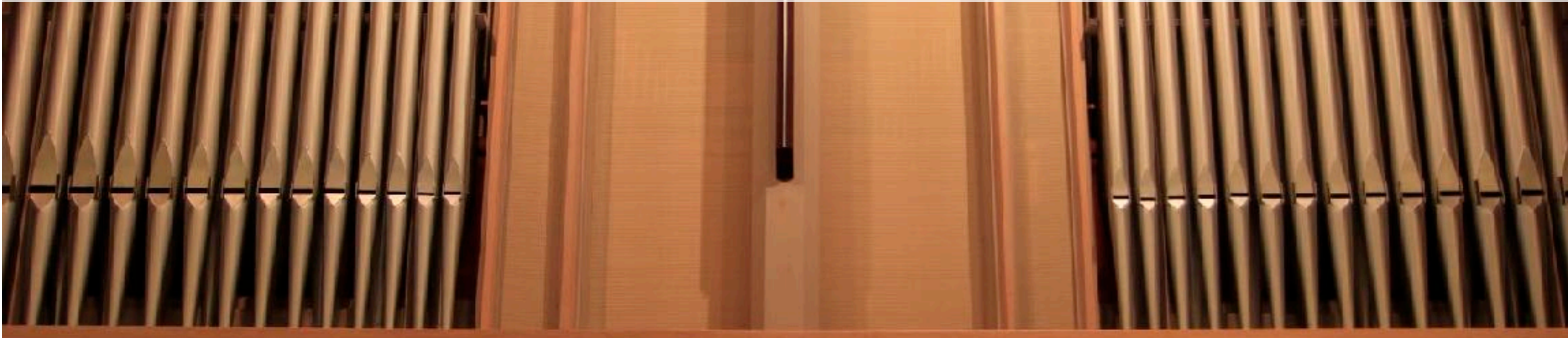




Sunday, April 28, 2024

Welcome to Worship at Christ Chapel

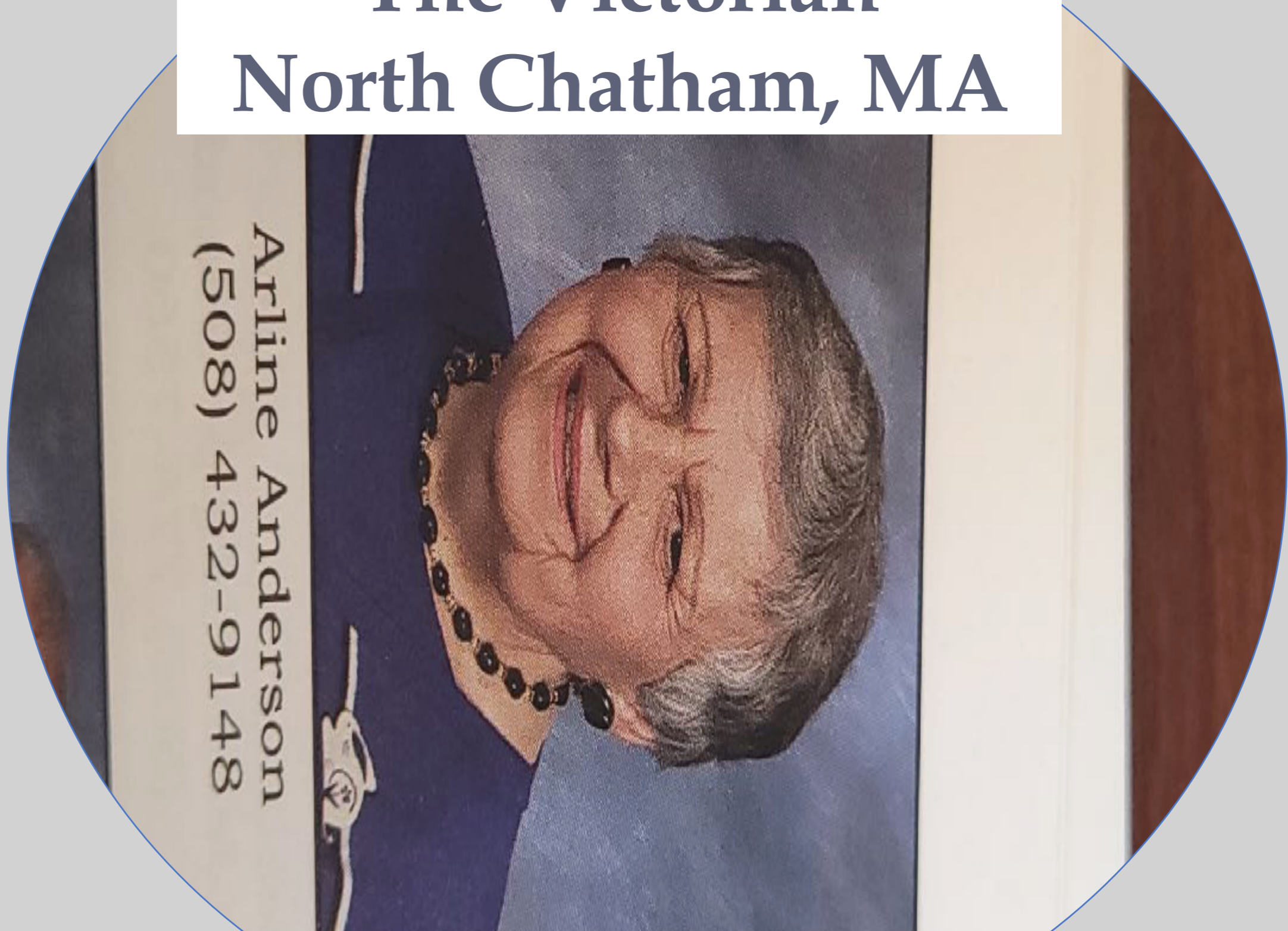
**The LORD Our Shepherd**





**Deacon Sunday**  
**Arline Anderson**

**The Victorian**  
**North Chatham, MA**



**Phone: 508-348-5301**



# **E L D E R**

## **N O M I N A T I O N S**

- > Important Priority for Church**
- > Vote Today After Sunday Service**





**This Thu, May 2nd @ 5:30pm  
> Hyannis Village Square**





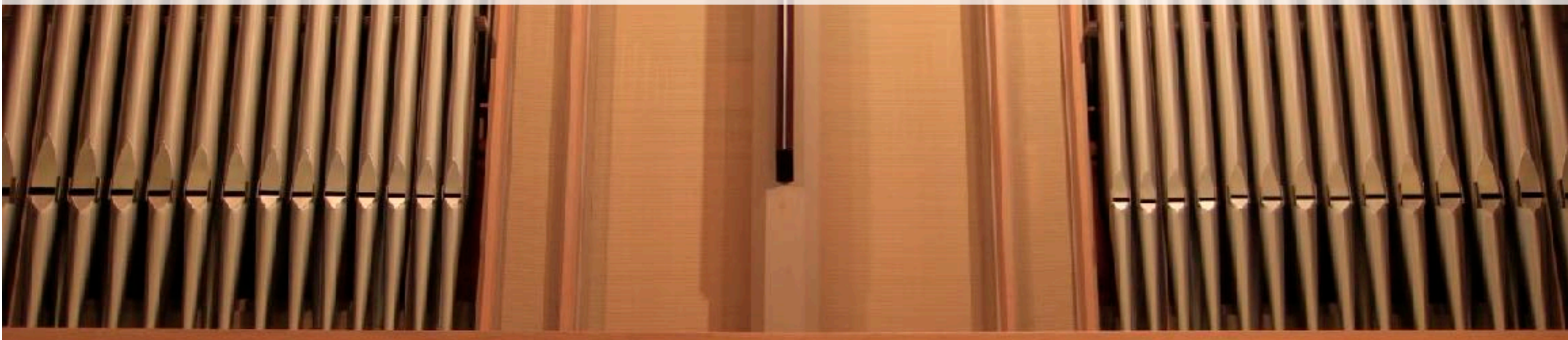




Sunday, April 28, 2024

Welcome to Worship at Christ Chapel

**The LORD Our Shepherd**

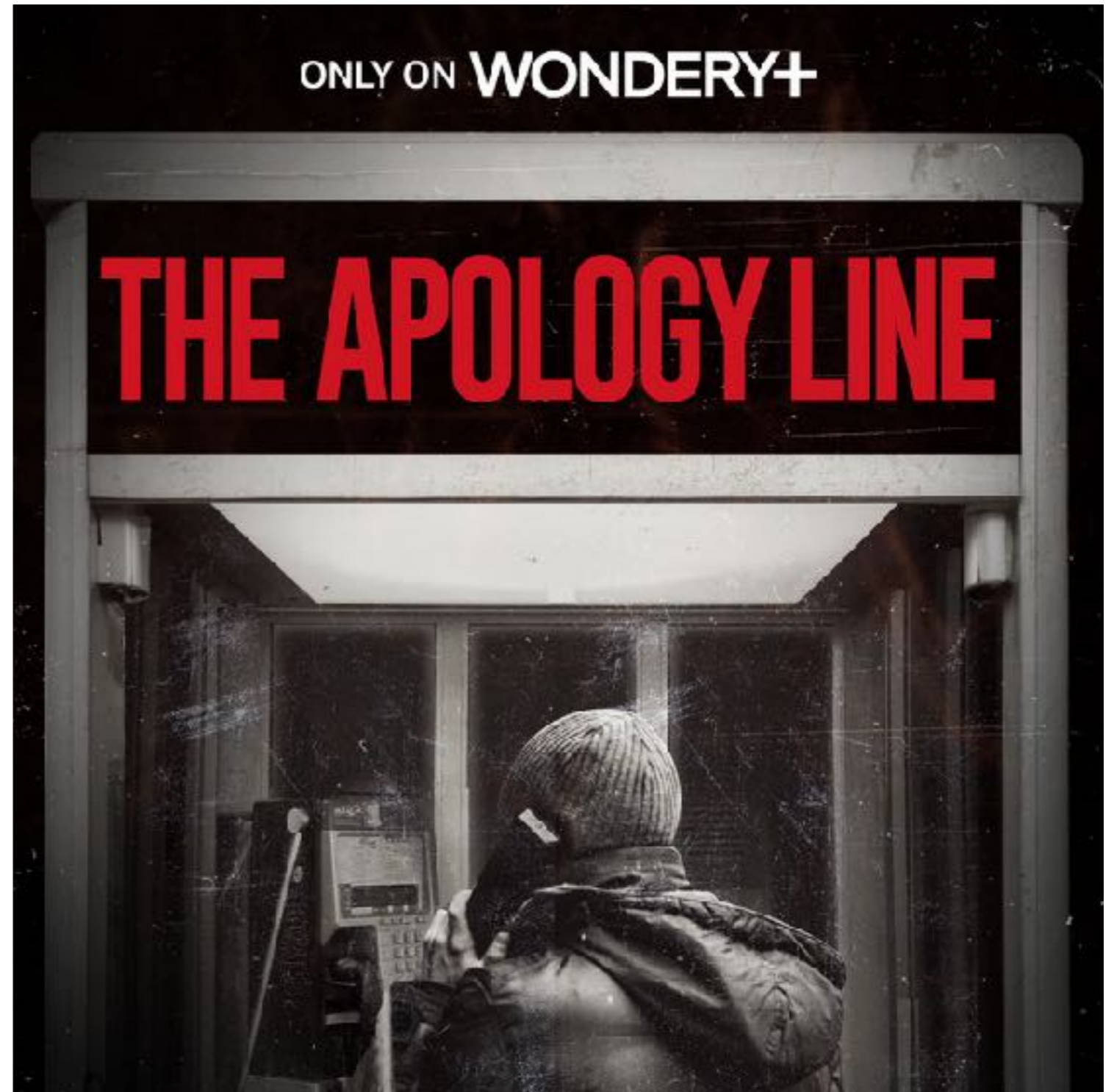




