

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** The Secret of Satisfaction

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Psalm 23:1

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #1359

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) People can have all of the things of this world and not be satisfied.
- b) Ecclesiastes 5:10
- c) It isn't just money that doesn't truly satisfy.
  - i) There is nothing that can truly satisfy apart from the Lord Jesus.
  - ii) There are hungers that people are seeking to satisfy that they can never really satisfy.
    - (1) And even when we think we are satisfied, even that satisfaction is a dissatisfaction.
- d) There is a secret of satisfaction, and it is found in Psalm 23.
  - i) This Psalm has been quoted in the nursery school and on the battlefield.
  - ii) It has been quoted at weddings and at funerals.
  - iii) It is sweet to a little child and, yet, perplexing to a scholar.
    - (1) It has been said that the Word of God is deep enough that scholars can swim in it without ever touching bottom and shallow enough that little children can drink from it without fear of drowning.
- e) Psalm 23
- f) Today's message will focus on Psalm 23:1.
  - i) There is so much contained in this verse, that we could take each word and emphasize that word.
    - (1) For instance, this verse says, "The Lord," not "A Lord."
      - (a) When David wrote this, the Egyptians had 360 primary gods.
        - (i) The Canaanites, in whose land the Israelites lived, also had many gods.
        - (b) David knew, however, that there is but one God, and that is the Lord.
      - (2) The word "Lord" refers to the great Sovereignty, our eternal God and King.
      - (3) The word "is" speaks to the eternality, unchangeability, and the immutability of our great God.
      - (4) The word "my" speaks to the personal relationship with our Lord.
      - (5) The word "shepherd" shows that He is the one who is responsible for every care that the sheep might have.
- g) As we look at Psalm 23:1, we will see the secret of satisfaction.

2) THE SOVEREIGN GOD (PSALM 23:1)

- a) The Lord is our Sovereign God.
- b) In the King James Version of the Bible, the word "Lord" is capitalized.
  - i) This word is a translation of an Old Testament name for God that is the most sacred name for deity, and this word is "Jehovah."
  - ii) This name was so sacred to the Jewish people that some Bible historians say that it was only pronounced one time a year, and it was pronounced at that time when the high priest would go into the holy of holies and whisper the name, "Jehovah."

- iii) When a Jewish scribe came to the word “Jehovah” while translating Scripture, he would get a brand-new pen just to write “Jehovah.”
  - c) Jehovah is the covenant-keeping God.
    - i) He is the self-existing one.
    - ii) He is the great I AM.
    - iii) He is the Lord, our Shepherd.
  - d) The Creator of the world is our Shepherd.
  - e) The one who rules the universe is our Shepherd.
  - f) In contradistinction, David says that the great Jehovah is our Shepherd.
  
- 3) THE SHEPHERD (PSALM 23:1)
  - a) The Jehovah of the Old Testament is the Jesus of the New Testament.
    - i) When we say “Jehovah,” we speak of His deity.
    - ii) When we say “shepherd,” we speak of His humanity.
  - b) John 10:11, 14
    - i) In John 10, the Lord Jesus unlocked the mystery of Psalm 23 when He said that He is the Good Shepherd.
      - (1) He is the Sovereign and the Shepherd.
      - (2) He is deity and humanity.
        - (a) In the Lord Jesus, we have sovereignty and sympathy; a King and a Shepherd.
        - (b) We have a God who is able and a Shepherd who is available.
        - (c) We have a God in the heavens and a Shepherd in our heart.
  - c) Three times in the New Testament, the Lord Jesus is described as a shepherd.
    - i) He is the Good Shepherd.
      - (1) John 10:11
        - (a) Any shepherd may lose his life for the sheep, but that isn’t what Jesus said.
          - (i) The Good Shepherd laid His life down for the sheep.
            - 1. No one has ever chosen to die but Jesus because He is the only one who didn’t have to die.
      - (2) John 10:18
        - (a) It wasn’t nails that held Jesus to the cross but the silver cords of love and the golden bonds of redemption that held Him there.
        - (3) When as the Good Shepherd Jesus laid down His life for the sheep, He dealt with the penalty of sin.
          - (a) Romans 6:23
            - (i) Jesus paid the wages for our sins.
          - (b) Your sin will either be pardoned in Christ or punished in Hell, but it will never be overlooked.
    - ii) The Lord Jesus is the Great Shepherd.
      - (1) Hebrews 13:20-21
        - (a) This passage speaks of His resurrection.

