

Cedars Worship

Psalm 37:4

“Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.”



PSALM 23

Psalm 23

- “¹ The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside quiet waters.
³ He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of
righteousness for His name's sake.
⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death, I 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 have anointed my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶ Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me
all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of
the Lord forever.”

Psalm 23

“¹ The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.

- ² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside quiet waters.
³ He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of
righteousness for His name's sake.
⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I 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 have anointed my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶ Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me
all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of
the Lord forever.”

What should I expect to see in Psalm 23:1?

The **JESUS** connection.

The Shepherd is **GOOD**
and not a hireling or
taskmaster.

My **NEEDS** vs. my wants.



¹ **The Lord** is my shepherd,
I shall not want.

יהוה

- ✓ This is the Hebrew covenant name for God and is used only in the Bible.
- ✓ Jewish orthodox pronounce it as ADONAI (Master or Lord).
- ✓ English readers pronounce it as YHWH, Jehovah, or Lord.
- ✓ It is linked to Jesus in the New Testament.

Jesus was identified as the Lord God of Israel.

References to Jehovah or God	NT References to Jesus
Ps.45:6	Heb.1:8 "Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever."
Isa.40:3	Matt.3:3 "Make ready the way of the Lord."
Joel 2:32	Acts 2:21 "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."
Isa.8:13-14	1 Pet.2:6-8; Rom.9:33 "The Lord of hosts is "a rock to stumble over"
Isa.44:6	Rev.1:17-18, 22:12-13 "the first and the last"
Ps.97:9	Jn.3:31 "He is above all"
Ps.24:7, 29:3	Jas.2:1; 1 Cor.2:8 "Lord of glory"
Isa.8:13	1 Pet.3:15 The Lord of hosts is sacred.
Deut.10:17	1 Tim.6:15-16 "the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of Kings ..."
Isa.45:22-23	Phil.2:10-11 "at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow."
2 Chron.7:14	Mk.2:5-7 forgiving sins as only God can.
Isa.49:26	Jn.4:24 Jehovah is Savior and Redeemer
Isa.45:18	Rev.4:11; Jn.1:3 Creator
Isa.45:22	Heb.10:7; Jn.5:39 "In the roll of the Book it is written of Me"

Jesus was identified as the Lord God of Israel.

Psalm 45:6

"Thy throne, O God, is forever
and ever;"

Hebrews 1:8

"But of the Son He says,
"Thy throne O God, is forever
and ever."

Jesus was identified as the Lord God of Israel.

Isaiah 45:22-23

"For I am God and there is no other". . .that
to Me every knee shall bow,"

Philippians 2

"⁹ Therefore also God highly exalted Him,
and bestowed on Him the name which is
above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of
Jesus **every knee should bow**, of those
who are in heaven, and on earth, and
under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue
should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to
the glory of God the Father."

Jesus was identified as the Lord God of Israel.

Isaiah 44:6

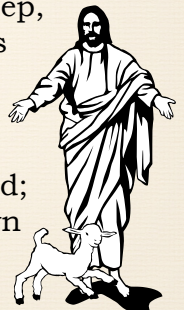
"Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and
His Redeemer, the Lord of hosts; **I am the
first and I am the last**, and there is no
God besides Me."

Revelation 1:17-18

"And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as a
dead man, and He laid His right hand upon
me, saying, 'Do not be afraid; **I am the first
and the last**, and the living One; and I was
dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore."

John 10

"¹¹ I am the good shepherd; the good
shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. ¹²
He who is a hireling, and not a shepherd, who
is not the owner of the sheep, beholds the
wolf coming, and leaves the sheep,
and flees, and the wolf snatches
them, and scatters them. ¹³ He
flees because he is a hireling,
and is not concerned about the
sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd;
and I know My own, and My own
know Me,"



1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

- ✓ Psalm 23 is not about the nature of the sheep, **but the nature of the Shepherd.**
- ✓ A Good Shepherd is one who -
 - serves the welfare of the sheep.
 - does not lord it over the sheep.
 - does not pray on the sheep.
 - sacrifices for the sheep.
- ✓ By contrast the God of Islam is a warlord **demanding unquestioned obedience.**

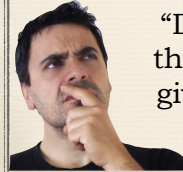
1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

- ✓ This is the common Hebrew term for being unacceptable in some way, **INCOMPLETE.**
- ✓ The idea is not that I will have everything I desire but rather that I will lack nothing that I need.

Psalm 37:4

“Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.”

What is the deepest desire of my heart?



1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

- ✓ This is the common Hebrew term for being unacceptable in some way, **INCOMPLETE.**
- ✓ The idea is not that I will have everything I desire but rather that I will lack nothing that I need.
- ✓ My needs are defined by my Divinely created purpose - **to bear the image of God, which is to be true to myself and fully human.**

What is the desire of my heart?

Casual longings

Critical longings

Core longings



What is the desire of my heart?

**To be at peace with
God, myself, other people,
and the World.**

Core longings

What is the desire of my heart?

שָׁלוֹם

SHALOM
PEACE NO MATTER WHAT

Core longings

How do I bear the image of God?

I have contact with God.
I am a steward of Creation.
I share parts of God's nature.



The illustration depicts various aspects of human life and stewardship. It includes a man in a crown (likely a king or pope) holding hands with two people, a woman in a business suit with a briefcase, a woman hugging a child, a man at a computer, and a cornucopia overflowing with goods. A small inset box contains the text 'Core longings' next to a cross and a chalice.

I am a steward of Creation.

Core longings



- ✓ This is the common Hebrew term for being unacceptable in some way, INCOMPLETE.
- ✓ The idea is not that I will have everything I desire but rather that I will lack nothing that I need.
- ✓ Our needs are defined by our Divinely created purpose - to bear the image of God, which is to be fully human.
- ✓ **Again, Jesus is presented as the perfect image of God in human form.**

“He is the image
of the invisible
God, the firstborn
of all creation.”

- ✓ **Perfect children**
or the ability to love unconditionally.
- ✓ **Good health**
or the power to face difficulties graciously.
- ✓ **To be financially secure**
or to free from trust in the world's riches.
- ✓ **Assurance that the future is bright**
or the faith to trust God in the dark.



✓ To be loved and respected by others
or to know my Good Shepherd.

✓ **Social peace, justice, and security**
or the wisdom to be a peacemaker.

“A monk in his travels once found a precious stone and kept it. One day he met a traveler, and when the monk opened his bag to share his provisions with him, the traveler saw the jewel and asked the monk to give it to him. The monk did so readily. The traveler departed overjoyed with the unexpected gift of the precious stone that was enough to give him wealth and security for the rest of his life.



However, a few days later he came back in search of the monk, found him, gave him back the stone, and entreated him, 'Now give me something much more precious than this stone, valuable as it is. Give me that which enabled you to give it to me.'

“² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; ³ seeing that His divine power **has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness**, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.”