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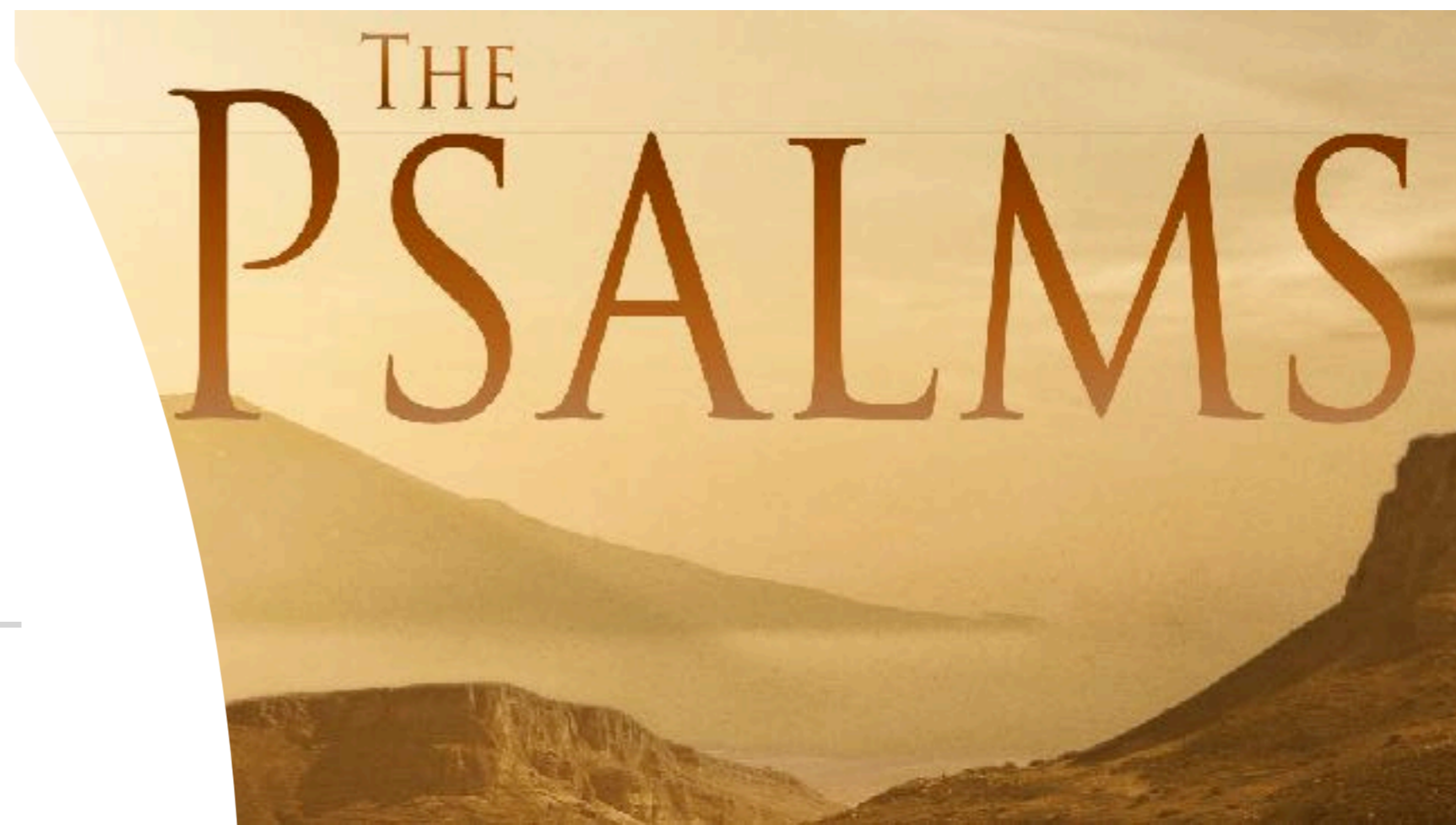
**#631-965-5032**



# SONGS OF THE HEART

The Psalms on

**The  
LORD  
Our  
Shepherd**





# Psalm 23:1-5

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<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

<sup>3</sup> He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**



**#1.**

**The Lord  
Our  
Shepherd**





# Psalm 23:1

**<sup>1</sup> The Lord is  
my shepherd;**

**I shall not want.**



**No Wants**



# THE GOOD SHEPHERD

A THOUSAND-YEAR JOURNEY FROM  
PSALM 23 TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

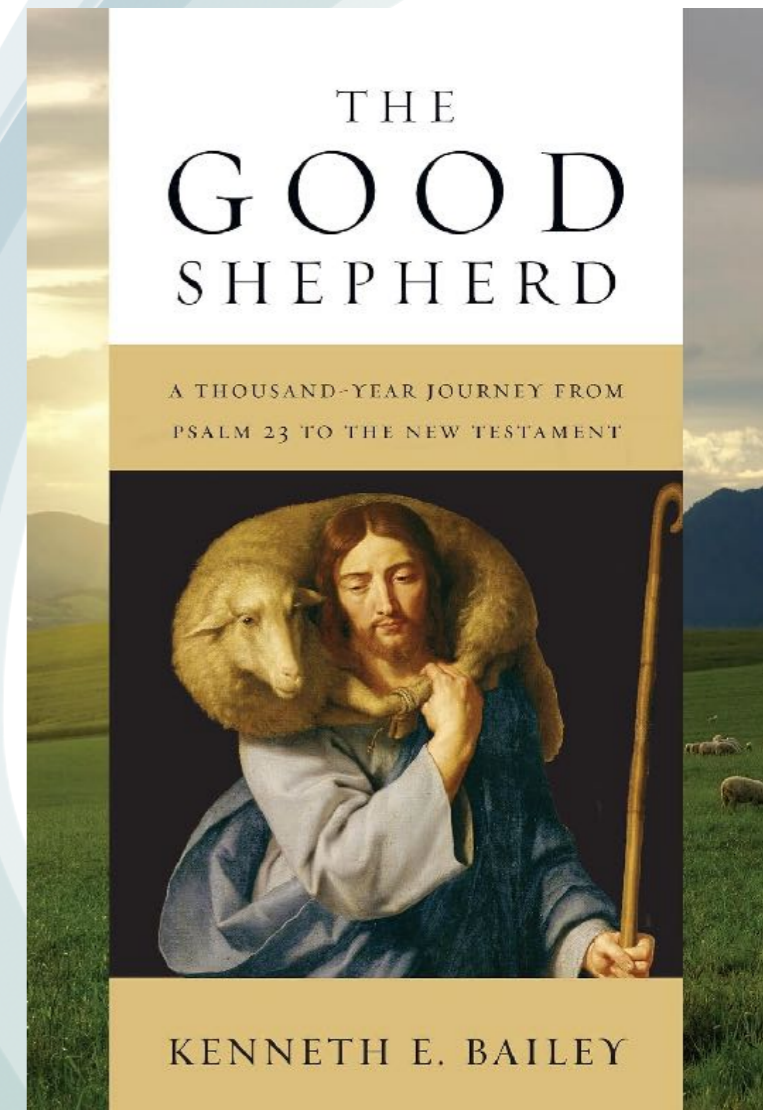


KENNETH E. BAILEY





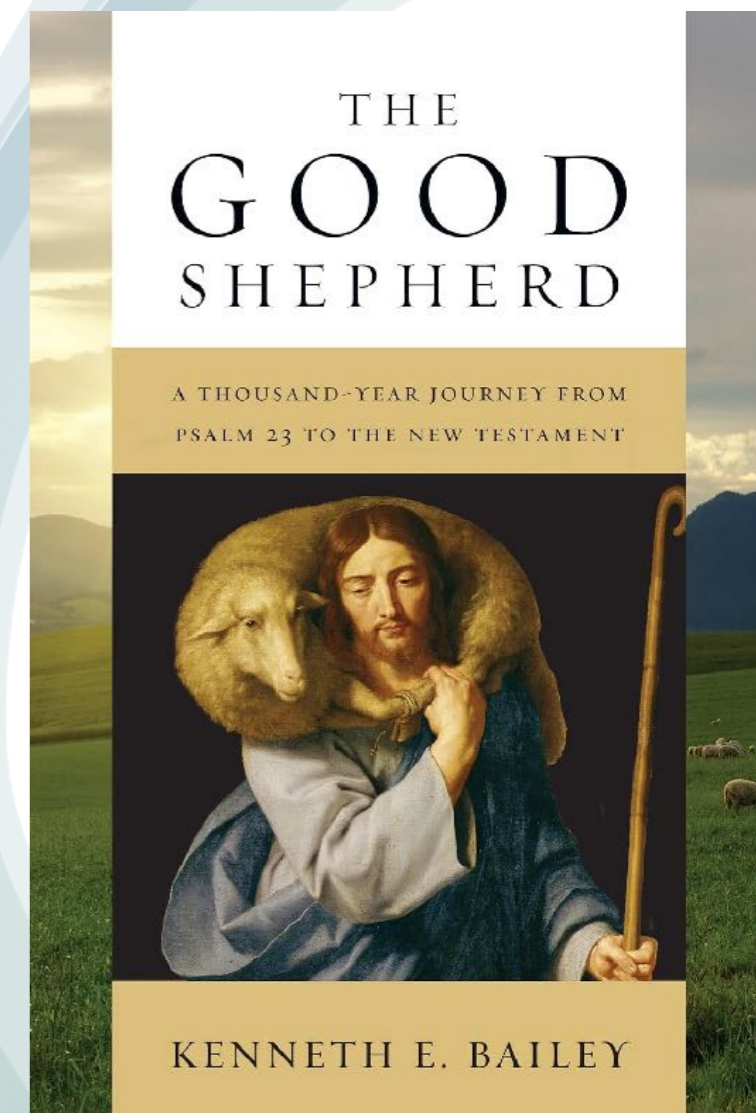
Without hesitation, the sheep confidently follow the shepherd, knowing that with him in the lead all will be well.





The psalmist has a very basic set of wants that the shepherd provides for his sheep. That list includes food, drink, tranquility, rescue when lost, freedom from the fear of evil and death, a sense of being surrounded by the grace of the Lord, and a permanent dwelling place in the house of God.

...The sheep knows that only with the shepherd's help can they secure the above limited list of basic wants.





#2.

**Provision  
& Peace**





# Psalm 23:1-3

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> **He makes me lie down**

in green pastures.

He leads me beside still  
waters.

<sup>3</sup> He restores my soul.

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

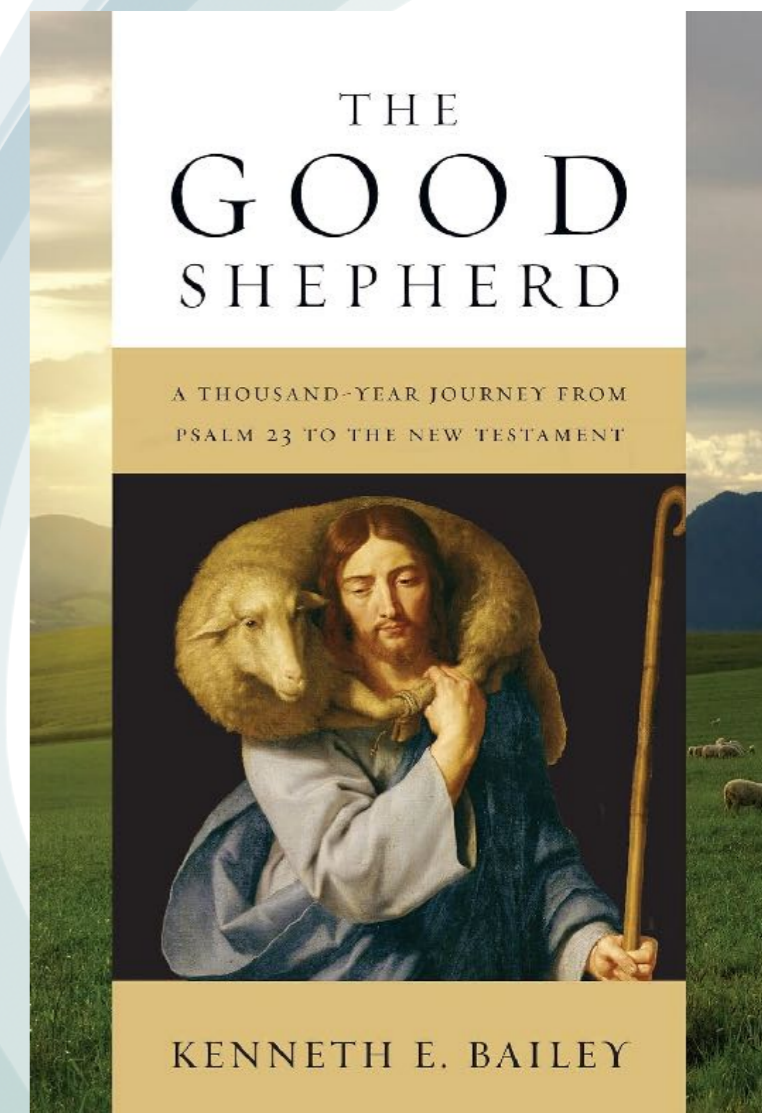
Provision & Peace



The Greek Old Testament uses the word kataskênôo, which translates "settle down" or "rest"

Where grass is abundant, sheep are quickly satisfied.

Then they lie down and the food digests. Thus...  
"he settles me down."

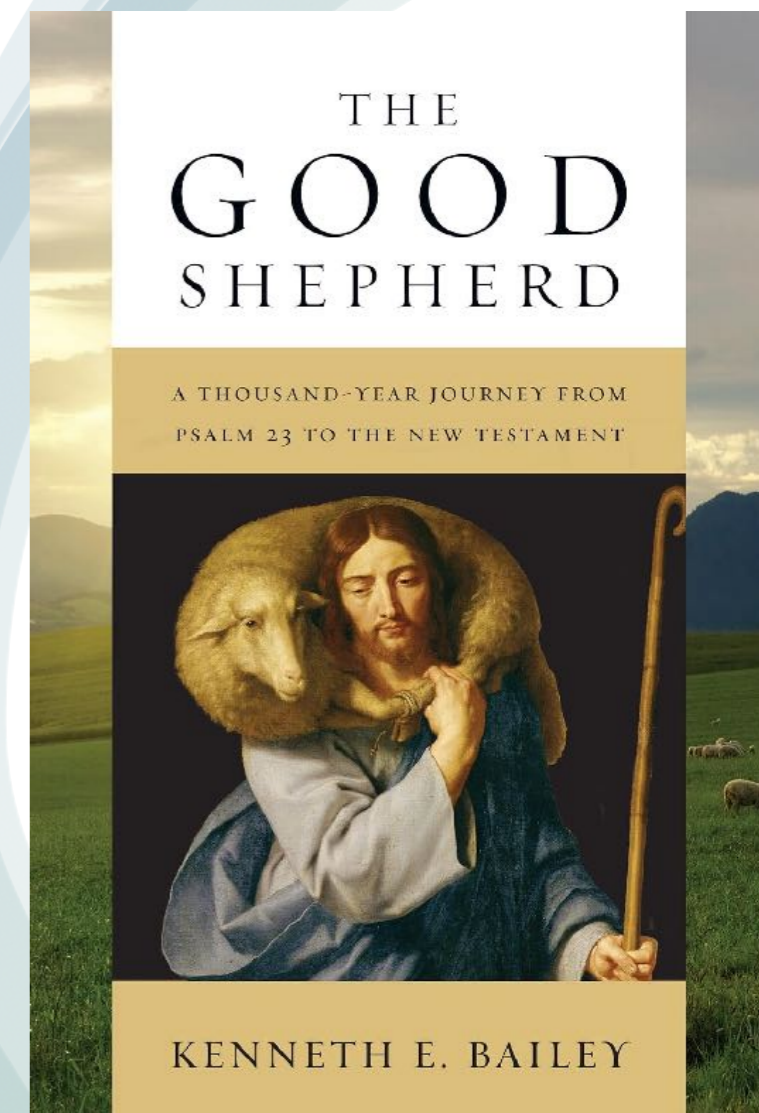




A dog can be trained to sit and to lie down. Not so a sheep. A well-known proverb affirms, "You can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink? In like manner, no one can make a sheep lie down.

