making sure we are cared for as His sheep. During this 30-day study we want to focus on 3 main ideas that we will use as a platform to establish God as our shepherd:

1. God our shepherd will provide for His flock.
2. God our shepherd will protect His flock.
3. God our shepherd will sustain His flock.

As you move into these 30 days, I want you to set your mind on these promises that will be established with scriptural backing to strengthen your faith in Our God and our Shepherd.

Day 2 - God is our Shepherd and we are His flock

Good morning child of God. Thank our Shepherd for waking us up another day and preparing us for a day, that He has made and we shall rejoice and be glad in it. Today I want to establish in your heart and soul that God is our shepherd and we are his flock of sheep. Let us first establish that our God and Lord Jesus Christ is our Shepherd.

In the Old Testament Jesus Christ was not incarnate or in the flesh as the shepherd over His people, but it did not mean He was not there still leading them, providing for them, protecting them, and sustaining them. Let's look at some scripture that first prove that Jesus Christ was present with the people of God a.k.a the children of Israel in the Old Testament.

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 10 that Jesus who is The Rock led Israel Himself as the God of Israel.

1 Corinthians 10:1-4 says, "Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

² And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea.

³ And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

⁴ And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

So, the apostle Paul tells us the Rock who led the children of Israel the people of God in the Old Testament was Jesus Christ. Another idea I would like you to consider is a word called the Church. It is this word that is first heard from the lips of CHRIST in the Bible in Matthew 16:17-18. This is the first time the word church is ever used in the entire Bible.

Matthew 16:17-18 Jesus says, ¹⁷ And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

¹⁸ And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

So Jesus says the church is His church. Ephesians 5:23 also confirms that Jesus Christ alone is the head of the church. It says, ²³ *For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.*

Colossians 1:18 also confirms again that Jesus Christ is the head of the church. It's says, ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence."

So since Christ is the head of the church, then anytime we see the church in the Bible we immediately know it belongs to The Lord. In the book of Acts 7:38 it speaks of the church in the Old Testament, which again if there is a church Jesus Christ must be involved. It says, ³⁸ **This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:**

The church in the wilderness represents the children of Israel who journeyed in the wilderness for 40 years after they didn't believe God for the promise land He led them to, because there were giants in the land that made them afraid to possess it.

So the above references confirms that when we see Moses and the children of Israel communing with God and interacting with Him, this is none other than Jesus Christ Pre-incarnate which means before coming in the flesh leading the children of Israel.

God tells us quite a few times that Israel and we the church are His flock and He is our shepherd. Let's see His promises quickly today that He is our shepherd.

John 10:11, 14-15 where Jesus confirms He is our shepherd:

¹¹ I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

¹⁴ I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

¹⁵ As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Jesus not only confirms for us that He is our shepherd but also he confirms his promise to give His life for the sheep which He did by dying on the cross to pay the price for our sins.

Two other scriptures to prove Jesus is our SHEPHERD;

Hebrews 13:20

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

1 Peter 2:24-25

²⁴ Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

²⁵ For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

This last scripture is Jesus Christ speaking through the Apostle Peter to admonish the Pastors about taking care of the flock of God or the sheep.

1 Peter 5:2-4

² Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but ^[a]willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; ³ nor as being ^[b]lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; ⁴ and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

So this morning I wanted to drive home in your soul and mind that Jesus Christ definitely is the Shepherd over the flock of God, the sheep, and the church. We are his sheep and He is our shepherd.

Have a blessed day and know that our Shepherd loves us.

Day 3 – We are the flock of God or His Sheep

Good morning child of God as we consider all the great things The Lord has done for us already today we have much to be thankful for. He woke us up early this morning, we are clothed in our right mind, He watched over us and our families and kept us safe last night, gave us shelter over our heads, food on the table, clothes on our back, shoes on our feet, a reasonable portion of health and strength, activity of our limbs and able to feel His presence. Again we have so much to be thankful for.

Today was we continue to move into a deeper understanding of how God takes care of you and I as the sheep of His pasture, I want to make sure we all get a clear understanding that we are his flock and sheep.

Throughout the Old Testament Israel was regarded as the flock of God and the people of God. Let's show some scripture that drives home the fact that Israel is God's flock. Below you will see God referencing how He feels about His flock called Israel and then we will shift to the New Testament references about the church or you and I being His flock now.

Old Testament Israel regarded as the flock:

Isaiah 63:11

King James Version

¹¹ Then he remembered the days of old, Moses, and his people, saying, Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of his flock? where is he that put his holy Spirit within him?

Psalm 77:20

King James Version

²⁰ Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Psalm 78:52

King James Version

⁵² But made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

Isaiah 40:10-12
King James Version

¹⁰ Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

¹¹ He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

God then shows us in the next 2 scriptures how He will punish the Pastors or leaders of His flock for not carrying for the sheep. God doesn't play when it comes to HIS flock and His desire for the Pastor to feed and care for them.

Jeremiah 23:2
King James Version

² Therefore thus saith the Lord God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the Lord.

Ezekiel 34:8-12
King James Version

⁸ As I live, saith the Lord God, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, neither did my shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock;

⁹ Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the Lord;

¹⁰ Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them.

¹¹ For thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out

¹² As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

Then in the New Testament Jesus confirms that any and all believers in Him are His flock. The Old Testament saints were considered Gods' flock based on His promise to Abraham that His seed or descendant would be Gods' people or flock. In the New Testament through Jesus Christ we are grafted into the family of God or the flock of God by faith in Jesus Christ. Let's first establish this:

Galatians 3:6-9, 14
Easy-to-Read Version

⁶ The Scriptures say the same thing about Abraham. "Abraham believed God, and because of this faith he was accepted as one who is right with God."^[a] ⁷ So you should know that the true children of Abraham are those who have faith. ⁸ The Scriptures told what would happen in the future. These writings said that God would make the non-Jewish people right through their faith. God told this Good News to Abraham before it happened. God said to Abraham, "I will use you to bless all the people on earth."^[b] ⁹ Abraham believed this, and because he believed, he was blessed. All people who believe are blessed the same as Abraham was.

¹⁴ **Because of what Jesus Christ did** (by dying on the cross and paying for all our sins) the blessing God promised to Abraham was given to all people. Christ died so that by believing in Him we could have the Spirit that God promised (who makes and transforms us into Children of God).

Now by faith we are grafted or joined into the family of God or the children of Israel through Jesus Christ, so that the promises and blessings promised to them are now made available to us only by faith and not works or deeds.

Ephesians 2:11-13
Easy-to-Read Version

¹¹ You were not born as Jews. You are the people the Jews call “uncircumcised.^[a]” Those Jews who call you “uncircumcised” call themselves “circumcised.” (Their circumcision is only something they themselves do to their bodies.)¹² Remember that in the past you were without Christ. You were not citizens of Israel, and you did not know about the agreements^[b] with the promises that God made to his people. You had no hope, and you did not know God. ¹³ Yes, at one time you were far away from God, but now in Christ Jesus, you are brought near to him. You are brought near to God through the blood sacrifice of Christ.

The above scripture confirms that we are now citizens of Israel and apart of the Commonwealth of Israel. We now have access to all the promises and covenants God gave Israel. We received all these privileges through Christ and our belief in what He has done for us. To God be the glory!

Now in the New Testament JESUS speaks of us as His flock and He is our shepherd who watches over and cares for us.

John 10:14, 27-29
King James Version

¹⁴ I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

²⁸ And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

²⁹ My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

Day 4 – Our Shepherd can relate to us

Good morning child of God, another blessed day that The Lord our God has afforded us to wake up and see. I am so blessed by you being faithful to this daily devotion study. You are doing an amazing job. Today I want us to understand that the reason our Lord and Savior Jesus is such a great Shepherd is because he knows what it's like to be a sheep. He can relate to his flock because He went through all that we are going through. He knows what it's like to:

1. Fear
2. Have anxiety
3. Be betrayed by a close friend
4. Weep or cry
5. Have those who you helped turn on you
6. Have failed expectations
7. Feel forsaken by God in the darkest moments

Yes, he is a shepherd who understands our struggles in being a sheep and for this cause He knows where to find us when we are lost, He knows how to console us when we're hurt, and He knows how to reassure us that everything will be ok.

I want to show you first that He became one of us (mankind = sheep) so He could relate to us:

Hebrews 2:14

Living Bible

¹⁴ Since we, God's children, are human beings—made of flesh and blood—he became flesh and blood too by being born in human form; for only as a human being could he die and in dying break the power of the devil who had the power of death.

Romans 8:3

Living Bible

³ We aren't saved from sin's grasp by knowing the commandments of God because we can't and don't keep them, but God put into effect a different plan to save us. He sent his own Son in a human body like ours—except that ours are sinful—and destroyed sin's control over us by giving himself as a sacrifice for our sins.

So, because He became human which we no confirmed all believers who are human are a part of Gods' flock or sheep, by Him coming to die for our sins He became the sacrificial lamb sent to die for the rest of the sheep. By Him doing this He guaranteed that we have a right to be free in Him.

Isaiah 53:5-7
Living Bible

But he was wounded and bruised for our sins. He was beaten that we might have peace; he was lashed—and we were healed! ⁶ We—every one of us—have strayed away like sheep! We, who left God's paths to follow our own. Yet God laid on him the guilt and sins of every one of us!

⁷ He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he never said a word. He was brought as a lamb to the slaughter; and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he stood silent before the ones condemning him.

This is why He is called the lamb of God, the sheep who died for the whole flock of sheep so we might live.

John 1:29
Living Bible

²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! There is the Lamb of God who takes away the world's sin!

1 Peter 1:18-19
Living Bible

¹⁸ God paid a ransom to save you from the impossible road to heaven which your fathers tried to take, and the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver as you very well know. ¹⁹ But he paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.

Our shepherd can relate to us by being a sheep who gave His own life for the sheep He would shepherd. So, know today that you serve a God who knows what you have gone through and has empathy towards you. He loves you.

Hebrews 2:18
Living Bible

18 For since he himself has now been through suffering and temptation, he knows what it is like when we suffer and are tempted, and he is wonderfully able to help us.

Today I want you to come to Our great shepherd with your failures, your shortcomings, your problems, your tears, your fears, your disappointments, your hurt and all your concerns and lay them before your Shepherd and let him help you. You are not in this all alone. You have a helper and a shepherd who loves and cares for you. Even when others have failed you and left you, He promised I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Love you child of God.

Day 5 – Being willing to be a sheep who submits to the care of your Shepherd

Good Morning faithful saint and beloved of God. Today is a great day. It's the day that our shepherd has given us and a day in which He has purposed to bless us and give us all our blessing and benefits for this present day.

There is something I want to be honest with you about. I have been a sheep who has had struggles in letting go of things I feel I need to fix or handle. I have weighed my own self down with burdens and cares that caused me extreme amounts of stress and anxiety, as I tried to fix the problems and areas of my life that I was not satisfied with. I struggled with letting go and letting God, especially when the circumstance involved dealing with people who either hurt me or failed my expectations. I felt like because everyone else didn't handle the situation or me properly, it was up to me to handle it even when it hurt me and overwhelmed me with stress and heartache in trying to deal with it.

Today the Great Shepherd tells us that we don't have to do this. We don't have to allow what others have done to you or against you to cause you to become an introvert who doesn't trust anyone, rely on anyone, do it on my own type of person, who even when the circumstance becomes overwhelming still you try to handle it.

Right now I need you to identify every area or circumstance that you are dealing with that seems overwhelming, that seems tough to handle, that you struggle with letting go. Remove that pride right now, no one is watching right now but you and God. You don't have to be that strong person in public right now, you can be that sheep who tells your shepherd I need help, you can be that child who tells your Father that you need help, you need strength, you need support because this thing is too much for me to handle. God, I know you can help me and I know you care. You told me that I can cast all my cares upon you because you care for me. So right now, I cast this situation and every burden I have carried too long that you did not mean for me to carry or hold on to. I release this situation, I release this person, I release this concern to you right now and I say to you my God that I know that you are my shepherd. I know I can trust you; I know you are reliable, and I know that even when it looks like I am in this dark place by myself, you are right there with me waiting for me to ask for help so you can deliver me from this place of worry and stress.

Matthew 21:22
King James Version

22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

I want you to read the following verse in two different versions:

Matthew 11:28-30
King James Version

28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30
The Message

28-30 “Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

Our shepherd wants us to come and get the help we need. He won’t force Himself, He will wait for you to open up and let Him come in.

Revelation 3:20
Living Bible

20 “Look! I have been standing at the door, and I am constantly knocking. If anyone hears me calling him and opens the door, I will come in and fellowship with him and he with me.

You don't have to worry about sin disqualify you from getting what you need, look at what He told us in scripture.

Hebrews 4:16
Amplified Bible

¹⁶ Therefore let us [with privilege] approach the throne of grace [that is, the throne of God's gracious favor] with confidence and without fear, so that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find [His amazing] grace to help in time of need [an appropriate blessing, coming just at the right moment].

Love you child of God, but God loves you more. Go to him now and find refuge in Him.

Day 6 - Weekend Shepherd Assignment

Good morning child of God for every Saturday and Sunday lessons we will be reading Psalm 23 to remind us of the goodness of God our Shepherd.

Psalm 23

23 *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

² *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

³ *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

⁴ *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

⁵ *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

⁶ *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.*

Have an amazing Saturday.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 7 - Weekend Shepherd Assignment

Good morning child of God for our Sunday lesson we will be reading Psalm 23 to remind us of the goodness of God our Shepherd.

Psalm 23

23 *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

² *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

³ *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

⁴ *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

⁵ *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

⁶ *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.*

Have an amazing Sunday.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 8 - Our Shepherd is our Provider

Praise The Lord child of God. What an amazing day that The Lord has allowed us to walk into with His Presence and Glory with us forever and ever. I am so thankful to God for you and your commitment to God to study and have your daily bread (Word of God).

Today as we again Read Psalm 23 as our key scripture for this study, the Psalm starts off saying, “The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want”. The Psalm starts off identifying The Lord as our shepherd and then it says, “I shall not want.” The word “want” in the Hebrew means lack. The writer informs us of His personal testimony of how The Lord has provided for him, as well as his confidence in God to make sure he never lacks. The word lack means the state of being without or not having enough of something, to have the need of, or being in need of. The writer says because he knows The Lord is my shepherd, I have full confidence that I will never be without what I need. He confirms his trust in God who he believes will never let him be in need of money, goods, supply, or any provision. It’s is this same writer who confirms his feelings again toward God in providing for him in Psalm 37:25 where it says,

Psalm 37:25

I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Today I need each of us since we know that God is our shepherd, to have the same confidence that no matter what season of life we are in, we will never suffer any lack. God will always provide enough to take care of all our needs. What an assurance and removal of the load of burden off of us to know that we don’t have to worry how we are going to take care of ourselves. We have a shepherd who daily will make sure we have all we need.

This reminds me of a very important scripture I want you to read today in the gospel according to Matthew 6:25-34:

Matthew 6:25-34

Living Bible

²⁵ “So my counsel is: Don’t worry about things—food, drink, and clothes. For you already have life and a body—and they are far more important than what to eat and wear. ²⁶ Look at the birds! They don’t

worry about what to eat—they don't need to sow or reap or store up food—for your heavenly Father feeds them. And you are far more valuable to him than they are. ²⁷ Will all your worries add a single moment to your life?

²⁸ “And why worry about your clothes? Look at the field lilies! They don't worry about theirs. ²⁹ Yet King Solomon in all his glory was not clothed as beautifully as they. ³⁰ And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't he more surely care for you, O men of little faith?

³¹⁻³² “So don't worry at all about having enough food and clothing. Why be like the heathen? For they take pride in all these things and are deeply concerned about them. But your heavenly Father already knows perfectly well that you need them, ³³ and he will give them to you if you give him first place in your life and live as he wants you to.

³⁴ “So don't be anxious about tomorrow. God will take care of your tomorrow too. Live one day at a time.

Wow what a powerful translation of Matthew 6:25-34. Today I want you to trust in our shepherd. He knows what you need, and He is committed to making sure you have all you need EACH DAY.

Trust in God. He is our committed shepherd who daily knows He has to make sure His sheep are daily fed and cared for. You are His so walk in faith and not fear.

Have a blessed day.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 9 - A sheep's confidence in The Shepherd

Good day child of God. I am so excited for this day. Especially since yesterday, we read that we need not worry about the day or about anything we need. We were assured that our shepherd not only will take care of all our needs, but that He will ensure our daily provisions are supplied.

Today I want to know that as a sheep it is not our responsibility to lead us to the green pasture, it is the job of the shepherd. Psalm 23 verse 2 says, "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside still waters."

God our Shepherd's responsibility is to lead us to places where we can eat or for provision. In saying this it means He will lead us to the jobs and careers He has destined us to work at for provision. We must be willing as sheep to be led. If we are not willing to be led, then we will not be at the places designed for us to maximize our provision and purpose.

