

Sheep of His Pasture:

Are you under control? Or is your life a fulfillment of LOVE-guided by the hand of God? It is very important that you understand the great differences between control and loving guidance.

I cannot think of a better example than that of the symbolic flock of SHEEP. Sheep are not dumb brute animals as most suppose, but are rather gentle creatures, always in a state of change. Without the guidance of an old ewe, bellwether (a castrated Ram- with bell around its neck), herd goat, dog or a **shepherd**, they would never know their next move-they would end up **going astray** (symbolic SINNING).

Psa 78:52 But made his own people to go forth like **sheep**, and **guided** them in the wilderness like a flock.

Psa 79:13 So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks forever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations.

Psa 95:7 For he [is] our God; and we [are] the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice,

Psa 100:3 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.

God's people Israel, were **guided** through the wilderness (a place of desolation-a type of sin). What is a guide?

- Definition: steer: **direct the course**; determine the direction of travelling
- someone who shows the way by **leading** or advising. **Note**: also **a teacher**.

God guides us from his Holy Word (the written Jesus Christ)- by way of Knowledge (study), Understanding (through meditation-deep thinking), and Wisdom (the action of Faith in His Word-Jesus Christ). Therefore, Christ is our leader; our great Shepherd- He is our guide to untold peace.

Psa 25:9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. **Note**: Judgments are the Godly actions of WISDOM, through FAITH.

Psa 31:3 For thou [art] my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and **guide me**.

Psa 32:8 **I will instruct thee and teach thee** in the way which thou shalt go: **I will guide thee** with mine eye.

Psa 48:14 For this God [is] our God forever and ever: **he will be our guide [even] unto death**. **Note:** all the way, even till death- we have nothing to fear for we are living in His Holy Hands.

Isa 49:10 **They shall not hunger nor thirst**; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall **lead** them, even by the springs of water shall he **guide** them. **Note:** our Spring of fresh water is Jesus.

Jhn 16:13 Howbeit when he, **the Spirit of truth, is come**, he **will guide you into all truth**: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. **Note:** the Holy Spirit, should be rendered [it] and not [he]. The Holy Spirit comes by Jesus Christ, Who is the Wellspring of Living Waters (Holy Spirit).

Exd 13:21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, **to lead them** the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to **give them light**; to go by day and night:

Psa 25:5 **Lead me** in thy truth, and **teach me**: for thou [art] the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

Psa 31:3 For thou [art] my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake **lead me, and guide me**.

Psa 43:3 O **send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me**; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.

Psa 143:10 **Teach me to do thy will**; for thou [art] my God: thy spirit [is] good; **lead me** into the land of uprightness.

Isa 42:16 And I will bring the blind by a way [that] they knew not; **I will lead them in paths** [that] they have not known: **I will make darkness light before them**, and **crooked things straight**. These things will I do unto them, **and not forsake them**. **Note:** The blind are those, that don't have the truth of God yet, but they will in time.

From the above verses, I believe it is easy to see that God uses Loving guidance. For He is our Master (the owner of the sheep), and Christ is the Great Shepherd. They in LOVE, guide, lead, and lighten our paths- making our paths straight, and TEACH us, that we will **not** hunger nor thirst any more. **The Love of God in us will cast out all fear-** so that we are comforted in the Spirit of His grace.

Hbr 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,

Hbr 13:21 **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.

Psa 23:1 [[A Psalm of David.]] **The LORD [is] my shepherd**; I shall not want.

Psa 23:2 **He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me** beside the **still waters**. **Note:** still waters (calm-peacefull).

Psa 23:3 **He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths** of righteousness for his name's sake. **Note:** He **restores your soul** (body)-God heals us by the strips of Jesus our Lord. Fear no sickness or tribulation- we will be tested to strengthen us. As Christ learned obedience by the things he suffered, so must we. **God will see us through all things** to the end-don't worry (do not fear).

Isa 53:4 Surely **he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows**: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. **Note:** **Sin is symbolic sickness**-He overcame this world-He conquered death in God's resurrection to Life Eternal. While we were yet sinners, we did not appreciate the great sacrifice-but we certainly do now.

