

“The LORD Is My Shepherd; I Shall Not Want.”
Psalms 23:1-2 KJV



From “The Treasury of David” by Charles H. Spurgeon. I found Mr. Spurgeon’s writing an eloquent reflection of my meditation this day and thought it proper to share it with you, as well.

“*The Lord is my Shepherd.*’ What condescension is this, that the Infinite Lord assumes towards his people the office and character of a Shepherd! It should be the subject of grateful admiration that the great God allows Himself to be compared to anything which will set forth His Great Love and care for His Own People. David had himself been a keeper of sheep, and understood both the needs of the sheep and the many cares of a shepherd. He compares himself to a creature weak, defenseless, and foolish, and he takes God to be his Provider, Preserver, Director, and, indeed, his everything. No man has a right to consider himself the Lord’s sheep unless his nature has been renewed, for the scriptural description of unconverted men does not picture them as sheep, but as wolves or goats. A sheep is an object of property, not a wild animal; its owner sets great store by it, and frequently it is bought with a great price. It is well to know, as certainly as David did, that we belong to the Lord. There is a noble tone of confidence about this sentence. There is no “if” nor “but,” nor even “I hope so;” but he says, ‘*The Lord is my Shepherd.*’ We must cultivate the spirit of assured dependence upon our Heavenly Father.’ The sweetest word of the whole is that monosyllable, “My.” He does not say, ‘The Lord is the shepherd of the world at large, and leadeth forth the multitude as His flock,’ but ‘*The Lord is MY Shepherd;*’ if He be a Shepherd to no one else, He is a Shepherd to *me*; He cares for *me*, watches over *me*, and preserves *me*. The words are in the present tense. Whatever be the believer’s position, he is even now under the pastoral care of Jehovah. The next words are a sort of inference from the first statement - they are sententious and positive - “*I shall not want.*” I might want otherwise, but when the Lord is my Shepherd he is able to supply my needs, and he is certainly willing to do so, for his heart is full of love, and therefore “*I shall not want.*” I shall not lack for *temporal things*. Does he not feed the ravens, and cause the lilies to grow? How, then, can he leave his children to starve? I shall not want *for spirituals*, I know that his grace will be sufficient for me. Resting in him he will say to me, “As thy day so shall thy strength be.” I may not possess all that I wish for, but ‘*I shall not WANT.*’ Others, far wealthier and wiser than I, may want, but I ‘*shall not.*’ *The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.*’ It is not only ‘I do not want,’ but ‘*I SHALL NOT want.*’ Come what may, if famine should devastate the land, or calamity destroy the city, ‘*I shall not want.*’ Old age with its feebleness shall not bring me any lack, and even death with its gloom shall not find me destitute. I have all things and abound; not because I have a good store of money in the bank, not because I have skill and wit with which to win my bread, but because ‘*The Lord is my Shepherd.*’ The wicked always want, but the righteous never; a sinner’s heart is far from satisfaction, but a gracious spirit dwells in the palace of content.”

I’ll have no lack of needful things,
For God my Shepherd keepeth me,
And though I stray He findeth me,
That I with Him might always be. –CGP

Satan so often distresses us with perceived lack we forget to be thankful for all that we have from the Lord our Shepherd. His Voice reminds me He is always where I am, regardless of my circumstances!

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in His Way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with His Hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.” Psalms 37:23-25 KJV