If we allow our Shepherd to lead us to these pastures, here is the Promise:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it. (Psalms 81:10)

God our Shepherd told Israel that He would of never led them out of Egypt without already planning how to sustain them. Know this child of God, your Shepherd would have never led you from where you were unless He had already provided provision for where you are or where He's taking you. He said open your mouth wide and I will fill it. If we open our mouth as a sheep, He promises He will fill it. There is a faith walk in this verse. Open your mouth wide is a statement of faith. It did not just say open your mouth, but **open it wide means you can expect a lot to come**. Expect an abundance from your Shepherd.

It is the responsibility of our Shepherd to feed all who trust in Him.

Psalm 145:15-16 says, "The eyes of all look to you in hope; you give them their food as they need it. When you open your hand, you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing."

As long as we look to God in hope and expectation, He will give us all we need.

Day 10 – Trusting in the Shepherd to Provide

Good morning child of God. As we consider all the amazing lessons we have learned over this week about trusting our Shepherd, we need to hone in on the essence of how to have authentic and true faith and trust in God our Shepherd.

To say I am truly trusting in our Shepherd, is to really take on the mindset of a sheep. Do you think sheep wake up wondering how or what they will eat? Actually, sheep wait and listen for the voice of the Shepherd. This means the sheep do not look for what they will eat, they look for the Shepherd.

Each morning if we had this type of faith where we would look for the Shepherd first and not the provision, we would have a lot less stressful life. I want us to think like a sheep and look for the one who leads us to the green pastures. Sheep know that if they have the Shepherd, He will lead them to provision. So, the key is to always wake up each day first seeking the Shepherd, and by looking for Him all that daily is provided will come as expected.

We need to have faith as a sheep who depends solely on the Shepherd. Here is what The Shepherd says to you about trusting in Him:

Mark 11:24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

John 14:14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Ephesians 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

Today as you pray, pray believing asking in the name of Jesus Christ, believing that whatever we ask for He is able to provide as a good Shepherd exceedingly abundantly above all we can ask.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 11 – Feeding His Sheep Spiritual meat

Good morning flock of God. What a blessed day that The Lord has made for you. How marvelous is it to know that not only has your Shepherd allowed you to wake up this day, but that He had posted along side your bedside last night some heavenly watch dogs called angels to protect you from all hurt, harm and danger.

I am so elated to be with you today. You say Pastor Turner, why are you so excited today? Well I am actually excited every day, looking forward to the new adventures, new doors, new challenges, and new victories my Shepherd has set up for me today. The Apostle Paul encourages us that no matter the challenge or the test, we always come out victorious.

2 Corinthians 2:14 King James Version

14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

Then Paul alerts us to the fact that no matter what you are going through all things are working together for your good.

Romans 8:28 King James Version

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Why are we able to say the above scripture you ask, it is because of the next scripture God promised all who believe in Him.

Jeremiah 29:11 King James Version

11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

I want you to know today that as our Shepherd, He is not just focused on providing our daily physical nourishment and provision. He also knows that we just like our Father, we are also spirits. John 4:24 says, ***“God is a spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.”***

Scripture confirms that our Father is the father of all spirits.

***Hebrews 12:9
King James Version***

⁹ Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

The prophet Zechariah confirmed for us that when God formed man, He formed the spirit of man within him. This confirms you are a spirit.

***Zechariah 12:1
King James Version***

12 The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

Since we are spirits, our Shepherd must ensure that not only does our physical side eat, but also our spiritual side must also eat.

Even as God led Israel his flock of sheep out of Egypt, He made sure they ate not only physical meat but the scripture says He also fed them spiritual meat.

***1 Corinthians 10:1-6
Amplified Bible***

10 For I do not want you to be unaware, believers, that our fathers were all under the cloud [in which God’s presence went before them] and they all passed [miraculously and safely] through the [Red] Sea; ² And all [of them] were

baptized into Moses [into his safekeeping as their leader] in the cloud and in the sea; ³ and all [of them] ate the same ^[a]spiritual food; ⁴ and all [of them] drank the same ^[b]spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.

Paul confirms above that the children of Israel ate spiritual food and drank spiritual drink. He then confirms that the meat and drink that partook of was none other than Jesus Christ Himself. So if Jesus was the spiritual meat they ate of, how can we eat of this spiritual meat today Pastor Turner. I am so glad you asked!

The Psalmist in Psalm 34:8 pinned it when He said, “**O taste and see that the Lord is good;** blessed is the man that trusteth in him.”

Did he mean to really eat Jesus? No, he was driving home a spiritual principle of what Jesus later came and told His disciples in John 6 when He called Himself The Bread of Life.

John 6:35
King James Version

³⁵ And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

Jesus then comes along a few verses later speaking again about a spiritual dining experience, and the people having a carnal mindset thought He was talking about them really eating Him as carnivores. He was speaking spiritually, but because they were not spiritually discerned, they did not understand His words.

John 6:53-58
King James Version

⁵³ Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

⁵⁴ Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

⁵⁵ For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.

⁵⁶ He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

⁵⁷ As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.

⁵⁸ This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.

Tomorrow we will drive home more of this spiritual concept Christ is teaching us.

Have a blessed day and I love you, but God loves you more.

Day 12 – Spiritual dining for God’s sheep

Praise The Lord family of God. We are at the end of the week and wow have we not feasted on The Word of God? In saying that, yesterday we talked about eating as the flock of God a new type of nourishment. We said that the Shepherd is not just responsible for feeding us physical food to satisfy our physical desires, but that He is also accountable to provide our spiritual food so we can also live stronger in the spirit.

Today I want to make sure we understand the reason for the spiritual food we eat. Yesterday we also learned that we are spirits just like our Father who is a spirit. We also learned that there must be spiritual nourishment we must eat of to be sustained in our spiritual life. This is needed because:

1. Since we are spirits, we need spiritual food.
2. Our spirit man when properly fed gives us better spiritual perception.
3. Our spirit man according to 1 Corinthians 2:11 knows everything about us even our future because it lived it out already in Heaven before we came to the earth.

So for us to grasp all these concepts we must also consider the fact that if we eat more spiritual meat we get spiritually stronger. This means we will have a stronger spiritual perception. Paul says in Ephesians 6:12:

Ephesians 6:12

King James Version

¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

What Paul is telling us flock of God is that this life is way more spiritual than it is fleshly. If we are not spiritually stronger, we will miss a lot if not all the spiritual things that are happening all around us. When we are spiritual and see things from a spiritual perspective, we will see things for what they really are. This will allow us to war against those things from more of a spiritual level versus a practical level and win these fights on a more frequent basis.

So you ask today what is this spiritual meat and drink we will eat and drink Pastor Turner. Well, I am glad you asked. Since we are still in the midst of this pandemic called COVID-19, we have been made in California to shelter in place. Many of us have considered this a curse, but I consider it a blessing. This time has given me a chance to look inwardly and see how my life was not focused and lined up with God. It has given me more time to read my Word and see how I was operating more based on the flesh or feelings and not based on the spirit which is more in line with God's will and plan for my life.

By me reading my Word more I saw my spirit getting stronger, I felt more alive, I felt more insightful when it came to things going on around me, I saw my enemies coming a mile away now, and I was able to have a clear perspective on my purpose and goals that My Father has designed for me to achieve. All of this came from spending more time eating.

You ask, Pastor Turner what did you eat? I ate the Bread of Life, The Word of God, Jesus Christ Himself. Jesus is the Word of God a.k.a the Logos or Spoken Word of God. In Matthew 4:4, Jesus says to Satan, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every *word* that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

In Rev. 10:8-11 the apostle John was told to take the opened scroll that was in the hand of Christ, devour it, and prophesy over many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings. John didn't receive the scroll – he devoured it, receiving it into his being.

We need to devour the word of God, that is, eat every it of it, eat it all. We need to eat the word of God without any discrimination, because we need every single word of God.

If something is in the word of God, we need it; we need to devour it, eat it, and receive it into our being by means of all prayer.

You ask Pastor Turner, where do we get this spiritual dining experience? Well, I know some really good restaurants that give you a seven-course meal and an awesome dining experience. They are called the House of God. The great chef

is the Holy Spirit who uses the spiritual waiters called the Pastors to deliver or bring out the food that He has prepared for you.

It is the job of the Pastor to feed the flock of God. Look at the following scriptures God wrote to Pastors about feeding His flock:

Acts 20:28

King James Version

²⁸ Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

1 Peter 5:2-4

King James Version

² Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

³ Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock.

God is serious when it comes to making sure His sheep have their spiritual meals. When the Pastor does not feed the flock and care properly for them, then The Lord deals with that Pastor for his pernicious or evil ways. Look what God wrote to His Pastors who neglected to feed His flock.

Jeremiah 23:2

King James Version

² Therefore thus saith the Lord God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the Lord.

Ezekiel 34:8-12

King James Version

⁸ As I live, saith the Lord God, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd,

neither did my shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock;

⁹ Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the Lord;

¹⁰ Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them.

When the Pastors neglect to properly feed the flock, God holds them accountable. This is why even though your Pastor works a full-time job just like you and tries to Pastor full time I work hard to prepare bible studies, sermons, even this 30 day study to make sure you are properly fed. While you sleep and rest, many times your Pastor just as tired as you, stays up all night preparing spiritual meals for you, so you are properly fed.

This is my duty, and this is my honor to be able to feed the flock of God which He has purchased with His own blood on the Cross.

I love you, but God loves you more.

Day 13 - Weekend Shepherd Assignment

Good morning child of God for every Saturday and Sunday lessons we will be reading Psalm 23 to remind us of the goodness of God our Shepherd.

Psalm 23

23 *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

² *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

³ *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

⁴ *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

⁵ *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

⁶ *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.*

Have an amazing Saturday.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 14 - Weekend Shepherd Assignment

Good morning child of God for our Sunday lesson we will be reading Psalm 23 to remind us of the goodness of God our Shepherd.

Psalm 23

23 *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

² *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

³ *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

⁴ *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

⁵ *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

⁶ *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.*

Have an amazing Sunday.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 15 – Your Soul is Preserved By The Shepherd

Good morning child of God. You are amazing and anointed. Do you not know that you have completed 14 days of a Daniel's fast, as well as completed 14 days of studying The Word of God? You may not know this, but you have made huge strides and have grown spiritually over the last 14 days. I am so proud of your commitment to God and yourself to start this year off with God. It is a good thing to give praise and glory to God at the beginning of a New Year. Why, because praise thanks God for keeping you and preserving you and your family all last year and looking forward to what God is going to do mightily for you this year. You just finished a year like we have never seen before in our lifetime. A worldwide pandemic which has shaken to the core not just the United States, but the whole global community. Many people died, many people lost their employment, many people contracted the virus and almost died and many people lost their housing and became homeless.

When you consider all of this and then look at how our Shepherd has preserved us and kept us, we have so much to be thankful for. Why don't you take a moment and just tell God, "Thank you Father for keeping me and my family". He is so faithful and He is so good. Do you hear me? I said He is so faithful and He is so good.

As we embark on another week of feasting off the Word of God I want you to get ready to take it to the next level in your trust in the Good Shepherd our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. You have to know that our growth in knowledge of what He has committed to do for us as our Shepherd can only come through studying and experience. As we study we get a clear perspective of what His promises are to us. Our experiences will teach us that He is a God of His Word, that what He promised He is able to perform.

Romans 4:21 **King James Version**

²¹ And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

I need to say this to you now so your spirit man can bear witness to this, “whatever God has ordained and appointed in your life will find you”. You do not have to go looking for it, when it is the right season, IT will find you.

Job 23:14
King James Version

¹⁴ For he performeth the thing that is appointed for me: and many such things are with him.

God will perform or make to happen everything that is supposed to happen in your life at the appointed time. It will not happen when you think it should happen, but rather it will happen when God has planned for it to happen for you. Sometime you are not ready for what God has planned for you. If God gave it to you before the time, you may not handle it properly and maybe even lose it because you were not spiritually or emotionally ready to manage or handle it. So be thankful today not just for what He has given to you, but be thankful also for what He has withheld from you for this season.

A true Shepherd knows what He sheep can handle.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 16 – Your Soul is Precious to The Shepherd

Good morning child of God. As we push off into another week, I thought it was important for us to walk into the next section or part of Psalm 23. We have covered up until now that our Shepherd is Jesus Christ and that we are His sheep or flock. We have covered that our Shepherd provides and care for us as His sheep daily. All that we need we can totally and completely rely on Him.

Now this week we will deal with Psalm 23:3 which says, “He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.”

Do you not know how precious your soul is? Satan knows it. He knows that your spirit no matter if you are an unbeliever or not returns to God as stated in Ecclesiastes 12:7:

Ecclesiastes 12:7 King James Version

⁷ Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

He also knows that the soul which is separate from your body and spirit also will leave the body. This is seen quite a few times in scripture when a person died, the scripture says their **soul** left the body.

Genesis 35:18 King James Version

¹⁸ And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin.

You see child of God your soul is the real you that holds this body up. When you look in the mirror it is the soul that is looking back at you. It’s not the body that is doing this because when the soul leaves the body, the body is nothing but an empty shell that can no longer see, taste, touch, feel, hear, or smell. This

means your body is nothing but dust without the soul and the spirit. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church of Thessalonica that God wants us to make sure the tri-partite or trichotomy of our being is preserved blameless in and through Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 King James Version

²³ And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I don't want you to not take this seriously. We need to live each day knowing that at any time our souls could be required of us. I want you to read this short passage of scripture that will teach of this.

Luke 12:16-21 Amplified Bible

¹⁶ Then He told them a parable, saying, "There was a rich man whose land was very fertile *and* productive. ¹⁷ And he began thinking to himself, 'What shall I do, since I have no place [large enough in which] to store my crops?'

¹⁸ Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my storehouses and build larger ones, and I will store all my grain and my goods there. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, "**Soul**, you have many good things stored up, [enough] for many years; rest *and* relax, eat, drink and be merry (celebrate continually).'" ²⁰ But God said to him, '**You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and *now* who will own all the things you have prepared?'** ²¹ So it is for the one who continues to store up *and* hoard possessions for himself, and is not rich [in his relationship] toward God."

So why is your soul so precious to God our Shepherd? It is precious because He knows it is the only part of you that can be sent to either Heaven or Hell. This is why the devil wants your soul because He knows his final destination is Hell and the Lake of fire, and he knows he has but a short time before he is sent there. We all know what misery loves, and that is company. He wants you to go with him.

Revelation 20:10
King James Version

¹⁰ And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Revelation 12:9
King James Version

⁹ And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: **he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.**

¹² Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! **for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.**

You see child of God. Satan knows his days are numbered and he is trying to make sure your soul goes to Hell with him. This is why God our Shepherd has to make sure to RESTORE OUR SOUL.

Day 17 – Your Soul is Precious to The Shepherd (part 2)

Good morning child of God. What an awesome time we had on yesterday as we discussed the importance of the soul. We understood a few important principles like; the soul is the real you, the soul is wanted by the devil, the soul can go to either Heaven or Hell, the soul leaves the body at death and God has planned to preserve your soul.

When David the psalmist wrote our favorite scripture Psalm 23 he wrote it understanding the importance of the soul. He knew that in order for the soul to go with God, it needed to be fixed. The scripture has confirmed for us that our soul was corrupt through the sinful nature of our forefather Adam which in turn caused all of mankind souls to be corrupted. We all know that our sinful nature travels through the bloodline. So is our bloodline is corrupt then what else may be corrupt? Well, let's see what the scripture says.

Leviticus 17:11 Amplified Bible

¹¹ For the [a]life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement, by reason of the life [which it represents].'

The word Life in the above verse is translated from the Hebrew word NEPESH which means SOUL. So if we were to understand this verse in the context in which it was written it would read, "FOR THE SOUL OF THE FLESH IS IN THE BLOOD". This is why the next part of that verse says that God used blood (pure blood from animals) to atone (or pay for) our bad souls. This is because the blood and soul of man are connected.

This means since our blood is corrupt and sinful, then our souls were corrupt and sinful. Now consider this thought and I know you're saying Pastor Turner this is deep in the morning, but deep calleth unto deep. I want you to consider that when a person purchases a rundown property that has mold and mildew within

the house, in order for it to be habitable or ready to live in, it must be restored or renovated. Well, when Jesus purchased us His sheep with his blood:

Acts 20:28

Amplified Bible

²⁸ Take care *and* be on guard for yourselves and for the whole flock over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as overseers, to shepherd (tend, feed, guide) **the church of God which He bought with His own blood.**

He not only purchased it as you would a house, but He also saw it was corrupt with sinful mildew and mold and had to RESTORE it. The part that needed restoral was the part the again can go either to Heaven or Hell which just happens to also be the part that is sinful due to the bloodline, your soul.

So, David says “He restoreth my soul”. In other words, God went to work on my soul to prepare it to be ready to be led to Heaven by our Shepherd.