***Sheep will only lie down when they have had plenty to eat, have quenched their thirst and are not threatened by any wild animal or disturbed by biting insects.***

The barking of one stray dog can cause an entire herd to jump up and even run off if not stopped by an alert shepherd.





# Psalm 23:1-3

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down **in  
green pastures.**

He leads me beside still  
waters.

<sup>3</sup> He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of  
righteousness for  
his name's sake.



Provision & Peace

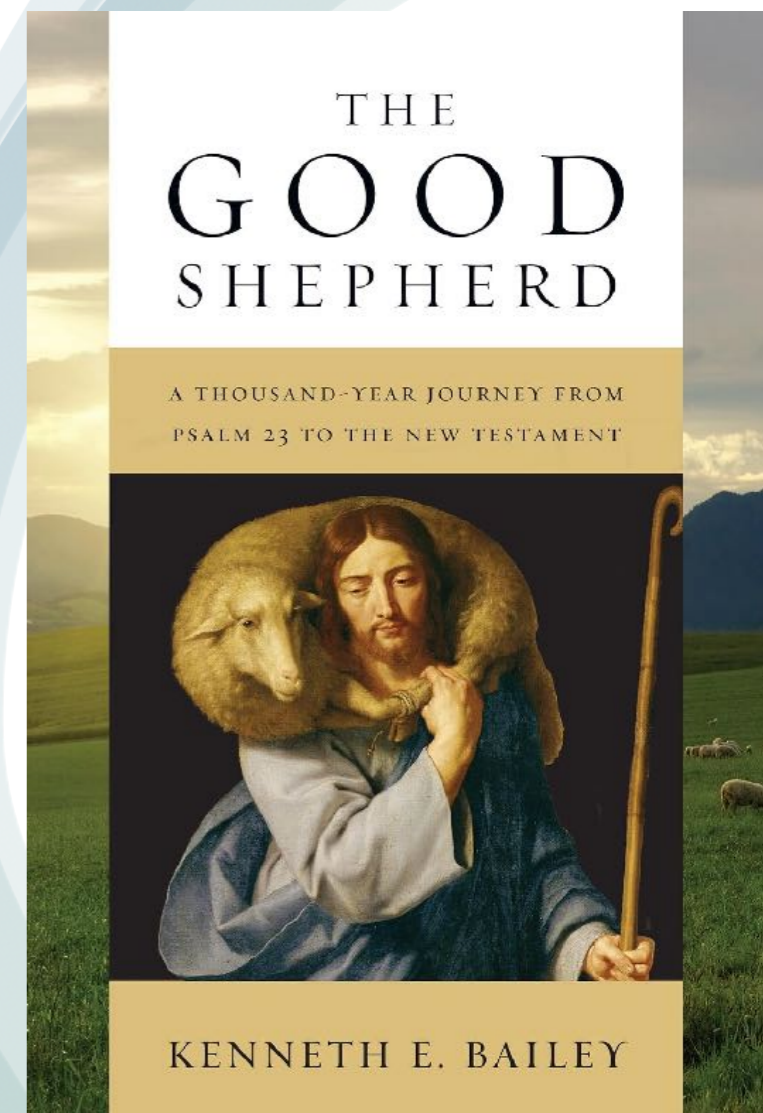


In a good year in the Holy Land, rains begin in November and usually conclude by the end of February. It takes some time for the parched earth to produce "green pastures."



Having watched this cycle for thirty winters in Lebanon and in Bethlehem, I know that *green pastures are available for not more than three months a year.*

*The shepherd must plan his day around the availability of water* in the middle of the day. In winter the lower, warmer pastures will be grazed while the higher, cooler slopes are reserved for the heat of summer.





# Psalm 23:1-3

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in  
green pastures.

**He leads me** beside still  
waters.

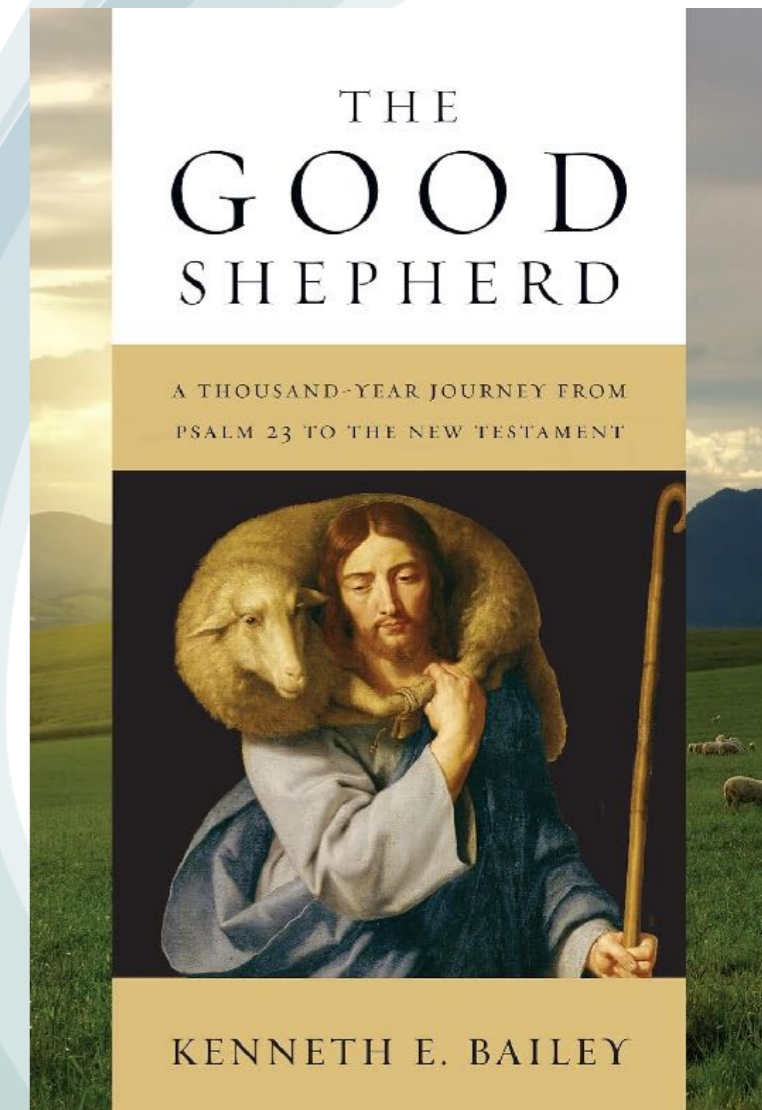
<sup>3</sup> He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of  
righteousness for  
his name's sake.



Provision & Peace



***The good shepherd "leads me"; he does not "drive me." There is a marked difference. ...in the open wilderness of the Holy Land the shepherd walks slowly ahead of his sheep and either plays his own ten-second tune on a pipe or (more often) sings his own unique "call." The sheep appear to be attracted primarily by the voice of the shepherd, which they know and are eager to follow. It***





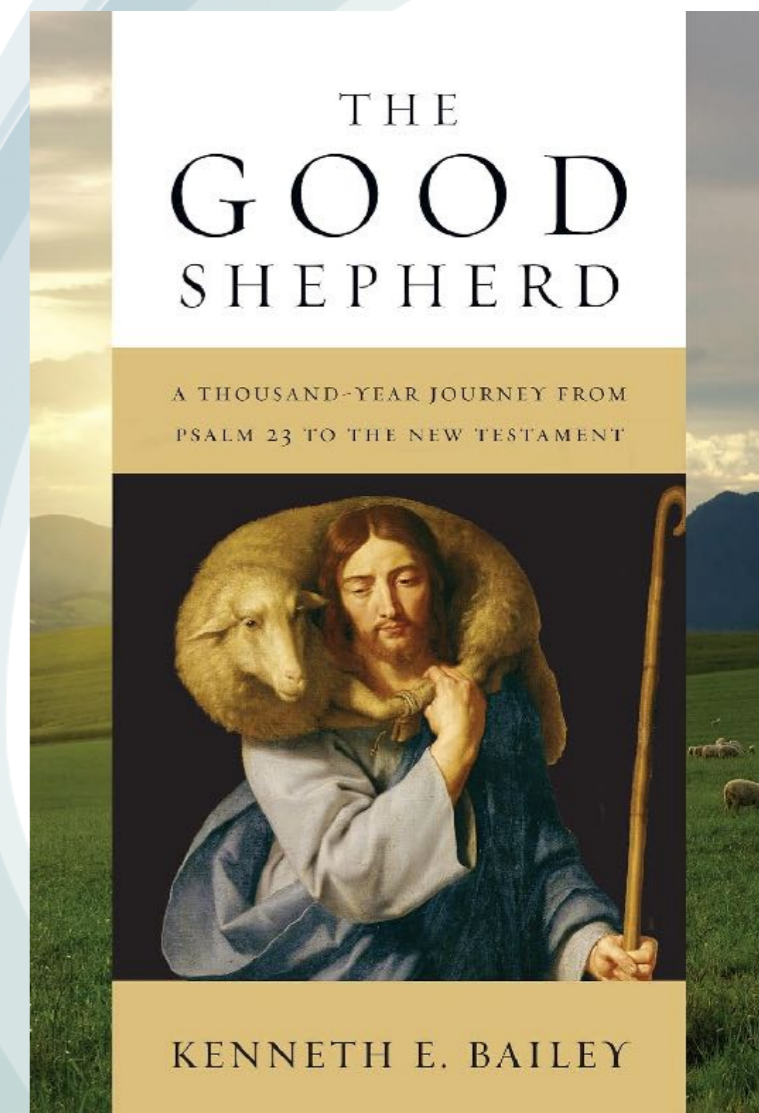
# John 10:27

**My sheep hear  
my voice, and I  
know them, and  
they follow me:**





The inhabitants were permitted to redeem their possessions at a fixed price. Among them was an orphan shepherd boy, whose six or eight sheep and goats were all he had in the world for life and work. He went to the big enclosure where the animals were penned, offering his money to the British sergeant in charge. The sergeant told him he was welcome to the requisite number of animals, but ridiculed the idea that he could possibly pick out his "little flock" from among the confiscated hundreds. ***The little shepherd thought differently, because he knew better; and giving his own "call", (for he had his nai "shepherd's pipe") "his own" separated from the rest of the animals and trotted out after him.***





# Psalm 23:1-3

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in  
green pastures.

