

JESUS NOW

THE PRESENT-DAY MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST

JN-15 “The Good Shepherd”

07/20/2025

1 PETER 2:25 *For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to THE SHEPHERD and OVERSEER of your souls.*

Jesus’ continuing Ministry in Heaven includes one of the most comforting of His roles for the Believers: **THE SHEPHERD**

The Good Shepherd... The Chief Shepherd... The Great Shepherd...

Scripture presents numerous contrasting images of the Godly Shepherd and the Evil Shepherds seen in Israel’s past.

When God appointed David to be King over Israel He declared:

PSALM 78: 70-72 *He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; ⁷¹ from following the nursing ewes He brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance. ⁷² With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.*

God wanted a Leader who would care for, guide, protect, and nourish His people.

The failure of the Kings, Priests, and Prophets of the OT period became a basis for God’s promise to provide true “Shepherds”.

JER 23:1 *Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” declares the LORD.*

JER 10:21 *For the shepherds are stupid and do not inquire of the LORD; therefore, they have not prospered, and all their flock is scattered.*

Ezekiel 34:1-10

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Jesus made a specific point to address ***His role as Shepherd*** in comparison to the failed “***shepherds***” of the past and His day...

JOHN 10:11 *I am THE GOOD SHEPHERD. THE GOOD SHEPHERD lays down his life for the sheep.*

JOHN 10:14 *I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So, there will be one flock, one shepherd.*

PSALM 23

The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

3 He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

4 Even 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 overflows.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Next Lesson:

I WILL GIVE YOU SHEPHERDS

JER 3:15 *“And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.”*

JER 23:4 *I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD.*

There is ONE Abode of the Father **[Heaven]** AND each Believer has a “*distinct place*” within that Abode... – *This “Distinct Place” has been set aside for YOU in the Father’s Home!*

1 PETER 2:20-21 *"Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,²¹ equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen"*

Wiersbe:

There are three separate titles given to Christ, the Shepherd: (1) the Good Shepherd, who dies for the sheep--John 10:11 and Ps 22; (2) the Great Shepherd, who perfects the sheep--Heb. 13:20-21 and Ps 23; and (3) the Chief Shepherd, who will come for the sheep--1 Peter 5:4 and Ps 24. Our High Priest is our Shepherd and Helper; He works in us and gives us the grace and power to live for Him and serve Him.

"Make you perfect" is the theme of Hebrews; "let us go on unto perfection [maturity]" (6:1)...

THAT you may do His will ...

Maturity does not come through our striving in our own strength; it comes as we allow Christ to work in us through the Word of God. This parallels Phil. 2:12-16 and Eph. 3:20-21. God cannot work through us until first He works in us, and He works in us through His Word (1 Thes. 2:13).

ESV Expository Comm:

Tyndale: