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Lifeline



## JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD

**D**avid, the shepherd boy who rose to become the king of Israel said, “the Lord is my Shepherd”. David, the psalmist was aware of the responsibilities and the dangers associated with the life as a shepherd. The primary responsibility of a shepherd is the safety and welfare of the flock, the shepherd would take the flock for grazing and herd them to the areas of good forage. The shepherd keeps a watchful eye out for poisonous plants and guides the flock to the safer meadows. Jesus said, “I am the Good Shepherd: the Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep” (John 10:11). The Lord Jesus by His very actions validates His claim as the Good Shepherd. The psalmist testifies from his very experience that the Lord is his shepherd, who well supplies all his needs, both in body and soul, protects him from all dangers and leads him safely to the other shore, where there is no death, no tears and no sorrow.

The Lord Jesus came down upon the earth from heaven above, to offer Himself as a propitiation for your sin and my sin, for we are born sinners. Jesus gave His life as a ransom for our sins, for our salvation. He became the Door for us to enter into God's fold. He is the Good Shepherd who laid down His life on the cross for the salvation of the sheep, you and I through the blood of the everlasting covenant (Hebrews 13:20-21). He rose again from the dead and ascended to the Father and is coming again as the Chief Shepherd (1 Peter 5:4). Today, He is seated at the right hand of His Father and

our Father on high and is interceding for His people who trusted in Him for their salvation.

The metaphor used for God as “the Good Shepherd” shows the loving, affectionate and tender love of God towards the miserable, wretched sinner, you and me, compared as sheep. Just as the sheep by its very nature is very weak and timid and can't protect itself from the dangers that surround it and lives entirely by the protection and care of the shepherd, the poor sinner, you and I can count on the compassion and the tender mercies of God for His enduring love and care, provision of eternal life and protection from eternal death. Since the Lord Jesus is our Shepherd, He shall provide all our needs for time and eternity. If you go to Him and trust in Him, He shall give eternal life so that you can live eternally, and none could snatch you out of His loving hands. The devil wants to destroy every soul born on the earth by lie and deceit. But if you put your trust in the Lord Jesus, the Saviour, He will guard you and protect you from all dangers. God is El Shaddai, and he is capable to protect you and take you safely through the storms of life to the other shore, the heaven.

Dear Reader, please come to Him, trust in Him, confess your sins to Him, just as you are, wherever you are. If you do so, God will accept you as His beloved child. And you will receive the forgiveness of your sins and the joy of salvation, and the angels in heaven shall rejoice over your experience.

- Kumar Nadesan