He leads me **beside still  
waters.**

<sup>3</sup> He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of  
righteousness for  
his name's sake.



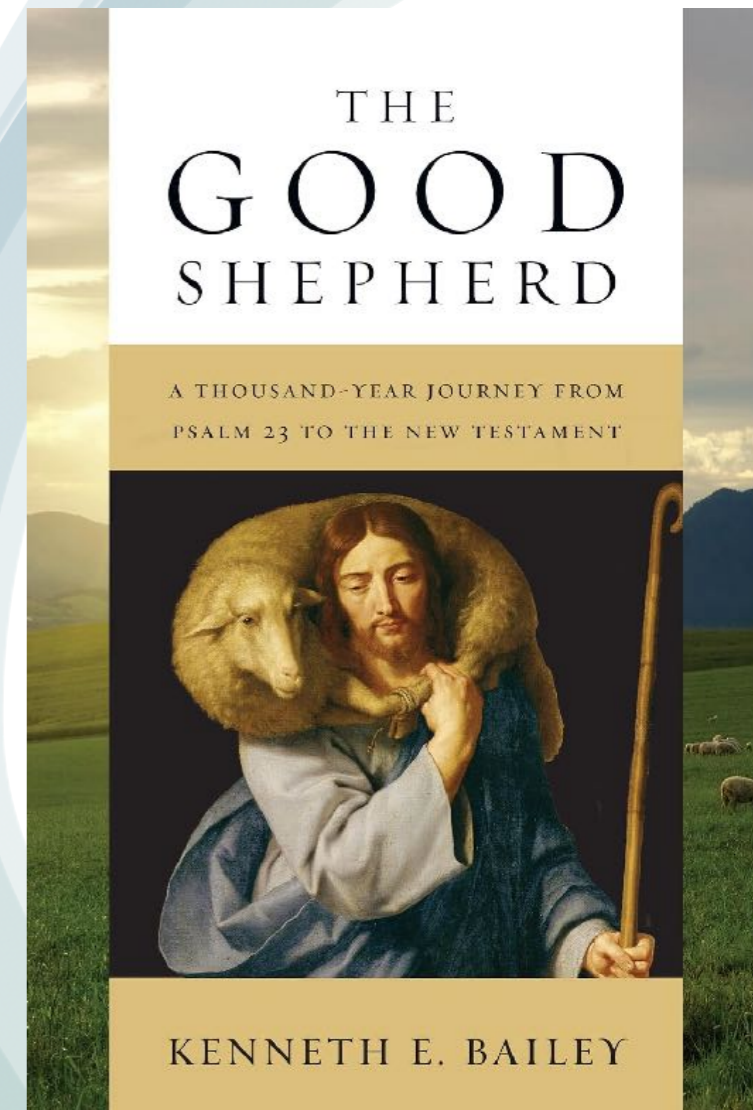
Provision & Peace



***Sheep are afraid to drink from moving water even if it is shallow. "Sheep cannot be watered at places where the water is swift."***



If a stream is available, at times Middle Eastern shepherds dig a short, dead-end channel that leads away from the stream. "In certain places, where the water is swift, shepherds construct nooks near the edge of the stream to make it easier for the sheep to drink." The sheep quickly line up along such a channel of "still water" and quench their thirst.





# Psalm 23:1-3

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in  
green pastures.

He leads me beside still  
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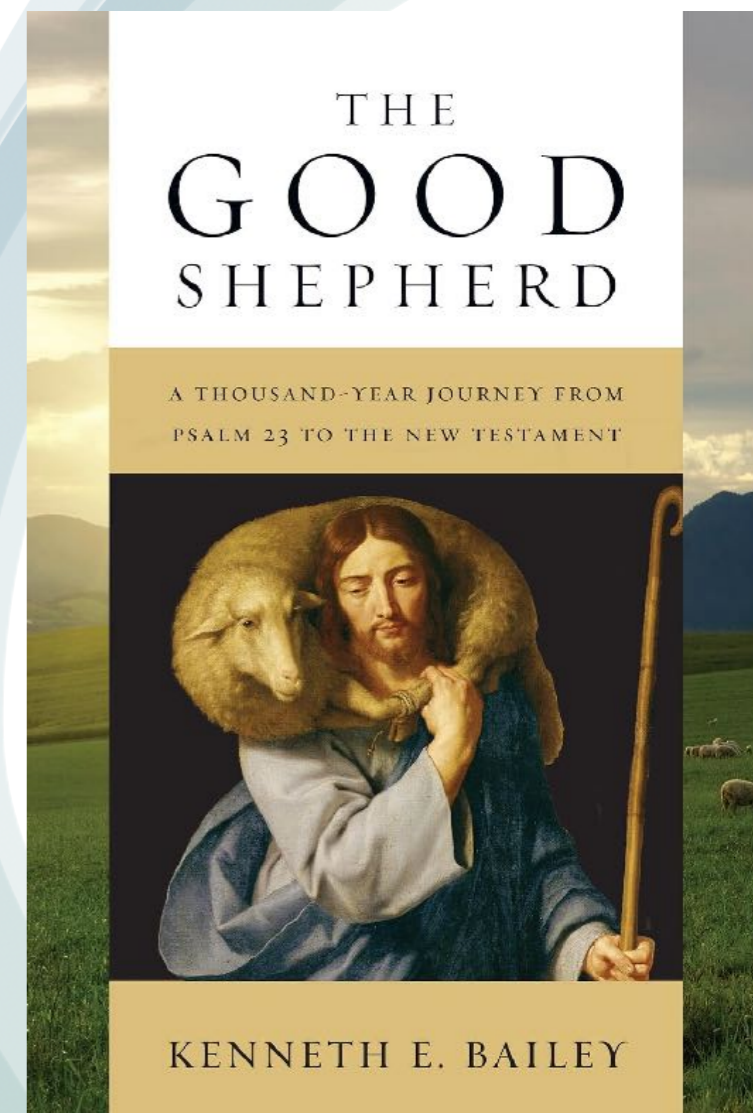
Provision & Peace



The good shepherd leads his flock in these righteous paths *"for his own name's sake"*



The shepherd is very careful about the paths, because he loves the sheep, and for his own name's sake he would do anything to prevent accidents and attacks by animals. He has to keep his reputation as a good shepherd. He acts out of his own integrity, which he will not violate. He is a good shepherd, and a good shepherd does not lose his sheep.





#3.

**Rescue &  
Protection**





# Psalm 23:4-5

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Rescue & Protection

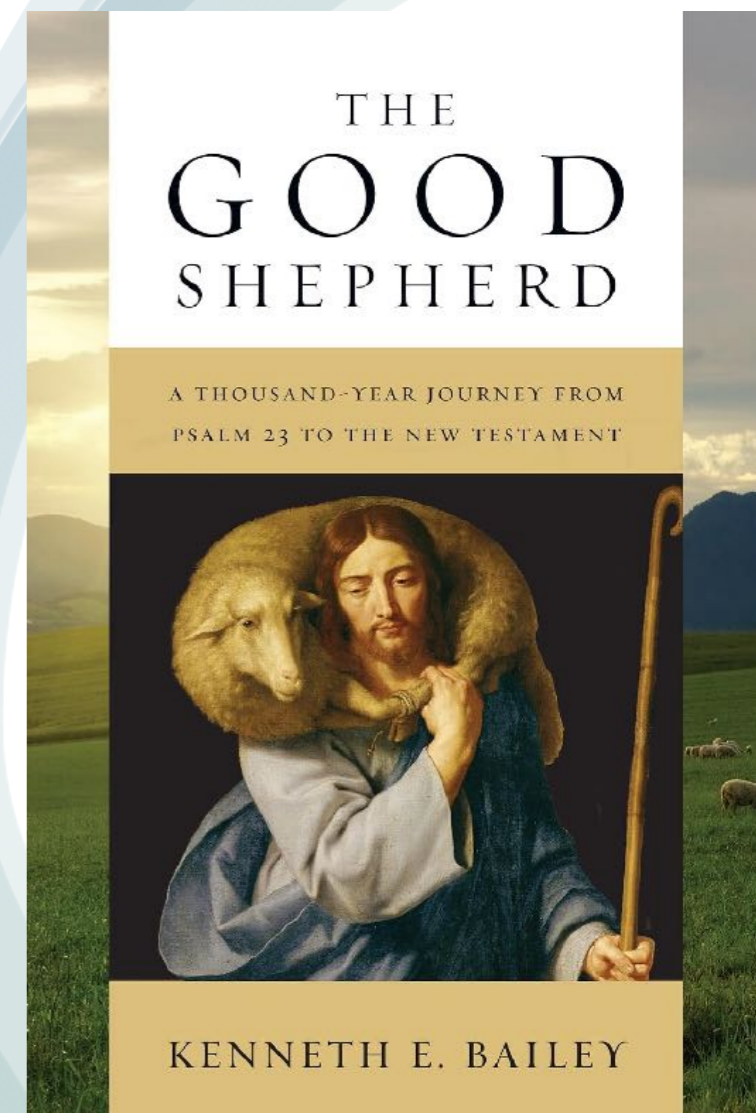


*There is an actual valley of the shadow of death in Palestine, and every shepherd knows of it.*



