

The Shepherd's Protection
Psalm 23 (Part 2)

The Shepherd Provides Personal Protection – Ps 23:4

- This Shepherd is armed – Ps 23:4
 - ...the rod: a defensive weapon – Zeph 3:15-17
 - ...the staff: a disciplinary weapon – Heb 11:4-11
- He comforts by His with-ness – Ps 23:4; II Tim 4:17
 - ...He has conquered what we fear – Ps 56:3; Jo 16:33

The Shepherd Takes Us Through Dark, Dangerous Places – Ps 23:4

- To deliver us from the fear of death – Ps 23:4
 - ...we each have an appointment with death – Heb 9:27
 - ...death leads to judgment – Heb 9:27; II Cor 5:10; I Jo 4:17
 - ...Christ's death and resurrection transforms all our thinking about death – I Cor 15:20-22; II Tim 1:10
 - ...the "judgment" on Christ's death? Resurrection! – Acts 2:22-24
 - ...and so with all who are in Christ! – Ro 6:4-5; I Cor 15:22, 54-57
- To deliver us from the fear of evil triumphing – II Cor 2:14
 - ...in this world we will have trouble/tribulation – Jo 16:33; 15:18; II Tim 3:12
 - ...evil: a theory of success based upon self-determination – Ro 1:18-32; 14:23
 - ...the anti-dote: "You are with me" – Ps 23:4; I Jo 4:4; II Cor 2:14; II Cor 10:4-5; I Jo 4:18
 - ...in conflict with evil/adversaries, learn to "dine" with God – Ps 23:5; Deut 8:3; Matt 4:4
 - = whatever I am in, God is in it with me – Heb 13:5; I Jo 4:4
 - = what God is in, He is in it for good – Ro 8:28-29; Gen 50:20; Ps 119:91
 - = the "good" is God's revelation of Himself (to or through me) – Jo 17:3; Heb 11:6; I Pet 3:15

God Provides Eternal Resources in the Worst of Temporary Situations – Is 45:3; II Cor 4:16-18

- ...so He may walk us through them! – Ps 23:4