How did Jesus Christ restore our souls? The writer the Apostle Peter tells us in 1 Peter 2:24-25:

1 Peter 2:24-25

King James Version

²⁴ **Who his own self bore our sins** in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

²⁵ For **ye were as sheep** going astray; but **are now returned** unto the **Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.**

Remember earlier in Leviticus 17:11 where it says the blood pays for the soul. Well, when Christ shed His blood on the cross, He paid for all our sins, which also restored or fixed our souls and made them ready for Heaven. Therefore Peter says above that now we have returned as sheep to the Shepherd of our souls. The Shepherd will lead His sheep to Glory or Heaven.

Pray this has shed some light on God's restoral plan for our souls.

Love you flock of God, but God loves you more.

Day 18 – Your Soul is Redeemed by The Shepherd

Good morning child of God. It is another day of blessing that The Lord has granted each of us to walk in the authority He has given each of us in Christ Jesus. I am so thankful for you continuing your commitment for a greater spiritual growth in this New Year. You are truly showing God that you are serious about being spiritually fit and ready to take on the challenges and embrace the opportunities ahead. As we go into this day's study I feel led to continue the study with the importance of the soul to God as being our Shepherd.

As I shared with you over the past few days, the devil wants your soul. It is the only part of you he knows has a chance to go to either Heaven or Hell. Now yes, the body can go as well, but the body that will go will be a changed body that is fully transformed to one that will never burn up but rather be a body that burns and is tormented forever. Look at what Apostle John says about this:

John 5:28-29

King James Version

²⁸Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which **all that are in the graves** shall hear his voice,

²⁹And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and **they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.**

So, the Apostle John tells us that the bodies that are in the graves will come up again. He says some will awake to join their souls to go the Heaven, and some will awake to join with their souls to go to eternal damnation or Hell. Another scripture that confirms this is written by Apostle Matthew. Let's see what The Holy Spirit had him to say about the body and soul going to Hell.

Matthew 25:41-45
King James Version

⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, **Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:**

⁴² For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

⁴³ I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

⁴⁴ Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

⁴⁵ Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

Jesus tells the Apostles in verse 41 that Hell was prepared for the devil and his angels. I told you misery loves company, so the devil wants to take you along with him.

The good news though child of God is that we have a good Shepherd who will not allow His sheep to go the Hell. He first redeems or set us free from the hold that sin, death and hell had on us but dying on the cross and being raised from the dead. He did this to pay for our sins and redeem our souls. Look at what Isaiah wrote in Isaiah 53 about why God wanted Jesus to die for us.

Isaiah 53:6
Living Bible

⁶ *We*—every one of us—have strayed away like sheep! *We*, who left God's paths to follow our own. Yet **God laid on him the guilt and sins of every one of us!**

¹⁰ But it was the Lord's good plan to bruise him and fill him with grief. However, **when his soul has been made an offering for sin**, then he shall have a multitude of children, many heirs. He shall live again,^[a] and God's program shall prosper in his hands.

Isaiah says in verse #6 that God put all of our sins and guilt on Him so that when He died to pay the price for our sins, the ransom or penalty was full paid and satisfied (Hallelujah). Verse 10 Isaiah tells us in order to pay for our souls and ensure all our souls are able to go to Heaven, Jesus offered His soul as an offering to God to pay for our souls. This is why we know all our souls are redeemed.

Look at the promises from scripture that God has redeemed our souls from Hell and Death who are partners in crime.

Psalm 49:15
Living Bible

¹⁵ But as for me, **God will redeem my soul from the power of death,** for **he will receive me.**

The psalmist says God will free my soul from death and watch this, HE WILL RECEIVE ME into Heaven.

Psalm 34:22
Amplified Bible

²² The LORD redeems the soul of His servants,
And none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

The Psalmist encourages us that all of us who serve The Lord have a guarantee that our souls will be redeemed or set free from death and Hell. He then goes on to say that all who do not put their trust in Him as Lord and Savior will be condemned to Hell. For those of us who put our trust in Him we have assurance that we are free from condemnation. Oh how good of news is this to know we are free in Christ Jesus from Hell and death.

Finally, I want you to read the death notice The Lord wrote to Hell, death, and the grave for trying to trap us all and send us there to Hell for eternity in the book of Hosea.

Hosea 13:14
King James Version

¹⁴ I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

God tells Death I will be your plague or destruction for what you tried to do to my sheep, and grave I will destroy you for your part of trying to keep my sheep in the grave.

He tells us He will pay the price to free us from the power of the grave (this is why Jesus had to be put in the grave or tomb so He could pay the graves payment for souls. He says I will redeem them from death. This is why Jesus Christ had to die. The only problem for death and the grave was they received payment by Jesus submitting himself unto them, but it was their responsibility to

keep Him there for eternity. They were not able to do so, and this is why we are freed once we are in Him. Why couldn't they hold Him down, well the writer Luke in the book of Acts tells us: (Want you to read it in 2 versions below)

Acts 2:24

King James Version

²⁴ Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death:
because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Acts 2:24

Living Bible

²⁴ Then God released him from the horrors of death and brought him back to life again, for **death could not keep Jesus Christ within its grip.**

Have a blessed day flock of God and know that you are free from death, Hell, and the grave because of our Great Shepherd.

Day 19 – Your Shepherd has made you a Righteous lamb

What a joyous day child of God as we awaken to a day of new mercies and a day that God has loaded us daily with benefits. There are blessings laid up in store for you today for you to receive. Be excited and activate your faith to receive the promises of God and the blessings He has prepared for you.

I am so excited about today's lesson because this lesson leads us to the next part of Psalm 23 where it says, "He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name sake."

The Psalmist is telling us here that as the flock of God, our shepherd somehow has made sure to lead us as a flock of sheep to a path that will guarantee we make it to Heaven. This is important because the scripture confirms that none but the righteous shall see God.

This causes a little problem for all of us because all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. The Bible tells us who are the only people who can see God and make it to His Holy Mountain Mt Zion (Hebrews 12:22).

Matthew says one of our problems is this:

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." (Matt. 5:8)

In Psalm 24:3-4 King David wrote that the one who has clean hands and a pure heart may ascend the mountain of the Lord and stand in His holy place.

So, who has a pure heart? Jeremiah 17:9 says the heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Habakkuk 1:13 says God's eyes are too pure to even look at sin, so those with deceitful hearts cannot come into God's presence without being destroyed by His glory.

Some good news we find in Psalm 51:10 King David asked God to create in him a pure heart. That was part of his confession after committing adultery with Bathsheba and sending her husband off to be killed.

So, our deceitful hearts can be made pure, but not by any effort on our part, but by God, through whom all things are possible (Mark 10:27). Paul wrote that no one is righteous, that we are all sinners and fall short of God's perfection

(Romans 3:10, 23). Our own attempts to become righteous leave us clothed in filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6).

So, then the question is how can we see God if we are sinners and not righteous? Well again our Shepherd has the antidote for the problem.

He first has justified us from our sins. The word justification from a theological standpoint is defined as;

The act by which God moves a willing person from the state of sin (injustice) to the state of Grace (justice). **The change in a person's condition moving from a state of sin, to a state of righteousness.**

Did you hear that? So, how does God our Shepherd move his sheep from a state of sin to a state of righteousness? Remember we are made sinners by our bad bloodline or nature received from our Forefather or Progenitor Adam. So, if God is to pay for our sins or bad blood in order to make us righteous, He needs the blood of Jesus to be involved.

Romans 5:9

Living Bible

⁹ And **since by his blood he did all this for us as sinners**, how much more will he do for us **now that he has declared us not guilty**? Now he will save us from all of God's wrath to come.

To ensure of Shepherd made us righteous He did something special for us that the Apostle Paul tells us of in 2 Corinthians 5:17-21:

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Living Bible

¹⁷ When someone becomes a Christian, **he becomes a brand new person inside**. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!

¹⁸ All these new things are from God who brought us back to himself through what Christ Jesus did. And God has given us the privilege of urging everyone to come into his favor and be reconciled to him.

¹⁹ For **God was in Christ, restoring the world to himself, no longer counting men's sins against them but blotting them out.** This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others. ²⁰ We are Christ's ambassadors. God is using us to speak to you: we beg you, as though Christ himself were here pleading with you, receive the love he offers you—be reconciled to God. ²¹ For God took the sinless Christ and **poured into Him our sins.** Then, in exchange, **he poured God's righteousness into us!**

Did you read what I just read? It says God poured our sins into Christ so He could take them to the cross and die therefore paying the wages of sin which is death. Then God poured His righteousness into us. This means we are now the Righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21

King James Version

²¹ For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; **that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**

So how can we see God? We can see Him by accepting Jesus Christ into our hearts and becoming righteous, so that the righteous shall see God. You will see God because our Shepherd leadeth us to the path of righteousness by laying that path by dying for our sins. He leads us to God or the path of righteousness that leads to God, and also promises us that if we follow Him like sheep follow their Shepherd, He will personally guarantee as our Shepherd to usher us into Heaven faultless.

