

Twenty Third Psalm

Allegory = figure of speech with abstract ideas described in terms of characters, figures and events.

In OT God is often portrayed as a Shepherd

Genesis 48:15 *"...the God who has been my shepherd all my life, to this very day..."*

Isaiah 40:11 *"He will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will carry the lambs in his arms..."*

Micah 7:14 *"O LORD, protect your people with your shepherd's staff, lead your flock..."*

The Lord is my shepherd;

I have all that I need.

² *He lets me rest in green meadows;*

he leads me beside peaceful streams.

³ *He renews my strength.*

He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name.

⁴ *Even when I walk through the darkest valley,*

I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.

Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me.

⁵ *You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies.*

You honor me by anointing my head with oil.

My cup overflows with blessings.

⁶ *Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me*

all the days of my life,

and I will live in the house of the Lord forever.

How Good is the Goodness of God?

23:1-4 **Like a Good Shepherd with His Sheep** *God takes care of us everyday*

I have everything I need (NLT) or I lack nothing (NIV)

Soul = OT concept of soul is you are a soul, it pertains to our life, who we are

Isaiah 26:9 the soul yearns

Psalm 35:9 the soul rejoices

Psalm 42:2 the soul hungers and thirsts

23:5 **Like a Great Sheik and His Guest** *God is lavishly generous to us*

23:5 **Like the Temple** *In the presence of God there is unfailing love to us*

"Dwelling in the house of the LORD"

Psalm 23 points us toward Jesus Christ, the promised Good Shepherd.