

## Sheep

Webster: 2. one who is meek, timid, submissive, etc.

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**Psa 100:1 A Psalm of praise.** Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. **2** Serve the LORD with gladness: come before His presence with singing. **3** Know ye that the LORD He *is* God: *it is* He *that* hath made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* His people, and the **sheep of His pasture**. **4** Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *and* into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, *and* bless His name. **5** For the LORD *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting; and His truth *endureth* to all generations.

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### Jesus the Lamb

**Isa 53:6** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. **7** He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought **as a lamb** to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb (*Heb.481-to tie fast; hence [of the mouth] to be tongue tied*), so He openeth not His mouth. (*Not that Jesus had nothing to say either.*)

- As the **Son of man Jesus**, in becoming us, also took on the role of the innocent, meek lamb that was sanctified and also qualified to be sacrificed to take away the sin of the world.

**Php 2:8** And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became **obedient** unto death, even the death of the cross.

**Heb 5:8** Though He were a Son, yet **learned** (*Gk.3129-to understand*) **He obedience** (*Gk.5218-compliance or submission*) (*Jesus understood as a man first-hand what it meant to submit to the Father*) **by** (*Gk.575-because of, from*) **the things which He suffered** (*Gk.3958-to experience a sensation or impression [usually painful]*) (*He was able to experience the struggle with sin as we do yet without failing the test*); **9** And being made \*perfect (*Gk.5048-to complete, accomplish, finish, fulfill*), He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him;

*Mat 4:1* Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be **tempted of the devil**.

*Heb 2:18* For in that He Himself hath **suffered being tempted**, He is able to succour (*Gk.997-to aid or relieve*) them that are tempted.

Temptation for a godly person is equivalent to suffering.

*Heb 4:15* For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points **tempted like as we are, yet without sin.**

*\*Joh 17:4* I have glorified Thee on the earth: I have **finished the work** which Thou gavest Me to do.

*Gal 1:3* Grace *be* to you and peace from God the Father, and *from* our Lord Jesus Christ, **4** Who **gave Himself for our sins**, that He might **deliver us** from this present evil world, **according to the will** of God and our Father: **5** To Whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

*1Jn 2:2* And He is the propitiation (*Gk.2434-atonement*) (*Webster: 3. the redeeming of mankind through Jesus' death*) for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world.* (*Yes, Jesus died for the sins of the world!*)

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- There has been a lot of talk about investing in gold lately, that gold is real and you can hold it in your hands. It is also said of gold that it has never been worth nothing. But, according to **Peter**, it too will perish in the end and then what will it be worth?

*1Pe 1:18* Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain (*Gk.3152-empty, profitless*) conversation (*Gk.391-behavior*) *received* by tradition from your fathers; **19** But with the **precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:** **20** Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, **21** Who by Him do believe in God, that raised Him up from the dead, and gave Him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

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### Jesus the Good Shepherd

*Joh 10:11* I am the **good shepherd**: the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep. **12** But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. **13** The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. **14** I am the **good shepherd**, and know My *sheep*, and am known of Mine. **15** As the Father knoweth Me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down My life for the sheep. **16** And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd.

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*Mar 6:34* And Jesus, when He came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as **sheep not having a shepherd**: and He began to teach them many things.

*Eze 34:1* And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, **2** Son of man, prophesy **against the shepherds of Israel**, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; **Woe be to the shepherds** of Israel that do **feed themselves!** should not the shepherds **feed the flocks?** **3** Ye eat the fat,

and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: **but ye feed not the flock.** 4 The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up *that which was* broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, **neither have ye sought that which was lost;** but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them. 5 **And they were scattered, because there is no shepherd: and they became meat to all the beasts** of the field, **when they were scattered.**

Eze 34:11 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, *even* I, will both search My sheep, and seek them out. 12 **As a shepherd seeketh out his flock** in the day that he is **among his sheep** *that are* scattered; so will I seek out My sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

Eze 34:15 I will feed My flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up *that which was* broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

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### Jesus the Protector of the Sheep

- A shepherd carried a staff and a rod. The staff was used, among other things, to pull his sheep from the mouth of a hungry wolf. The rod was used to beat the wolf back while saving his sheep.

Psa 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou *art* with me; **Thy rod** and **Thy staff** they **comfort me.**

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Jer 23:1 Woe be unto the pastors (*Heb.7462-to tend a flock, shepherd*) that destroy (*Heb.6-to wander away, that is lose oneself; by implication to perish [cause to destroy]*) and scatter the sheep of My pasture (*Heb.4830-flock*)! saith the LORD.

