

My Own Shepherd

by John Henry Jowett

John Henry Jowett's sermon on Psalm 23 emphasizes the comfort and guidance of the Good Shepherd in all aspects of life.

Scripture: Psalm 23:2-6

Topics: "Gods Providence", "Spiritual Guidance"

Description

John Henry Jowett beautifully reflects on Psalm 23, emphasizing the Good Shepherd's ministry of rest, leading us to lie down in green pastures when our spirits need relaxation. He also highlights the discipline of change, guiding us in paths of righteousness to new pastures for soul nourishment. Even in the valley of the shadow, where fear may arise, the presence of the Lord brings comfort and provision, preparing a table before us in the presence of our enemies.

Transcript

PSALM xxiii.

How shall we touch this lovely psalm and not bruise it? It is exquisite as "a violet by a mossy stone!" Exposition is almost an impertinence, its grace is so simple and winsome.

There is the ministry of rest. "_He maketh me to lie down in green pastures._" The Good Shepherd knows when my spirit needs relaxation. He will not have me always "on the stretch." The bow of the best violin sometimes requires to have its strings "let down." And so my Lord gives me rest.

And there is the discipline of change. "_He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness._" Those strange roads in life, unknown roads, by which I pass into changed circumstances and surroundings! But the discipline of

the change is only to bring me into new pastures, that I may gain fresh nutriment for my soul. "Because they have no changes they fear not God." And there is "_the valley of the shadow_" cold and bare! What matter? He is there! "I will fear no evil." What if I see "no pastures green"? "Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me!" The Lord, who is leading, will see after my food. "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies." I have a quiet feast while my foes are looking on!

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