

THE LIFE OF A SHEEP

Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

The life of a sheep (according to David)

1. A covenantal view of life!

Psalm 23:1 The **LORD** (יהוה) is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Exodus 6:1 Then the **LORD** (יהוה) said unto Moses, Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh: for with a strong hand shall he let them go, and with a strong hand shall he drive them out of his land. **Exodus 6:2** And **God** (אלהים) spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the LORD: **Exodus 6:3** And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, **by the name of God Almighty** (באל שדי), **but by my name JEHOVAH** (יהוה) **was I not known to them.**

Exodus 6:4 And I have also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, wherein they were strangers. **Exodus 6:5** And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered my covenant. **Exodus 6:6** Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments: **Exodus 6:7** And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and ye shall know that **I am the LORD your God**, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. **Exodus 6:8** And I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for an heritage: I am the LORD.

We must be careful with names!

Both names are known & used long before this event!

In this text the Lord Himself identifies with the name LORD / Yahweh → making this formal

Formalizing his covenant name!

God establishes his covenantal name!

Genesis 12:1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: **Genesis 12:2** And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: **Genesis 12:3** And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 15:7 And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, **to give thee this land to inherit it.**

Genesis 15:12 And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.

Genesis 15:13 And he said unto Abram, **Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;** **Genesis 15:14** And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. **Genesis 15:15** And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

Genesis 15:16 **But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.** **Genesis 15:17** And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. **Genesis 15:18** **In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:** **Genesis 15:19** The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, **Genesis 15:20** And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, **Genesis 15:21** And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

Genesis 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. **Genesis 17:2** **And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.**

Genesis 17:7 **And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.** **Genesis 17:8** **And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.**

Genesis 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: **and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.**

Genesis 18:18 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, **and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?**

Genesis 22:18 **And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;** because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Genesis 26:4 And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; **and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;**

Genesis 28:14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: **and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.**

Matthew 1:1 THE book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of **David**, the son of **Abraham**.

Galatians 3:8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, **In thee shall all nations be blessed.**

Strangely the tetragrammaton (יהוה) – the 4 sacred letters fell out of usage for fear of idolatry & magic (using God’s name). [Yod, He, Vav, He)

7,000~ uses but never pronounced & intentionally misspelled – so we aren’t sure how to pronounce it!
Jewish believers tend to say HaShem.

Thoughts from David & Scripture:

- The covenantal name of God
- The covenant God establishes with Abraham+ & the Jewish nation
- A covenant with eternal purposes & benefits!
- A covenant we benefit from because of Christ by grace

2. A relational view of life!

Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

None of this means anything **without** the personal “my”

John 3:16 **For God so loved the world**, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also **loved the church**, and gave himself for it;

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, **who loved me, and gave himself for me.**

2 Timothy 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: **for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.**

Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; And the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

3. A providential view of life!

Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

There are many things to want!

- Good things to want
- Bad / evil things to want
- Unwise things to want
- “Not now” things to want