- (b) The word “perfect” here means “mature.”
      - (c) He rose from the dead for the sheep.
    - (2) Isaiah 53:6
    - (3) Jesus took care of the penalty of sin when He carried our sins to the cross; but when He rose from the dead, He dealt with the power of sin.
      - (a) He had to be good to die for our sins.
      - (b) But not only is He the Good Shepherd, He is also the Great Shepherd (He rose from the dead).
    - (4) Psalm 23:1
      - (a) He is able to lead us in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.
    - (5) Not just that He died for us, but He lives for us.
  - iii) The Lord Jesus is the Chief Shepherd.
    - (1) 1 Peter 5:4
    - (2) One day, He is coming to take us from the presence of sin.
    - (3) In Psalm 22, we find the crucifixion of Jesus.
      - (a) It is written as if a person were standing at the foot of the cross.
        - (i) We see the gambling for His garments.
        - (ii) We have the words that He would say on the cross.
        - (iii) The piercing of His hands and feet.
        - (iv) The words of His enemies.
      - (b) We see the Good Shepherd dying for the sheep.
    - (4) In Psalm 23, we find the Great Shepherd leading His sheep.
      - (a) The one who is alive, risen from the dead.
    - (5) In Psalm 24, we find the Chief Shepherd coming for His sheep.
      - (a) Psalm 24:7
        - (i) This King of glory is Jehovah.
- 4) THE SOVEREIGN AND THE SHEPHERD (PSALM 23:1)
  - a) In this passage of Scripture, we have the Sovereign, who is Jehovah; and we have the Shepherd, who is Jesus.
    - i) Jesus is the Jehovah-Shepherd of our lives.
    - ii) The Sovereign plus the Shepherd leads to satisfaction.
      - (1) This is the only way that anyone will ever have satisfaction.
      - (2) We will never have satisfaction until we can say it and mean it: The Lord is my Shepherd.
  - b) Some people think that the secret of satisfaction is having a God who can give us everything.
    - i) But this is not the secret of satisfaction.
    - ii) The secret of satisfaction is the Lord Himself.
      - (1) Our needs will never be met until they’re met in Him.
      - (2) Things will never satisfy.
  - c) Psalm 37:4
    - i) When we delight in the Lord, the deepest needs of our heart will be met.

- ii) The desire of our heart is Jesus.
  - (1) We were made for Him.
    - (a) Acts 17:28
  - iii) It is not what He gives us, but He Himself.
- d) We were created for God; and until we know Him, we will be like a square peg in a round hole.
- e) Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, David took the sacred name “Jehovah” and joined it to another name.
  - i) There are seven times in the Bible where the name “Jehovah” is conjoined with another word to make a new name for God:
    - (1) Jehovah-Raah
      - (a) Psalm 23:1
      - (b) Jehovah, My Shepherd
    - (2) Jehovah-Jireh
      - (a) Genesis 22
      - (b) The Lord, My Provider
        - (i) The Lord will provide.
    - (3) Jehovah-Rapha
      - (a) Exodus 15
      - (b) The Lord Who Heals
    - (4) Jehovah-Shalom
      - (a) The Lord, Our Peace
    - (5) Jehovah-Tsidkenu
      - (a) The Lord, Our Righteousness
    - (6) Jehovah-Shamma
      - (a) Ezekiel 48
      - (b) The Lord Ever-Present
    - (7) Jehovah-Nissi
      - (a) Exodus 17
      - (b) The Lord, Our Banner
  - ii) In Psalm 23, all seven names for God are used.
    - (1) *“The Lord is my Shepherd.”*
      - (a) Jehovah-Raah
    - (2) *“I shall not want.”*
      - (a) Jehovah-Jireh, the Lord Will Provide
    - (3) *“He restoreth my soul.”*
      - (a) Jehovah-Rapha, the Lord Who Heals
    - (4) *“He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.”*
      - (a) Jehovah-Shalom, my Peace
    - (5) *“He leadeth me in paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.”*
      - (a) Jehovah-Tsidkenu, the Lord Our Righteousness
    - (6) *“Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.”*
      - (a) Jehovah-Nissi, the Lord Our Banner

- (i) Isaiah 59:19
  - (7) *"I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me."*
  - (a) Jehovah-Shamma, the Lord Ever-Present
- iii) David was saying that the Lord is my Shepherd, not the things that He gives me.
  - (1) The things that He gives are only a representation of who the Lord is Himself.
- f) If you want to know if the Lord is your Shepherd, then ask yourself, "Is the Shepherd my Lord?"
  - i) John 10:26
    - (1) In this passage, the Lord Jesus was talking to the unsaved Pharisees.
  - ii) It is a personal relationship.
    - (1) John 10:27
      - (a) This is the description of someone who can say, "The Lord is my Shepherd."
      - (2) A sheep is someone who hears His voice, someone He knows, and someone who follows Him.
      - (3) Have you heard His voice?
      - (4) Have you received Him as your personal Savior and Lord?
  - iii) It is a permanent relationship.
    - (1) John 10:28
    - (2) The Good Shepherd has never lost a sheep.
    - (3) We are eternally secure in Jesus.
    - (4) John 11:26
      - (a) If we could be saved for ten years and then lose our salvation, then that would be a ten-year life; but it wouldn't be eternal life.
      - (b) If we could be saved for fifty years and then lose our salvation, then that would be a fifty-year life; but it wouldn't be eternal life.
      - (c) Jesus said that He gives us eternal life.
  - iv) It is a protected relationship.
    - (1) John 10:29
    - (2) When we get saved, we come into the almighty hand of Almighty God.
    - (3) We're saved by the grace of God, and we're kept by the grace of God.
      - (a) Ephesians 2:8
- g) In the Shepherd are the wellsprings of your heart's desire.

## 5) CONCLUSION

- a) The Lord is the Good Shepherd.
  - i) He laid down His life for the sheep.
  - ii) He died for you.
- b) The Lord is the Great Shepherd.
  - i) He rose from the dead to guide you and to lead you.
- c) The Lord is the Chief Shepherd.
  - i) He is coming soon, and you need to be ready.

- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16