Jesus knows your pain, your sorrows, and your grief-He carried it all to the grave of redemption. When you suffer, He suffered for you. When you cry out in the night, feeling alone, He is by your side carrying your burden-and with a loving touch he wipes away your tears. He is always with you-**He will never forsake you**. Jesus is One in God, and God is One in Christ, **and we are One in Them**.

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.**

Psa 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: **thou anointest my head with oil**; my cup runneth over.

Psa 23:6 Surely **goodness and mercy shall follow** me all the days of my life: **and** I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Mat 26:31 Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because **of** me this night: for it is written, I will smite **the** shepherd, and **the sheep of the** flock shall be scattered abroad.

Controllers manipulate by FEAR and lead on a path to damnation. Their tools are reward and punishment, one always rubbing (creating friction-in an unstable atmosphere) against the other. One might say, but doesn't God use blessing or cursing? Yes, but only for CHOICE-He never dangles the blessing in front of you, and then pulls it away to keep you undertow. God gives you your options through guidance, in truthful education (instruction).

For instance a controller might say, "if you follow me, you will go to a place of safety- but if not the lake of fire awaits you. I'm "god's" chosen man on earth today-you had better follow me". But now God say's go to the right, or go to the left- here is the end result of each-you choose. Believe and follow Jesus , he is your **Shepherd**.

Gen 49:24 But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty [God] of Jacob; (**from thence [is] the shepherd, the stone of Israel**:)

Isa 40:11 He shall feed his flock like a **shepherd**: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry [them] in his bosom, [and] shall gently lead those that are with young.

Isa 63:11 Then **he remembered the days of old**, Moses, [and] his people, [saying], Where [is] he that brought them up out of the sea with the **shepherd** of his flock? **where [is] he that put his holy Spirit within him**? Note: Christ came to put His Holy Spirit in us- but it was He also that lead the children out of sin (Egypt).

Jer 31:10 Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare [it] in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a **shepherd** [doth] his flock.

Eze 34:12 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 34:23 And I will set up **one shepherd over them**, and he shall feed them, **[even] my servant David**; he shall feed them, and he shall be their **shepherd**. **Note:** David was a Shepherd king- the king of Israel.

Eze 37:24 And David my servant [shall be] king over them; and they all shall have one **shepherd**: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.

Mat 25:32 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:

Jhn 10:14 **I am the good shepherd**, and know my [sheep], and am known of mine.

Jhn 10:11 I am the **good shepherd**: the good **shepherd** giveth his life for the sheep.

Hbr 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, **Note:** the great Shepherd is God our Father (he is the owner of the sheep).

Control is founded on manipulative temptation wrapped around the SELF. "If you do this, you will SAVE YOUR skin". It is bent on the individuals needs and desires-all is for the SELF. But God's way is first based on a foundational heartfelt CONCERN for other. God's options (His path-laws) focus on Godly LOVE (an outpouring concern for others). On God's path our needs and desires are fulfilled (completed) in the up building of others (Love God first-He is glorified- and then love all others, before yourself); **Holy guidance is based upon the Godly outpouring of His LOVE.**

Luk 10:27 And he answering said, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart**, and **with all thy soul**, and **with all thy strength**, and **with all thy mind**; and **thy neighbour as thyself**. **Note:** on these two Commandment hang all the Law and the prophets (writings)- **these are the TWO GREAT Commandments.**

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. **Note:** Christ paid for us going astray (sinning).

To scatter or go astray-are they the same?

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

Jer 23:1 Woe be unto the **pastors that destroy and scatter** the **sheep** of my pasture! saith the LORD.

To go astray means that one is bent on their own devises, utilizing the mind of the flesh (carnality). They are on the broad path of this world-they are sinners. But a scattering is a dispersing of the sheep- some over here, some over there. The scattered sheep are not necessarily off the path of God only a little confused.

Jer 50:6 My people hath been **lost sheep**: **their shepherds have caused them to go astray**, they have turned them away [on] the mountains: they have gone from mountain to hill, **they have forgotten** their **resting place**. **Note:** **The resting place**, is a place of reflection (meditation), a place of protection, a place of nourishment (a place to be fed- educated on the Word of God), and **a place of LOVE** (a place of no fear- a place of calm, and peace). A lost sheep is one that has returned to the way of sin (vomit- example, keeping false days holy, instead of the God ordained rest; which the seventh day Sabbath pictures (and all God ordained holy days- each rest having its own symbolic picture).

