

David was proud to proclaim that the Lord is HIS shepherd (*Yahweh-RAAH*)

Our God is
a God of
RELATIONSHIP



Are you already
marked as a
child of God?

Ephesians 1:13-14

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of his glory.

"...I shall not want..."



Fact: Sheep are totally dependent on the shepherd for every need

The Lord is our satisfier, all-sufficient one (EL-SHADDAI)

2 Corinthians 9:8

And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that in everything, always having all self-sufficiency, you may abound to every good work.

"...He makes me to lie down in green pastures..."

Sheep lie down when they are secure and free from the following:

- outside attack
- tension and friction with the other sheep
- torment of flies and pests and hunger

**God is our Protector,
The Lord of Hosts
(Yahweh-SABAOTH)**

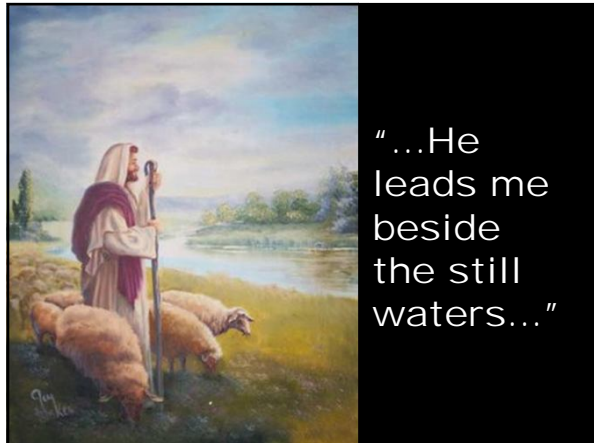
Isaiah 54:17, Romans 8:31, Exodus 14:14

Exodus 15:26

He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you." (Yahweh-Rapha)

Philippians 4:19

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. (*Yahweh-Jireh*)



"...He leads me beside the still waters..."

Fact: Sheep are afraid of running waters

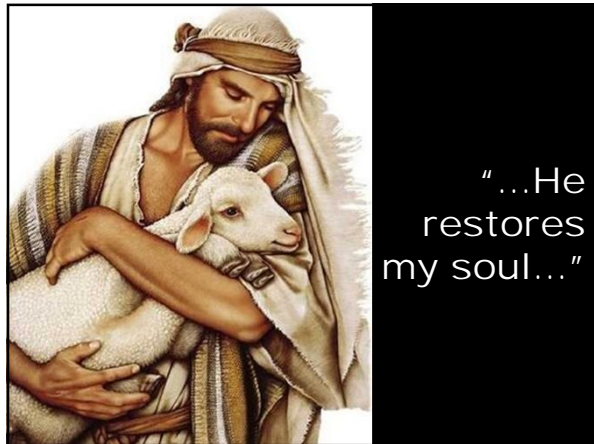
The Lord is our peace and rest (Yahweh-SHALOM)

Matthew 11:28-30

Come to Me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke on you and learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you shall find rest to your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.



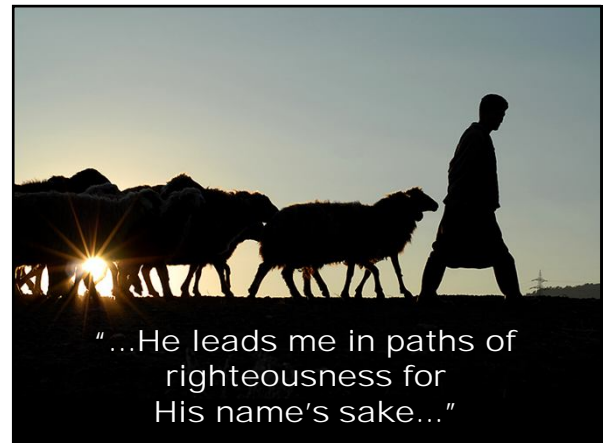
Shoob- restore, “to go back” or “retreat” to the Lord

Fact: A “CAST DOWN” (Lying on its back) SHEEP NEEDS RESTORATION

GOD GIVES US THE STRENGTH TO MOVE ON

Isaiah 40:28-31

“...He gives power to the weary; and to him with no vigor; He increases strength. Even the young shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall; but those who wait on Jehovah shall renew their strength; they shall mount up *with* wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.”



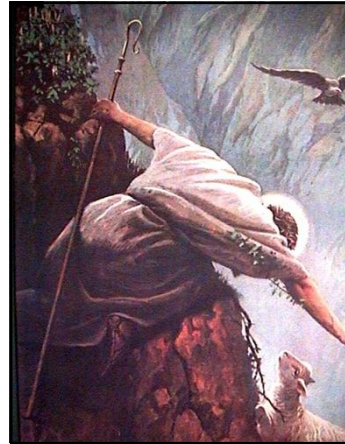
Fact: Sheep are DUMB!
They are prone to wander and easily deceived.

Isaiah 53:6

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2 Corinthians 5:21

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



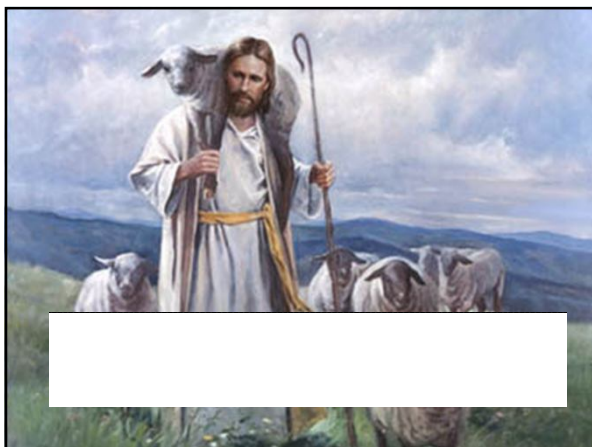
"...Though I walk in the valley of shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me..."

Fact: The Sheep's way up to the higher ground, which has plenty of water and grass, is called Valley of Death due to rock mudslides, predators, and poisonous plants

FEAR paralyzes people

Isaiah 41:10-11

Do not fear; for I *am* with you; be not dismayed; for I *am* your God. I will make you strong; yes, I will help you; yes, I will uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness. (Yahweh-Shammah)



THE PURPOSE OF THE ROD

Discipline and Protection

THE PURPOSE OF THE STAFF

Drawing sheep together, guiding them and rescuing those who are in danger

Hebrews 12:7-11

If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons, for what son is he whom the father does not chasten?...Now chastening for the present does not seem to be joyous, but grievous. Nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who are exercised by it.

James 4:8

Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.

Cleanse *your* hands, sinners; and purify your hearts, double-minded ones.

"...You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies..."



Fact: This refers to tablelands on which the sheep have been journeying. Metaphorically, table means "banquet" or "feast"

