

**Sermon Title: "The Lord is my Shepherd"**

**Scripture Text: Psalm 23**

**Sermon by: Pastor Tony Tamba**

## **I) INTRODUCTION**

### **a) A short Story**

A Preacher told a story of a young man and an old man about both reading Psalm 23 at a Banquet occasion...

There was this young man, a great orator at a banquet occasion. Who was called upon to recite the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. After he was done, the people gave him a standing ovation as they clapped.

There was also an old man in the back room somewhere who also was called up to do something, and when he was done, the people were in tears. After the Banquet ended the young man went up to the old man and asked him a question. When I spoke the people clapped, but when you did, they cried. What was the difference, he asked? The old man said, ***you know the Psalm, but I know the Shepherd.***

***Church, do you know who your shepherd is?***

It does make a difference when you know the Lord as your shepherd.

From the day we are born until the day we die, the Good Shepherd's grace and mercies abides with us forever; to help ensure our sweet and safe journey here on earth with the Lord.

**1) The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

[“2) He makes me to lie down in **green pastures**; He leads me beside the still waters.

3) He restores my soul; He leads 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 you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5) You prepare a table ***before me in the presence of my enemies***; you anoint my head with oil; my cup runs 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 Forever”**]. *(Please be seated)*

**II) DAVID'S BRIEF LIFE SKETCH**

David, the beloved, was the youngest of the eight sons of Jesse, the Bethlehemite, and the second and greatest of Israel's Kings. David was an eloquent Poet and one of the most prominent figures in the history of the world (Ruth 4:17, 22; I Samuel 16:13).

***b) David – “The Man After God’s Own Heart.”***

A lot has been written about the trials and triumphs of David, a top of the mountain figure among Bible characters, who was chosen by God Himself as Israel's second King.

As a young man, David was trained to tend his father's sheep.

Being the youngest of the family he was not known in the public eyes, yet it pleased God to raise him from a low estate and set him upon the throne. David's father, Jesse, was a man of no great rank who lived in the little town of Bethlehem.

He was overlooked by the Prophet Samuel, but the Prophet obeyed, when God said, "Arise and anoint him, this is he." And the man of God did as he was commended by the Lord.

In David's eventful life, he went on to be a warrior.

**1) As a Warrior**, - He was courageous as a champion and as a great Soldier (I Samuel 17:40; II Sa. 5:7).

His fight with Goliath the giant made him a marked man. David had no training as a soldier, and he had not even reached the age of manhood when he fought and killed Goliath with just a sling as a weapon.

God gave him victory over the enemy, and he knew it. So, David took no credit or empty victory laps after defeating Goliath because he was well aware of who gave him the victory. He had no reliance on his own powers and so he gave to God all the glory for his victory over Goliath. And because David was a man of war, he was not allowed to build the Temple (I Chron. 28:3).

**2) As a gifted Musician**, he was skillful player of the harp who found himself in the presence of the wretched King, Saul, who could only

be soothed by David's music. David was a poetic genius who made the sweet psalms of Israel, and no poet has come close of being so constantly used and quoted through the ages. (For example, Psalm 23).

**3) As a Saint,** David was accepted as a child of God. His life trend in general was spiritual (I Sam. 13:14; I Kings 15:5). What other man has had the reputation of being known as a man after God's won heart. Such expression as may have noticed does not necessarily refer to any remarkable goodness in David, but to him as the man God had chosen to be the ruler of His people. He was the man of God special choosing. David's worship and meditation indicate the Godward direction of his life.

**4) As a Sinner.** David violated a divine law (Deut. 17:17; II Sam. 5:13), yielded to his gross sin in a period of ease (II Sam. 11) and was rebuked by the prophet Nathan (II Sam. 12). David stained his character by his sin against Uriah and by the deceitful way he gained this gallant soldier's wife as his own.

David's confession to this sin was not cold, or formal, but from the bitter anguish of his heart, he acknowledged his guilt in a true heartfelt humbling manner before the Lord and with deep cry for pardon and restoration to divine favor as Psalm 32 and 51 clearly prove.

**5) As a Prophet.** David had a prophetic gift given to few. He was one of those men of old moved by the Holy Spirit to set forth many glorious truths related to Christ as Savior and Messiah. You will find the Psalms quoted in the New Testament more often than in any other part of the Old Testament.

Does anyone know who you truly are? Do you have a relationship with your Lord?

I noticed some of us in here during worship, we are passive not singing or clapping, or even raising your hands in praise to the Lord for waking **you up today**, providing you and your family with good health, and meeting your needs. Then I would like to challenge you to re-envision or reset your relationship with your Maker, the Lord Almighty.