Jude 24-25

King James Version

²⁴ Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and **to present you faultless before the presence of his glory** with exceeding joy,

²⁵ To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Jesus says to us today, Sheep if you follow me since my name is on you, in order for you to make it where your Shepherd dwells forever it is the responsibility of the Shepherd to lead you there.

He won't get you all the way to the gate and then deny you. He says if you follow me, I will guarantee your passage within because my blood has paid for your sins and made you righteous enough to dwell with me in Glory forever.

Say this with me, "I am the righteousness of God"!! Say it again, "I am the righteousness of God through my Shepherd Jesus Christ". The Lord is my Shepherd.

God bless you Anointed flock of God, Pastor Turner

Day 20 - Weekend Shepherd Assignment

Good morning child of God for every Saturday and Sunday lessons we will be reading Psalm 23 to remind us of the goodness of God our Shepherd.

Psalm 23

23 *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

² *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

³ *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

⁴ *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

⁵ *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

⁶ *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.*

Have an amazing Saturday.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 21 - Weekend Shepherd Assignment

Good morning child of God for our Sunday lesson we will be reading Psalm 23 to remind us of the goodness of God our Shepherd.

Psalm 23

23 *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

² *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

³ *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

⁴ *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

⁵ *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

⁶ *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.*

Have an amazing Sunday.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 22 – The Shepherds commitment to protect The Sheep

Good morning and God bless you child of God. I am so thankful to God for you. You are truly blessed and anointed by God. His Grace and favor are with you, and His mighty hand of protection is guarding you and your family from all hurt, harm and danger. You are the apple of His eye and as His child there is nothing better to Him than to see you prosper, be in great health, walking in divine Grace and favor and enjoying life to the fullest.

Today as we embark on another week of our 30-day study, I am so glad and excited to talk about the subject, “The shepherd’s commitment to protect the sheep”. This is drawn from our main scripture of Psalm 23:4 *“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.”*

One of the main jobs of a shepherd outside of caring for and feeding the sheep, is protecting them and preserving their lives from harm and danger. It is the sole responsibility of the shepherd to protect his flock from predators who purposely are trying to devour and kill the sheep. To give you a clear perspective of this, I want you to read about a shepherd named David who was tasked by his father to care and watch over the sheep. It is this David who again wrote Psalm 23. He is speaking from experience as a shepherd who understands what it means to have to put his life in danger to protect the flock. Then when he considered his own life and how he had many predators and people trying to harm and kill him, he saw how his shepherd (God) protected him from all danger and did not let any harm take his life.

Listen to the words of David talking about his experience having to protect his sheep from predators trying to take their lives and devour them.

1 Samuel 17:33-37 King James Version

³³ And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.

³⁴ And David said unto Saul, **Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock:**

³⁵ And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him.

³⁶ Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God.

³⁷ David said moreover, **The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear,** he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

David here gives us two perspectives, one as a shepherd and one as a sheep. He tells us in verse 34 that when a lion and bear came and took one of the sheep out of the flock, he was tasked to go after them and take the sheep out of its mouth. He said he saved the sheep from the reality of being devoured by its predator.

Look at the words of a shepherd tasked to protect his flock. He then goes on to say after saving his sheep, the lion and bear attacked him just like they attacked the sheep and now he was the one who needed saving.

He considered that as a shepherd he wanted his sheep to have confidence that he would protect them from death, and now when he was attacked by the lion and bear, he became the sheep who had to have faith that his shepherd would protect him from the lion and the bear killing him. So, David is speaking from experience in both being a shepherd and a sheep.

Today just as David, I need you to have full assurance that when you are attacked by life's dangers and predators, you have a Savior and Shepherd who is shielding and protecting you from all seen and unseen dangers of the world. Let's read some scriptures from our Shepherd of His commitment to protect you from danger.

Isaiah 41:10

Easy-to-Read Version

¹⁰ Don't worry—I am with you.

Don't be afraid—I am your God.

I will make you strong and help you.

I will support you with my right hand that brings victory.

Look at what the shepherd is telling you today. He is saying I know you are fearful and worried about life's challenges and attacks that come at you from every side, but He tells you, "Don't worry and don't be afraid, for I am with you." Don't you feel that in your spirit right now where you can hear God saying, "I got you in this, I am not going to let this destroy you." Be at peace with knowing that if God is with you, in the end you will always come out victorious.

One more scripture I want to leave with you today from the same writer Isaiah who gave us encouragement in Isaiah 43:2.

Isaiah 43:2

Good News Translation

² When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you;

your troubles will not overwhelm you.

When you pass through fire, you will not be burned;

the hard trials that come will not hurt you.

Child of God in life, hard trials and circumstances will come and cause you much anxiety and stress, but we must have confidence in our Shepherd that He will be with us and not let the trials we face overwhelm us. He did not say He would not let you face hard trials, but He promised that they will not hurt you. You have to believe today that your Shepherd will not leave you, nor forsake you.

God bless you and Pastor loves you.

Day 23 – The Shepherd’s Rod

Good morning child of God. Another great and beautiful day that our God has allowed us to be apart of on this side of Heaven. So thankful for you today for making a commitment to your spiritual growth as we start off a new year.

Today I was thinking about what David said when he said, “Ye thou I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil”. Thinking of this pandemic we have been facing for almost a whole year now and how death has been all around us. As of today, over 400,000 Americans have died from this virus, but many of us can say, “Ye thou I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil”.

With death all around us, some of us even walking into hospitals for appointments and the virus being right in our midst and somehow, we walked out safe. Truly we can say we walked through the valley of the shadow of death. Do you not know we have been in the arm lengths of death, but God did not let it grab hold of us and take us out? Like the songwriter Kurt Carr said, “God blocked it and He would not let me fall.”

Some of you and your children have been in the grasps of death either through an illness, an automobile accident, attacks, a surgery, etc. but through it all, God preserved your life. You ought to take a moment right now and thank God for watching over you and sparing your life. Hallelujah!!!!!!!!!!

Today I want to leave you with a scripture of hope as you enter another day with the ever-present protection of our Shepherd.

Psalm 18

Good News Translation

18 How I love you, LORD!

You are my defender.

²The LORD is my protector;

he is my strong fortress.

My God is my protection,

and with him I am safe.

He protects me like a shield;

he defends me and keeps me safe.

³ I call to the LORD,

and he saves me from my enemies.

Praise the LORD!

⁴ The danger of death was all around me;

the waves of destruction rolled over me.

⁵ The danger of death was around me,

and the grave set its trap for me.

⁶ In my trouble I called to the LORD;

I called to my God for help.

In his temple he heard my voice;

he listened to my cry for help.

¹³ Then the LORD thundered from the sky;

and the voice of the Most High was heard.^[c]

¹⁴ He shot his arrows and scattered his enemies;

with flashes of lightning he sent them running.

¹⁶ The LORD reached down from above and took hold of me;

he pulled me out of the deep waters.

¹⁷ He rescued me from my powerful enemies

and from all those who hate me—

they were too strong for me.

¹⁸ When I was in trouble, they attacked me,

but the LORD protected me.

¹⁹ He helped me out of danger;

he saved me because he was pleased with me.

The psalmist is speaking from personal experiences of being exposed to death, his powerful enemies who tried to take him out and dangers.

He said all he had to do was cry out to God our Shepherd and guess what,

The Lord saved him every time out of all his troubles. You need to know today that the words in Psalm 18 also apply to you. So when you are facing tough times or troubles, I want you to read this Psalm and renew your faith in the ever-present protection of God our Shepherd.

Have an amazing day child of God.

Day 24 – The Shepherd’s Covering

Good morning and God bless you child of God. It is amazing when we consider all the blessings and things God has done for us. I want you to look back over your life for a moment and think of all the things God has brought you out of. Consider how far you have come and how if someone asked you back then if you ever thought you would be where you are now, you wouldn’t have believed you would. God has truly worked so many miracles in your life.

Our Shepherd has kept a covering over your life. Make no mistake: In these last days, the devil is targeting your family, your health and your spiritual life as never before.

Despite the dangers, God's people can live with an unshakable confidence in the safety of His protection. Psalm 91:4 reassures us, "He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge". Deuteronomy 33:12 declares: "'The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by Him, who shelters him all the day long.'" When we connect with His covering, we don't have to fear the turmoil of our times.

