

March 30, 2020

A Portrait of Love - Part 6

John 10:11; 14 “I Am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. I Am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.”

This is the fourth of the “I Am” statements that Jesus makes. In these two verses, Jesus pictures what a “good shepherd” would do to protect his sheep. He would be willing to lay down his life for his sheep. Jesus portrays His great love and care in these statements. He was and is willing to protect His flock.

Not only did Jesus make this claim, He proved it by laying down His very life for the world. David had written in Psalm 23 - The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Jesus is our good shepherd and He provides everything we need, including protection. He is ever watching over His sheep. That’s what makes a shepherd a “good” shepherd. Anyone could lazily sit and watch a flock of sheep as they grazed in a pasture. But a good shepherd was always alert and watching for an attack from a wolf or lion. And when the attack was imminent, the shepherd would spring into action to protect his sheep.

The second part of this picture is that He “knows” his sheep and His sheep “know” Him. In other words, He grew close to His sheep and they with Him. There was a real and lasting bond and relationship between them. If you know Christ as your Savior, then you will also know Him as your good Shepherd.

Psalm 23 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures: He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul: He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies: You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Dear Father, Thank You for Jesus, my good Shepherd. Thank You that He is always watching over me and He will always protect me. I love You Good Shepherd - Jesus. In Jesus Name, Amen