### **III) David Acknowledged His Shepherd**

I believe David, looking back at his entire life came to the conclusion and said, truly, **“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.” Because I see the hand of the One:**

- a) Who is my maker in my life?
- b) He takes care of my weaknesses,
- c) He defends me against my foes,
- d) He cares about my future.

Only the Lord, my Shepherd does.

## David:

- 1) Introduces us to the One who is **our maker**
- 2) The One who is our takes care of **our weaknesses?**
- 2) Further down he introduces us to the one who is more than able to **defend us against our Foes.**
- 3) And the one who is able to **secure our future.**

**d) The Lord, Jehovah is His Name.** Jehovah meaning the God who is, who was and who is to come/be. The God eternal, God everlasting, the creator of Heaven and Earth. The Un-cause God, but He causes everything in existence; the One who is Un-Made, but the Maker of Heaven and Earth! The One who came down, and became flesh to save us from our sins (John 1:1-14)

### III) Did you notice How God has His Name “Jehovah” Written All over this Psalm? For...

**In v.1)** He is **Jehovah-Rohi/(The Lord my Shepherd), and Jehovah-Jireh/(The Lord my Provider).**

**In v.2)** He is **Jehovah-Shalom/(The Lord my Peace).**

**In v.3)** He is **Jehovah-Rapha/(The Lord my Healer), and Jehovah Tsidkenu/(The Lord my Righteousness).**

**In v.4)** He is **Jehovah-Shammah/(The Lord is There).**

**In v.5) He is *Jehovah-Nissi/(The Lord is our Banner), Jehovah-M'Kaddesh/(The Lord who Sanctifies).***

**In v.6) He is *El Elyon/(The Lord the Most High).***

**Christian friends, in order for us to understand truly who God is, we must re-program our minds to KNOWING who the LORD is.**

**YOU MUST KNOW THE LORD**

***Before we can go on shouting-out the Psalm***

1) The Lord is our shepherd; we shall not want.

2) He makes us to lie down in **green pastures**; He leads us beside the still waters.

***Before we can shout:***

3) He restores our souls; and leads us in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

4) **Before we can claim** to walk through the valley of the shadow of death, and will fear no evil; before I can shout out His rod and your staff, comfort us.

5) Before we shout He prepares a table ***before us in the presence of our enemies***; Before He anoints our heads with oil; and our cups run over.

6) Before we can shout - **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us and all the days of my life; we will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever,**

## **1) WE MUST KNOW THE LORD!**

### **DO YOU KNOW HIM, THE LORD?**

But if you know Him, and show no interest in today's service, or worship, or maybe you are feeling down cast because you have sought the Lord too long to meet a specific need in your life, or save your marriage, or things just don't seem to be working for you like before, I encourage you to re- envision your relationship with the Lord; Ask Him to take control of your life and rekindle your relationship with Him today.

For many of us, we want to put God in a Box. When we need Him, we call on Him. After He meets our needs, and we are done, we put Him back in the Box. When we come to him, we must do so in faith, because God do more than we think or imagine.

### **IV) GOD INTRODUCES HIMSELF TO MOSES**

Moses encountered God on the mountain through the burning bush. And after Moses finally accepted God's call on his life, the Lord said to Moses, go tell Pharaoh free my people. Moses said if I go to them and they ask me, who sent you? Who do I say sent me? Just tell "I am" sent you.

If we are asked to introduce ourselves and we are asked: Who are you or what is your name? We will qualify our response: "I am Pastor James Wallace, I am Dalian Nubella, I am Pastor Randol Ackland, I am Hawah Tamba, I am Paul, I am Susan, etc. etc.

But when God is asked to introduce Himself, He is just "I am."



## **V) CLOSING**

The Lord is saying to you today, whatever you need, "I am."

If you need healing from heart disease, "I am."

If you need healing from kidney disease, "I am."

If you need your mirage saved, "I am."

If you need broken relationship minded; the Lord is saying "I am."

Whatever you need to fight off the enemy, He is saying, "I am."

### **1) THE LORD IS A WAY MAKER**

Somebody in here knows that, if it was not for the Lord, that sickness would have kill you.

When you didn't have any money to do your house closing, but the Lord.

When you were broke, didn't have any money to meet basic needs, but the Lord.

### **2) HIS GRACE AND MERCIES ARE SUFFICIENT FOR ME**

The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I, or you can do that will cause Him to stop loving you.

If you are in the house or watching this program by the internet or TV, and think God has no more grace, or no more mercies left for you, think again.

As your Shepherd, there is nothing that you have need of that He cannot provide; No problem in your life, that is too big that He cannot solve.

To the redeemed, I say if the Lord has saved your child, thank Him;

If He saved your mirage, thank Him. Thank for the air you breathe today.

For the Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.