God is our covering and our shield from all dangers. When David said thy rod and thy staff they comfort me, he was letting the believers know that he was able to rest easy knowing that God was covering him daily by guarding him with God’s rod and staff. A shepherd uses his rod and staff to war off and fight against the predators who attack the sheep.

God’s rod and staff protect us daily. Look at what Daniel experienced in the Lions den.

Daniel 6:16-22

Good News Translation

¹⁶ So the king gave orders for Daniel to be taken and thrown into the pit filled with lions. He said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve so loyally, rescue you.” ¹⁷ A stone was put over the mouth of the pit, and the king placed his own royal seal and the seal of his noblemen on the stone, so that no one could rescue Daniel. ¹⁸ Then the king returned to the palace and spent a sleepless night, without food or any form of entertainment.

¹⁹ At dawn the king got up and hurried to the pit. ²⁰ When he got there, he called out anxiously, “Daniel, servant of the living God! Was the God you serve so loyally able to save you from the lions?”

²¹ Daniel answered, “May Your Majesty live forever! ²² God sent his angel to shut the mouths of the lions so that they would not hurt me. He did this because he knew that I was innocent and because I have not wronged you, Your Majesty.”

Daniel was cast into the lions den and his enemies believed that their plot had led to his demise, but God said not so. The scripture said the king fasted. Don't you know fasting as we are doing right now is a spiritual principle that leads to a spiritual and physical victory.

The bible said that next morning when the king went to the lions den and inquired of Daniels safety, Daniel reassured him that His God shut the mouth of the lions so they would not hurt him. Is that powerful child of God how God literally kept the lion from touching Daniel? This is exactly what He has and is doing for you right now. He is shielding you from hurt, harm and danger. He said no weapon formed against you will prosper. He never said it wouldn't form against you, but he promised it wouldn't prosper. Thank God for His covering.

I declare to you today that God is going to give you an overwhelming victory over all your enemies. The enemy of lack, the enemy of health issues, the enemy of depression, the enemy of social and professional attacks and the enemy of the thoughts in your mind that cause you to doubt your potential and ability to succeed in all you aspire to do, God is giving you the victory over all of these today. Here's the better news, “you will not see them ever again.”

Exodus 14:13 **King James Version**

¹³ And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: **for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.**

Have an amazing day in the Lord!

Day 25 – The Shepherd prepares a table for you

Good morning and hello to you beloved. You are favored to the upmost by the love of God towards you. You have to know today that the hand of God is on your life. There must be an assurance that you have based on your life's experiences that God is able.

Today I want to deal with the part of Psalm 23 that says in verse 5 “Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.” Well first who is the enemy of the sheep. The bible is clear in identifying for us who is our enemy.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Peter calls the devil our adversary or enemy. One of the main predators that go after sheep are lions. Peter says the devil is as a roaring lion seeking who he may devour. Just like a lion who looks to devour a sheep, the devil is looking to devour us. He is not our friend, he is our adversary or enemy.

John 10:10 calls the devil also a thief. It says, “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:”

The devil is trying to destroy you, but since he is not omniscient or all knowing, he does not have insight in what God is preparing for you. He is waiting to steal blessings from you that God has prepared for you, but he does not know when they are coming. The scripture assures us today that even while the devil is preparing ways to rob you, God is preparing a table for you. Not only is God preparing a table for you, but He is doing it right in the presence of your enemy. Look at what the Psalmist says in Psalm 37.

Psalm 37:12-13

Easy-to-Read Version

¹² The wicked plan bad things for those who are good.

They show their teeth in anger at them.

¹³ But our Lord will laugh at them.

He will make sure they get what they deserve.

God daily adds benefits to us. Read the next 3 scriptures that speak of God giving us good benefits and blessings daily:

1. [Psalm 68:19](#)

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with **benefits**, even the God of our salvation. Selah.

2. [Psalm 103:2](#)

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his **benefits**:

3. [Psalm 116:12](#)

What shall I render unto the LORD for all his **benefits** toward me?

All three psalms speak of the benefits God gives to us, but what I love about the 3rd one is the psalmist ask the question, “what shall I render or give to God for all His benefits toward me.” First, he tells us the benefits and blessings I have are first actually God’s. The job, the home, my possessions, everything I have all belongs to God who gives them to me. So, what shall I give to God to show my thanks for all He has done for me? I owe him my life, my praise and the glory. Watch this child of God, He is loading you daily with benefits while your enemy is watching, and they can’t do anything to stop you from receiving it. The enemy can’t stop your blessing because watch this, it was prepared for you while he was focusing on how to curse you. God prepares your blessing in secret and once it is presented to you, it is too late for your enemy to take it from you. He only can sit there and watch God lay it out on the table for you right in the presence of your enemy.

1 Corinthians 2:9

Good News Translation

⁹ However, as the scripture says,

“What no one ever saw or heard,
what no one ever thought could happen,
is the very thing God prepared for those who love him.”

I love this scripture. It says nobody ever thought you would get the blessing. They never heard about how it was being prepared and they never thought it would happen for you. It then says the blessing they never thought you would or could ever receive is the very thing God prepared for you.

God is showing your enemies that what He has for you they won't even be able to imagine seeing you with it, so by the time you get it they are so surprised and didn't even see it coming. They will not have enough time to plot how to cause you to lose it because they didn't ever seeing you with it.

Have an awesome day child of God and know that our God is preparing things even now in secret for you that are soon to be revealed.

Day 26 – The Shepherd has plans for you

Make a joyful noise unto The Lord all ye lands. Serve The Lord with gladness. Come before His presence with singing. Know ye that The Lord, He is God. It is He that hath made us and not we ourselves. We are His people, and the SHEEP of His pasture. Praise The Lord child of God. As we enter the last work day of the week Friday, I am so thankful to God for you being committed to these 30 days of Fasting and Prayer. Oh what a blessing it has been in sharing with you this daily study series to empower you for each new day with a word from God to strengthen and encourage you.

I would just like to end this week with the continued idea of God thinking, planning and preparing blessings for you.

Jeremiah 29:11

Good News Translation

¹¹ I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to **bring you prosperity** and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for.

God is planning prosperity before you. The table is set and He is laying out the spread of wealth, health, joy, peace and restoration before you. I want you to know that you are blessed of God and that the table He is setting before you is what He has planned for you.

He didn't say the enemies at the table could feast from what He was laying before you, but rather that they were strategically positioned just to watch. It would denote the picture that they are in a chair with their hands tied behind their back with only the ability to watch and not touch.

They are purposely placed there to watch because their intent was to harm or hinder you, when God's plan was to bless and prosper you.

Look at Numbers 23: when a soothsayer and person working witchcraft tried to curse and do evil against the people of God. He was actually hired to curse the children of God, but while he was planning to curse, God had already planned and

put His hand on them to bless them. The curse was too late. The blessing had already been placed on the table.

Numbers 23:19-23

Good News Translation

¹⁹ God is not like people, who lie;
He is not a human who changes his mind.
Whatever he promises, he does;
He speaks, and it is done.
²⁰ I have been instructed to bless,
And when God blesses, I cannot call it back.
²¹ I foresee that Israel's future
Will bring her no misfortune or trouble.
The LORD their God is with them;
They proclaim that he is their king.
²² God has brought them out of Egypt;
He fights for them like a wild ox.
²³ There is no magic charm, no witchcraft,
That can be used against the nation of Israel.^[a]
Now people will say about Israel,
'Look what God has done!'

Now you say Pastor Turner God is talking about Israel in that text and not us. Well you must not know that by us accepting Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior we are joined into the commonwealth or family of Israel through adoption. This means all the promises and blessings God proclaimed over Israel are available to you by faith.

Ephesians 2:11-13

Good News Translation

¹¹ You Gentiles by birth—called “the uncircumcised” by the Jews, who call themselves the circumcised (which refers to what men do to their bodies)—remember what you were in the past. ¹² At that time you were apart from Christ. You were foreigners and did not belong to God's chosen people. You had no part

in the covenants, which were based on God's promises to his people, and you lived in this world without hope and without God. ¹³ But now, in union with Christ Jesus you, who used to be far away, have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

You are no longer an outcast but now you are a child of God who has full right to the covenants and promises God has given and prepared for His people.

Smile and let your enemy know you are blessed and full of joy and truth.

Love you, Pastor Turner

Day 27 - Weekend Shepherd Assignment

Good morning child of God for every Saturday and Sunday lessons we will be reading Psalm 23 to remind us of the goodness of God our Shepherd.

Psalm 23

23 *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

² *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

³ *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

⁴ *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

⁵ *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

⁶ *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.*

Have an amazing Saturday.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 28 - Weekend Shepherd Assignment

Good morning child of God for our Sunday lesson we will be reading Psalm 23 to remind us of the goodness of God our Shepherd.