It is a very narrow defile through a mountain range where the water often foams and roars, torn by jagged rocks. The path plunges downward into a deep and narrow gorge of sheer precipices overhung by frowning Sphinx-like battlements of rocks, which almost touch overhead. Its side walls rise like the stone walls of a great cathedral

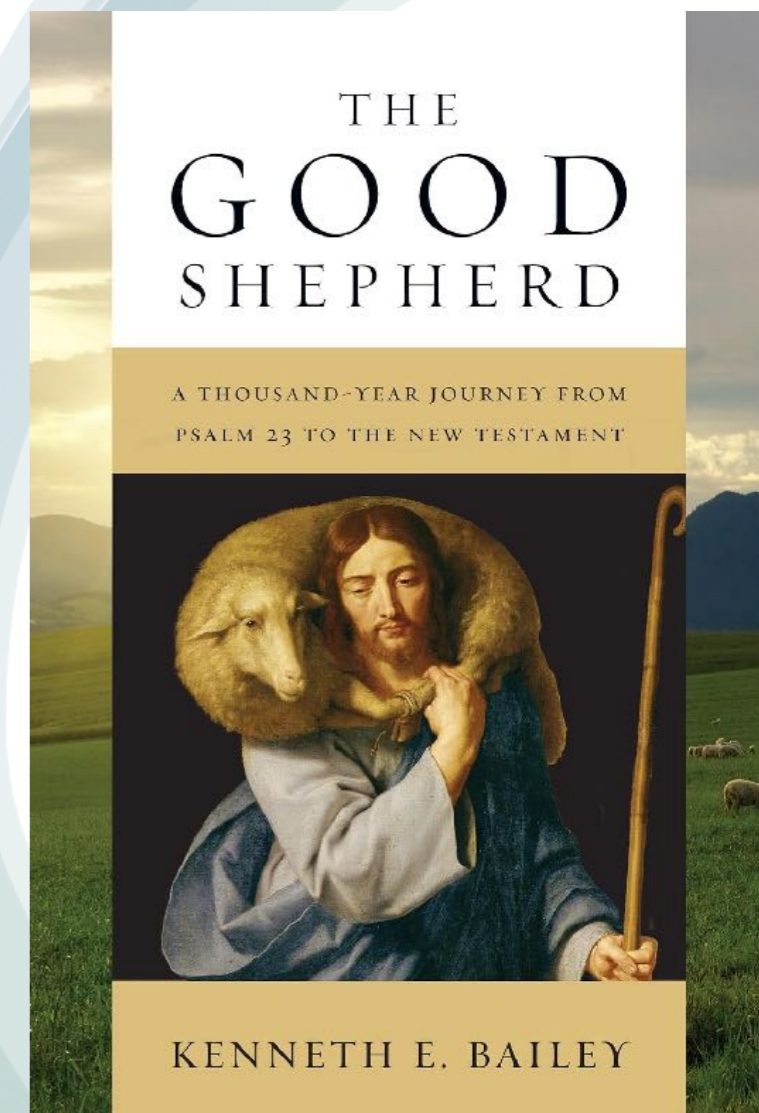
...The actual path, on the solid rock, is so narrow that in places the sheep can hardly turn around in case of danger.





***Sheep have a special problem.  
They have no defenses.***

Cats have teeth, claws and speed. Dogs have their teeth and their speed. Horses can kick, bite and run. Bears can claw, bite and crush. Deer can run. But the sheep have no bite or claws and cannot outrun any serious predator. They can butt other sheep, but that ability will not protect them from a wolf or a bear. ***The sheep's only security is the shepherd.***



# Psalm 23:4-5

<sup>4</sup> 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.**

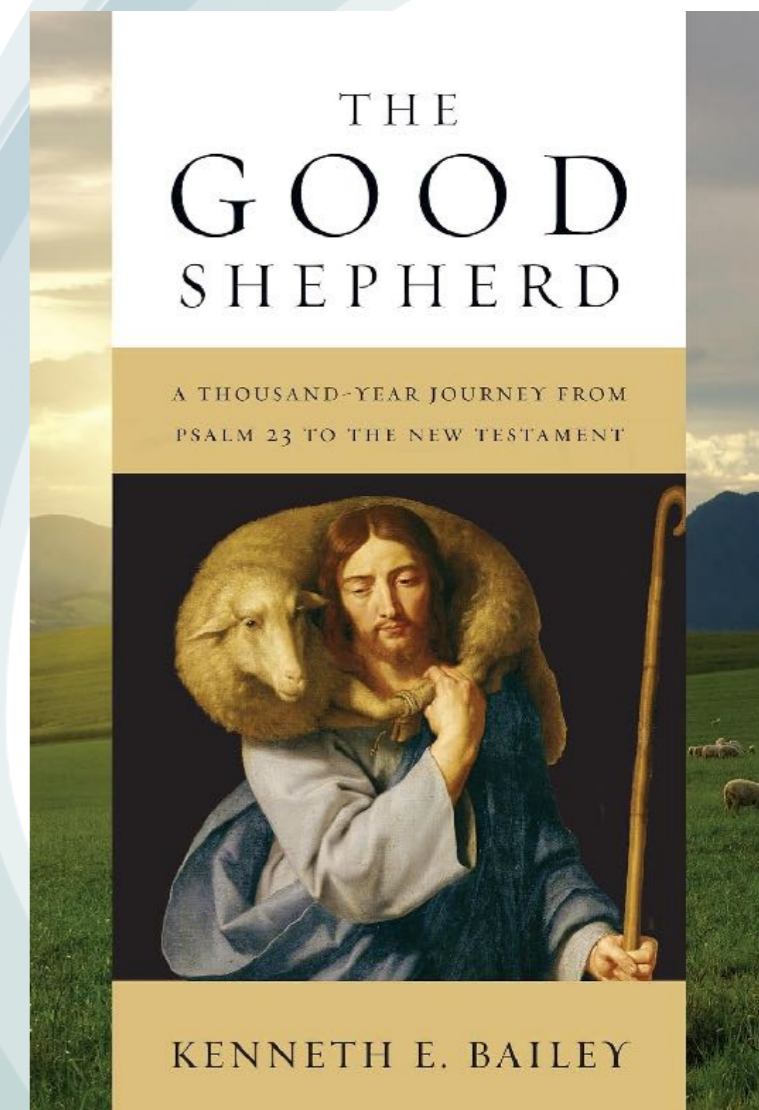
<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Rescue & Protection



The *Hebrew word here translated "rod" (shbt)* has a long history. It does not refer to a "walking stick," rather it is the *shepherd's primary offensive weapon for protecting the flock from enemies*, be they wild animals or human thieves.

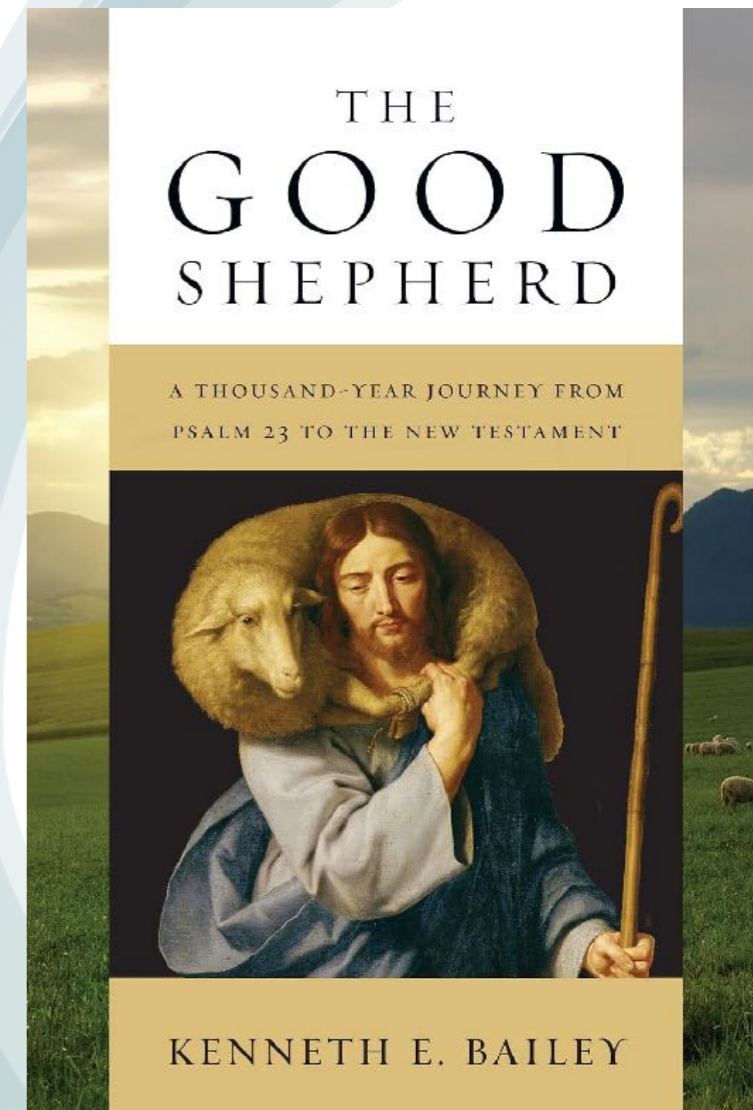
The instrument itself is about two and a half feet long with a mace-like end into which *heavy pieces of iron are often embedded*. It is a formidable weapon.