Mat 7:15 **Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.**

Act 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers (*Gk.1985-superintendent, bishop*), to **feed** (*Gk.4165-to tend as a shepherd [or figuratively supervisor]*) the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood. 29 For I know this, that after my departing shall **grievous wolves** enter in among you, not sparing the flock (*Gk.4168-group [of believers]*). 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away (*Gk.645-drag forth, retire*) disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

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Heb 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that **Great Shepherd of the sheep**, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to Whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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We as His Sheep

Need to be brave.

**Mat 10:16** Behold, I send you forth **as sheep** in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

**Psa 44:22** Yea, for Thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are **counted as sheep for the slaughter**.

**Rom 8:35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? **36** As it is written, For Thy sake we are killed all the day long; we **are accounted as sheep for the slaughter**. **37** Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.

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**1Co 15:30** And why stand we in jeopardy every hour? **31** I protest (*Gk.3513-as sure as*) by your (*Gk.2251-our*) rejoicing (*Gk.2746-boasting*) which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die (*Gk.599-to die off*) daily.

- **Paul** was so sure of the outcome of his faithfulness that he boasted about his tribulations. He knew his sufferings had purpose in the scheme of **God's** providence.

**Gal 6:14** But God forbid that I should glory (*Gk.2744-to boast, vaunt*), save (*Gk.1508-but, except [that], if not*) in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom the world is crucified (*Gk.4717-figuratively to extinguish [subdue] passion of selfishness*) unto me, and I unto the world.

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Need to be humble.

**2Co 12:8** For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. **9** And He said unto me, **My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness**. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory (*Gk.2744-boast*) in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. **10** Therefore I take pleasure (*Gk.2106-to think well of, approve [an act]*) in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

- Therefore he continually tried to separate himself from the influence of the world. But sometimes to no avail.

**Rom 7:18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for **to will** (*Gk.2309-choose or prefer*) **is present** (*Gk.3873-to lie near, be at hand*) **with me**; but *how* to perform (*Gk.2716-accomplish*) that which is good I find not. **19** For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. **20** Now if I do that I would (*Gk.2309-choose, prefer*) not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth (*Gk.3611-occupy a house, to cohabit*) in me.

Rom 7:24 O wretched (*Gk-5005-enduring trial*) man that I am! who shall deliver (*Gk.4506-rescue*) me from the body (*Gk.4983-slave*) of this death? 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind (*Gk.3563-intellect*) I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh (*Gk.4561-human nature*) the law of sin.

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul (*Gk.5590-the animal sentient principal only [the conscience]*) and spirit (*Gk.4151-vital principal*), and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts (*Gk.1761-deliberation*) and intents (*Gk.1771-moral understanding*) of the heart (*Gk.2588-mind*).

- The trial that Paul endured was the same one we endure today. On one hand we have our human nature and on the other the word of God. Paul had the Spirit to guide him just as we have the Bible to guide us. We are able to tell the difference between what our conscience tells us and what the teachings of Christ tells us (*we are to forget what Jiminy Cricket said and not allow our consciences to guide us*). His word gives us the ability to choose between "considering the options (to sin or not to sin)" and "moral understanding" (*doing what's right without debating in the first place*). Both exist in our minds. But as sheep we often take the path of least resistance (*or the one that's easiest to follow*)! If you've ever seen a path in a field where sheep graze you will understand. My dad used to raise sheep. They blindly follow the one in front of them no matter where that one is going. Thus the analogy of our being sheep that need a shepherd.

1Ti 6:11 But thou, O man of God, **flee these things**; and **follow after** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, **lay hold on** eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

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Need to follow.

Joh 10:2 But He that entereth in by the door is the **shepherd** of the sheep. 3 To Him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear His voice: and He calleth His own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. 4 And when He putteth forth His own sheep, He goeth before them, and the sheep follow Him: for they know His voice\*.

\*Christ's sheep (*New Testament Christians*) know between right and wrong, good and evil and the difference between the truth and a lie.

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### Invitation

Luk 15:4 What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? 5 And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. 7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

**1Pe 2:25** For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

**Mat 25:31** When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory: **32** And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats: **33** And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

Hear: **Romans 10:17** ..."faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Believe: **Heb 11:6** ..."for he that commeth to God must believe that He is"...

Repent: **Lk 13:3** ..."except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Confess: **Mat 10:32** "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess before My Father which is in Heaven."

Be baptized: **Acts 2:38** ..."repent and be baptized...in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins"...

Remain faithful: **Rom 6:4** ..."even so we also should walk in newness of life."

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