Psalm 23

23 *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

² *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

³ *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

⁴ *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

⁵ *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

⁶ *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.*

Have an amazing Sunday.

Love you child of God, but God loves you more.

Day 29 – The Shepherds Anointing on you His sheep

Good morning child of God. As we turn down the runway towards the finish line of our 30-day study, I just want to appreciate you for truly being committed to finishing what you started. Many people at the beginning of the year set New Year resolutions and never complete them. Many people say they are going to start the New Year off right with God, and never get started at all. You on the other hand, have started off your New Year completing what I believe is the most important New Year resolution and that is having God in the forefront of your journey into 2021. Jesus says in Matthew 6:33;

Matthew 6:33

King James Version

³³ But seek ye **first** the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

You child of God have put God first in starting off this year. I want you to now have an expectation of what you are believing God to add to your life this year in abundance. Yes, I said abundance because my Bible says in Ephesians 3:20, “²⁰ Now unto him that **is able to do exceeding abundantly** above all that **we ask or think**, according to the power that worketh in us.”

I want you to think BIG this year. Have big dreams, set big expectations, think of BIG goals, have BIG aspirations and watch God exceed every dream, expectation, goal, aspiration and desire that you have. If you can believe, Jesus said in Mark 9:23, “Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.”

Well child of God as we close up this study and have learned the promises from our Shepherd as He has promised all of us His sheep, I would like us to finish Psalm 23. We are on the part that says, “Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over.” What most Christians don’t know is when David wrote this Psalm as a shepherd himself, he knew what shepherds had to do in taking care of their sheep. One thing that was very important back in biblical days and is still

practiced now, is anointing sheep heads with oil. In the summertime, flies bother sheep. The worst are nose flies which buzz around a sheep's head trying to lay eggs in the sheep's nose. If the fly is successful, in a few days, larvae will hatch and get into the sheep's nasal passages. This causes irritation, inflammation and infection. In severe cases, a sheep may kill itself trying to get away from the pain. If the sheep manages to survive, the infection caused by the larvae can cause it to go blind. Because of the seriousness of the problems caused by nose flies, shepherds must be extremely attentive. Another condition that is very troublesome in the summertime is a contagious disease known as scab. This is actually a parasitic condition caused by a mite called Psoroptes ovis that is spread from sheep to sheep through friendly head-butting and rubbing. Applying a thick coat of medicinal oil to the sheeps' heads was believed to kill the parasites and prevent their spread.

So, you see the anointing of the sheep's head was to kill pest which irritated the sheep. These pests can cause major damage to the sheep either inflicting pain on themselves to get rid of the pain, or even death. You know as I considered these pests that irritate the sheep causing them to inflict pain on themselves and almost even go crazy to just get relief, I consider the pest in our lives that cause us the same harm. In this world we have pest that the Apostle Paul said in Ephesians 6 were spiritual demons that are trying to kill or torment us.

Ephesians 6:12 **Living Bible**

¹² For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies—the evil rulers of the unseen world, those mighty satanic beings and great evil princes of darkness who rule this world; and against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world.

Pests that are sent to torment or attack you to disturb your peace. This is why our Shepherd who understands that these pests are spiritual, has to give us an anointing which is a symbol of oil that fend off or repel these spiritual pests.

Pests are considered yokes or burdens, and God has put His anointing on you to destroy them off of your life.

Isaiah 10:27

King James Version

²⁷ And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and **the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.**

You ask, Pastor Turner what type of oil does our Shepherd use on us? The question is not what, but rather who?

The anointing that The Lord has placed on His sheep is none other than The Holy Spirit. Where does it say this you ask? Lets read a few scriptures that will give us this insight:

1 John 2:27

King James Version

²⁷ But the anointing which ye have received of him **abideth in you,** and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing **teacheth you of all things,** and **is truth,** and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

Notice child of God that this Anointing does the following as underlined in the scripture above:

1. Abides in you
2. Teacheth you all things
3. Is truth

This anointing sounds like the Holy Ghost huh because notice how The Holy Ghost is said to do all 3 things in every believer. Lets replay this tune.

1. He abides in you - 1 Corinthians 3:16 says, “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that The **Spirit of God dwelleth in you?**”
2. Teacheth you all things – John 14:26 says, “But the Comforter, which is The Holy Ghost, whom The Father will send in my name, **He shall teach you all things,** and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”
3. Is truth – John 16:13 says, “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, **He will guide you into all truth:** for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

So we see child of God that this anointing oil and anointing is The Holy Ghost which we all have received. Since we are fighting spiritual pests sent to torment us, we need a stronger Spirit to repel and conquer them. This is why God sent us this anointing oil who is the Holy Ghost to war off the spiritual pests we deal with. Remember the Holy Spirit is greater than any demon, evil spirit, and even Satan. Guess what He dwells in you, so receive the power you need to win.

Jesus lets us know The Spirit of God (Holy Spirit) gave Him to power over devils. Guess what the same Holy Spirit dwells in you.

Matthew 12:28
King James Version

²⁸ But if I **cast out devils by the Spirit of God,** then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

So today flock of God, know that The Holy Spirit has caused you to already win battles against demons and devils who wanted to take over you and destroy you. Your survival has proven God’s Spirit present in you.

Love you and have an amazing day in The Lord.

Day 30 – The Shepherds Goodness and Mercy

Well child of God I have enjoyed our time together and will miss our daily devotion time together each day. You are God's sheep and His presence and hand is truly on your life. I pray this lesson has revived and reinforced within your spirit and soul the assurance you needed to know that you have a Great Shepherd Jesus Christ our God and Lord who is committed to taking care of you His sheep. Remember He is committed:

1. Provides for You
2. Declare you Righteous by His blood as The lamb of God that removes all your sins
3. Protect you
4. Prepare blessings for you that your enemies can only watch without the ability to touch or take away
5. Anointing you with Supernatural power and authority over satan and demons.

Finally as we close out this 30 day lesson series, The Shepherd promised to make sure to have goodness and mercy follow you all the days of your life and that you would dwell in the House of The Lord forever.

Psalm 23:6

King James Version

⁶ 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.

Well, who are what is following me all the days of my life. The Bible says surely Goodness and Mercy shall follow me. To follow you and I means these words have taken on the attribute of Anthropomorphism which is the assigning of **human traits** to **non-human** entities or things.

Sounds like David has someone following Him. He calls this Goodness and Mercy. Well one promise the Shepherd always promises His sheep is that I will never leave you nor forsake you. If this is the case that means Shepherd Himself may be Goodness and Mercy.

When God identified Himself to Moses when Moses said He wanted to see God's face and bodily presence, God passed by Moses and allowed Moses to see His backside. The scripture said that while God passed by His name which represents Him was declared. Watch this child of God.

Exodus 34:6
King James Version

⁶ And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, **merciful** and gracious, longsuffering, and **abundant in goodness** and truth,

So, the very person of God is Mercy and Goodness. So when David said surely Goodness and Mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, He was talking about the Shepherd Himself following Him. So today know that The Shepherd is always keeping His eyes on His sheep, following them wherever they may go.

Then David said, "and I will dwell in the house of The Lord forever and ever."

Well, the promise of our Shepherd Jesus Christ to all of us His sheep about us dwelling in His house was found in John 14.

John 14:1-3
King James Version

14 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

² **In my Father's house are many mansions:** if it were not so, I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you.**

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again**, and receive you unto myself; **that where I am, there ye may be also.**

Jesus says I am going to take you to dwell in my Fathers house with me to dwell forever and ever.

The Apostle Paul also tells us the words and promises of our Shepherd of what will happen for all of us the flock of God in the last days.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

King James Version

¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

¹⁷ Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and **so shall we ever be with the Lord.**

The Apostle John says Paul can I jump in real quick and give my little 2 cents of what The Shepherd said about us being in His house with Him forever.

Revelation 21:3-4, 22

King James Version

³ And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, **the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them,** and they shall be his people, and **God himself shall be with them,** and be their God.

⁴ And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

²² And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

Today know that our Shepherd will make sure we dwell forever and ever with Him as His sheep.

Well child of God we have finished our 30-day fellowship in the Word of God. I am so proud of you and your commitment. This is going to be a Great Year for you. The Lord wanted you to know going into this year what His promises and responsibilities He must do for you as your Shepherd. He wants us to know we can rely on Him as we go into this New Year.

Enjoy the journey and know that your Pastor is daily praying your strength as you trust God through every peak and valley.

Love you so much, but remember our Shepherd loves us all more.