The traditional *shepherd's staff* is lighter and longer than the rod. The shepherd leans on his staff, climbs with it and often directs his sheep with it.



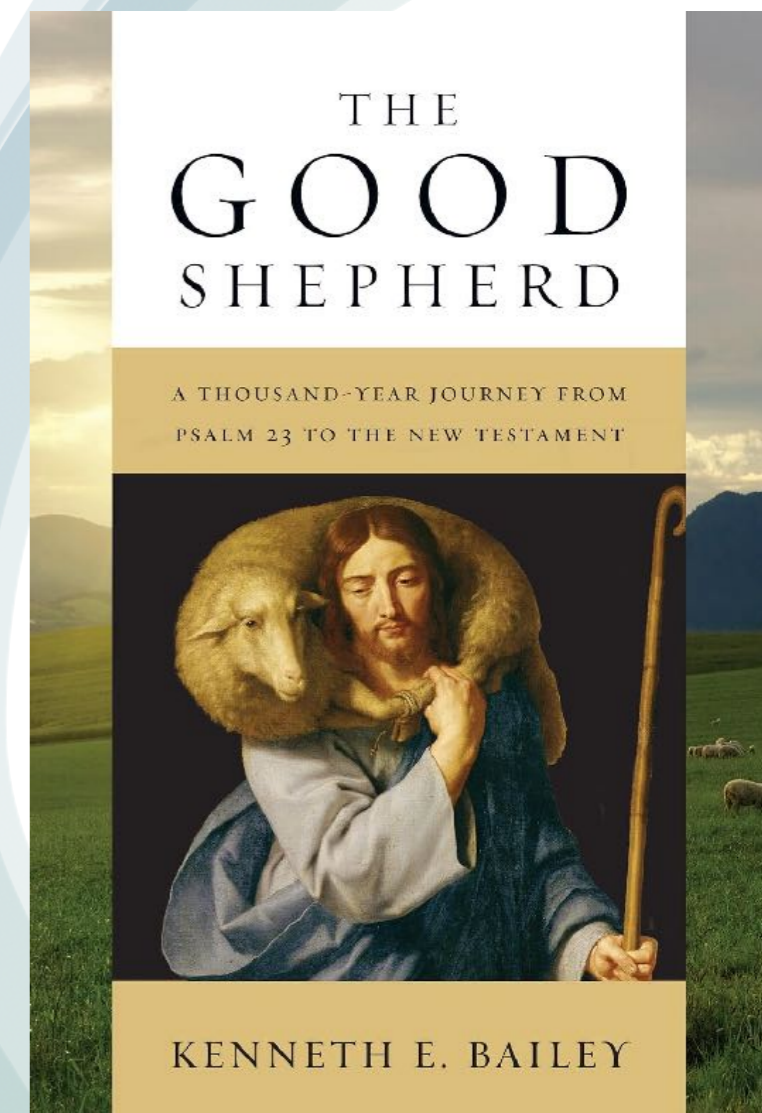
Almost always one end has a crook on it. *When a lamb cannot scramble down from a ledge or falls into a crevice or down a bank into a stream, the shepherd is able, with the crook in his staff, to catch the lamb by a leg or a shoulder and gently lift it back onto the path.*



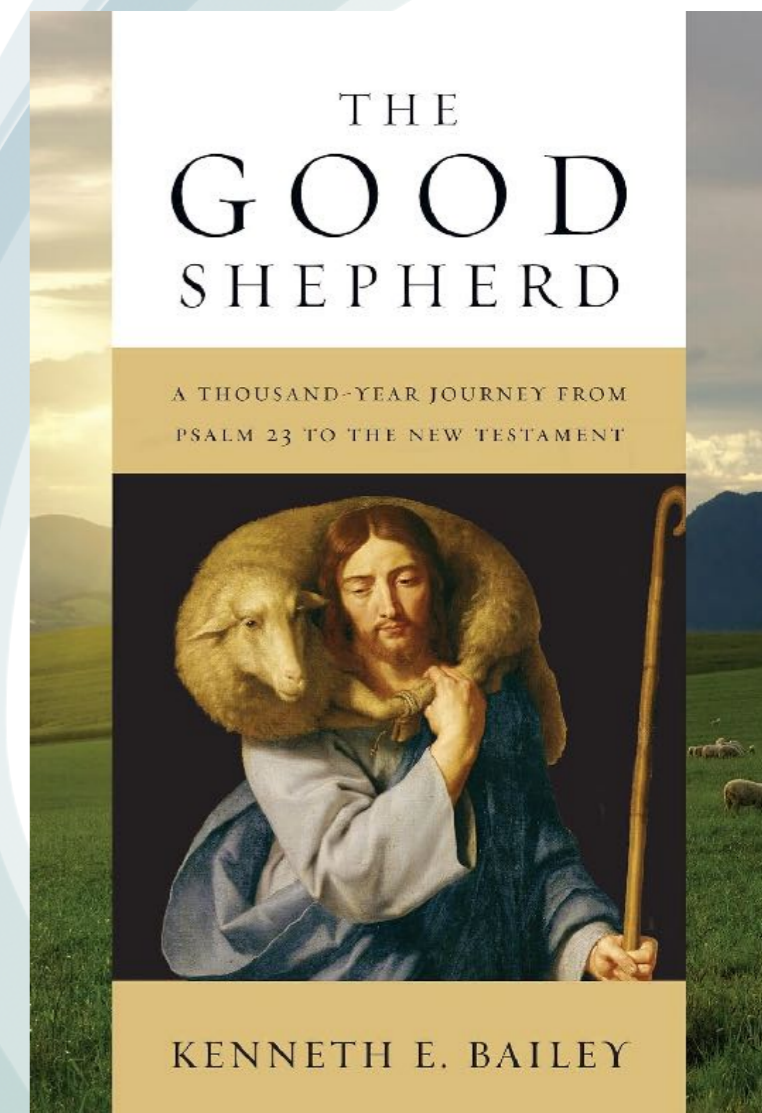


***I was lost while straying in the paths of unrighteousness and the good shepherd brings me back to the right paths and leads me on.***

The open wilderness in the Holy Land often exhibits a maze of faint trails worn by countless flocks of sheep. The shepherd alone knows which of them leads out of that valley to the next stage in the day's journey, rather than abruptly ending in some dead end or at a cliff edge.



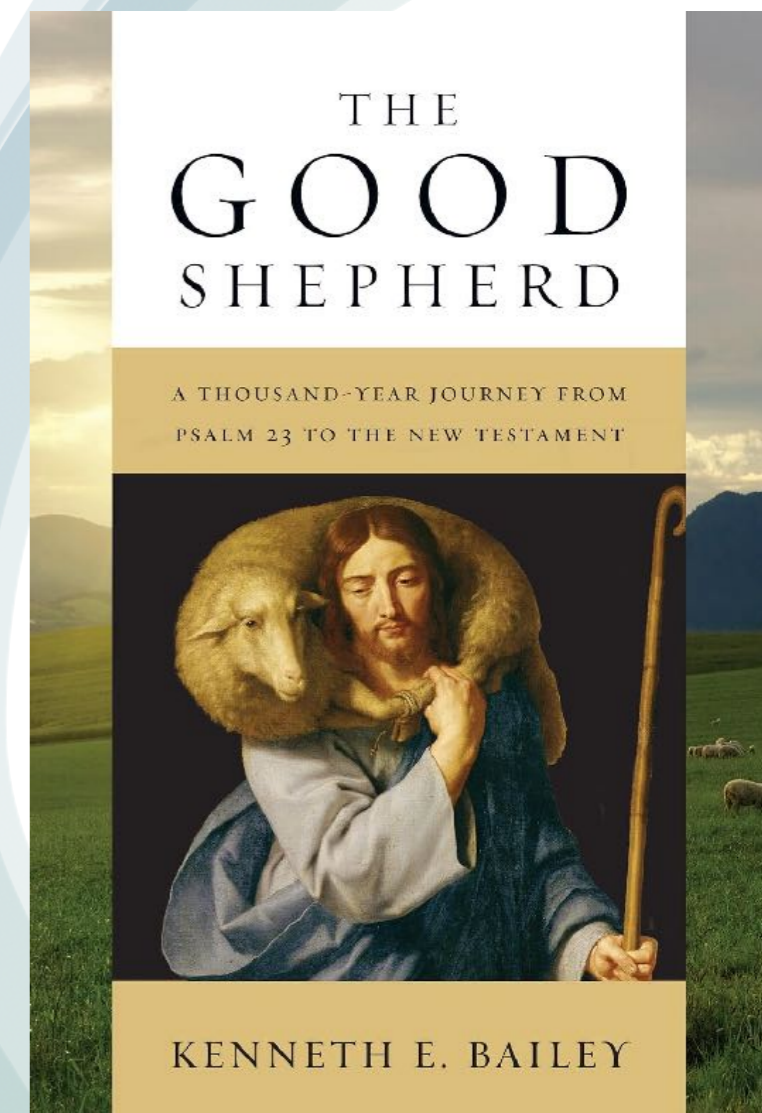
The shepherds in Lebanon, and in the Holy Land (in addition to some of my students), have told me that once a sheep knows that it is lost, it tries to hide under a bush or rock and begins quivering and bleating. The shepherd must locate it quickly lest it be heard and killed by a wild animal. ***On being found it is usually too traumatized to walk and must be carried back to the flock or to the village.***