Note: the shepherds have caused, and are causing His people to go astray (Sin). Also note, that the word **"their" shepherds** have caused the sheep to go astray; the people have chosen their own ministers to guide them into hell (the grave)- they are not the chosen shepherds of God, **He did not send them.**

Isa 3:12 [As for] my people, children [are] their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, **they which lead thee cause** [thee] to err, **and destroy the way of thy paths**. **Note:** False “ministers” of Satan.

Luk 6:39 And he spake a parable unto them, Can the **blind lead the blind?** shall they not both fall into the ditch? **Note:** the blind are the unconverted “ministers” (carnality leading carnality).

Eze 34:12 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** (a day of great tribulation- a day (time) of great trouble).

The pathway of God is determined by the boundaries set by His LAWS (Covenant Commands). It is **a straight and narrow path** (based on Godly LOVE). We find freedom in Love, but the controlled are imprisoned within the boundaries of FEAR- and **fear is the death stroke of the Devil**.

The Door of the Sheep-the SHEEPFOLD:

The sheepfold (sheepcote) is a pen for holding sheep. Ancient shepherders used this method of confinement when they were near a town, so as to not lose their sheep. It was usually round, made of stone or wood- but always with an entry DOOR. The sheep were safe, secure, and could easily be taken care of in this enclosed pen, and also guided out to good pasture.

Jhn 10:1 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the **door** into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

Jhn 10:2 But he that entereth in by the **door** is the shepherd of the sheep. **Note:** **the Door is the Holy Word of God** (Jesus the Christ).

Jhn 10:7 Then **said Jesus** unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **I am the door of the sheep**.

Jhn 10:9 **I am the door:** by me if any man enter in, he shall **be saved**, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

The DOOR of the sheep is Jesus Christ, the Holy Word of God. It is through the Word of God, that we enter in to safety, and exit to green pastures. We enter in by STUDY, we exit by putting the Word of God to use in our lives-it is a living Word, to be used every minute of every day. We feed on it, we LIVE by it- it is, our life.

A warning is set before us: we must not wait till the final hour to seek the Door-seek while it is yet today-knock and it will be opened to you.

Luk 13:25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the **door**, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the **door**, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, **I know you not** whence ye are: **Note:** there will come a time when it is to late- redeem the TIME NOW!

Jhn 10:27 My **sheep** hear my voice, and **I know them**, and **they follow me:**

Jhn 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd **giveth his life for the sheep.**

Jhn 10:15 As the **Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father:** and I lay down my life for the **sheep**. **Note:** They are ONE in ONE; are you ONE with Them?

Jhn 17:21 That **they all may be one**; as thou, **Father, [art] in me, and I in thee**, that **they also may be one in us**: that the world **may** believe that **thou hast sent me.**

Jhn 17:22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; **that they may be one, even as we are one:**

Hbr 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,

Hbr 13:21 **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.

Rev 3:8 I know thy works: **behold, I have set before thee an open door**, and **no man can shut it**: for thou hast a little strength, and **hast kept my word**, and hast not denied my name.

1Pe 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, **make you perfect**, stablish, strengthen, **settle [you]**.

Postscript:

I believe my response, has not been as good as I would like- because people are thinking this is a different gospel, that they have never heard before. And you are absolutely correct in part; as this is a new Gospel in that you've never heard the whole truth of God before, yet it is the SAME GOSPEL of Jesus Christ, as written in the Holy Word of God. This is a restoration of the Truth of God- a True restoration before the coming of Christ, preparing the way before Him.

My prayer is that the covering of deceit will be removed from your eyes- that you may see and grow in Christ. May God bless you in your search- but the time is running out. The Holy Oil is flowing, but my **poor children just don't want it**. They have eaten at the table of demons for a long time, and looking at their extended bellies of starvation, they think they are full. **The Table of God is set- COME, EAT, and LIVE- while it is yet DAY. Remember** the Covenant, made with your fathers at Mt. Horeb, before the Door is closed.

Bob Cooper

Remembrance Ministries