Psalm 23 uses the Hebrew word “polel” which makes clear that this is an action done for me. He (the good shepherd) brings me back.

Unaided, the lost sheep cannot find its way home. *As a lost sheep my only hope is in the good shepherd who will come after me and hopefully find me, pick me up and carry me back to safety.*



# Psalm 23:4-5

<sup>4</sup> 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.

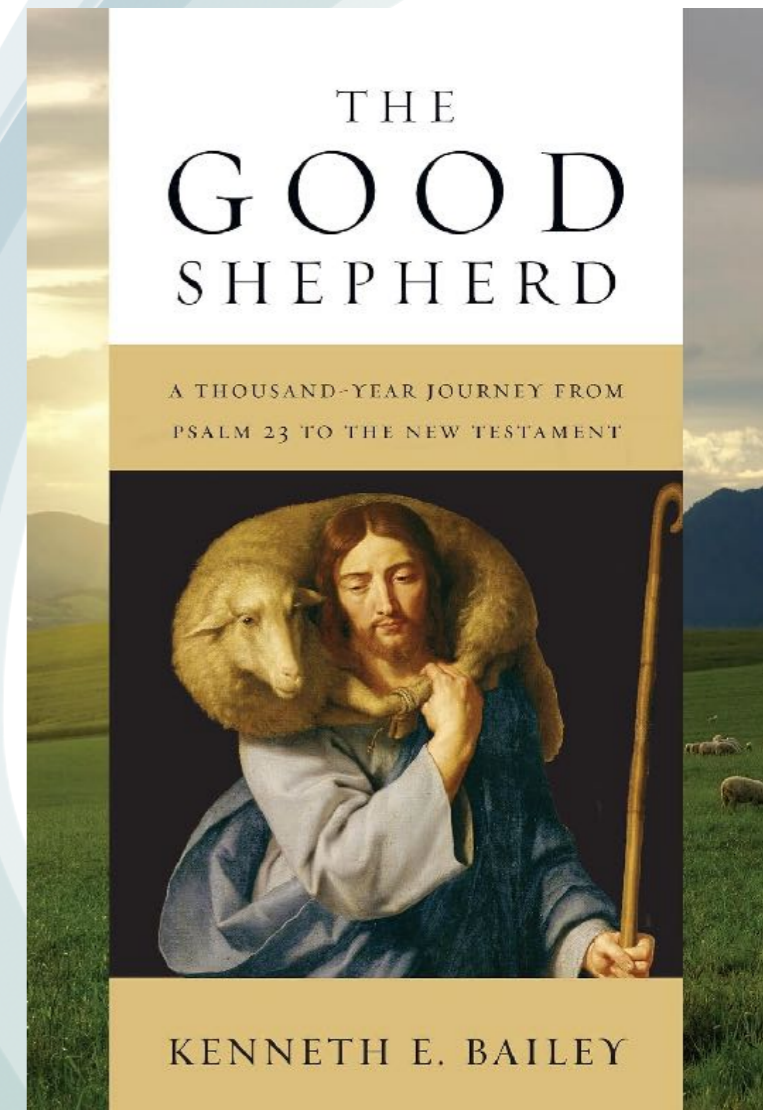
<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Rescue & Protection



Some interpreters have argued that "*preparing a table*" refers to a diligent shepherd who finds some flat pasture land and before leading his sheep to that place he goes ahead of them, digs up the poisonous plants and kills the snakes. The "enemies" are then the wild animals.



#4.

**Comfort &  
Rest**





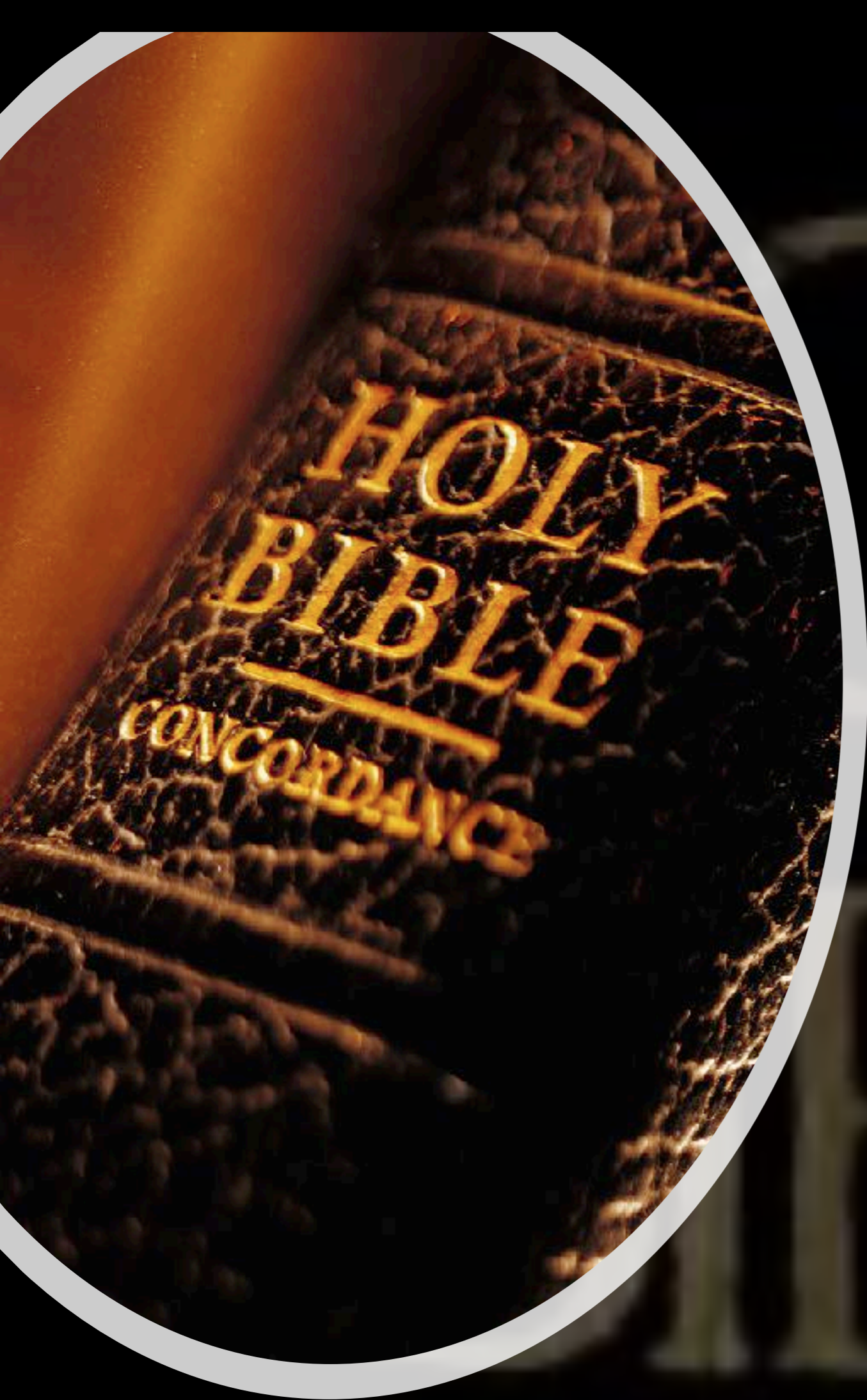
# Psalm 23:6

<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



Comfort & Rest





***Response  
to the  
Word of God***



# Elder Election Process

- **Congregation Submit Names to Elder Board**
- **Elder Board Nominates Elders & Posts List**
- **Congregation Submits Concerns in Writing to Elder Board**
- **Response to Concerns**
- **Elder Nominations Voted by Congregation (75% Approval)**

# Requested Elder Candidates

- **Paul Stringer**
- **Jerry White**
- **Matt Kozma**
- **Dave Monaghan**
- **Joe Keller**
- **John Wainionpaa**
- **Ray Bell**
- **Seppo Rapo**



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- ~~Paul Stringer~~
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# Current Elder Nominations

- **Paul Bayides**
- **Andrew Rapo**
- **Norm Sawyer**