***Psalm 23 Bible Study – Outline #1***

*The Lord: Our Good Shepherd and Perfect Provider*

*Psalm 23:1-3a*

**Why should we study Psalm 23 in this time? Psalm 23 reminds us…**

**#1: The Lord is our Good Shepherd (v. 1)**

Sam Storms: There are countless descriptions of God in the Psalms: he is a King who rules over us, a rock of immovable stability, a deliverer in times of distress, a fortress in whom we find refuge, a shield behind whom we safely retreat. But there's something special about his being a *shepherd*. There's a dimension of personal tenderness and intimacy in the image of God as the one who shepherds his lambs. David well remembers the attentive watch and protective love he had for his sheep. "Yes," he may well have cried out in a moment of revelatory insight; "that's what God is to me and you!"

**Isaiah 53:6 -** *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

**Sam Storms**: The Lord is *my* shepherd, declares David. He's more than simply "a" shepherd, as if one might say, "Well, yes, there are a lot of shepherds out there and the Lord, well, he's certainly one of them." No! Yahweh isn't simply one among many shepherds, nor even "the" shepherd. He's MY shepherd! If he be a shepherd to no one else or to everyone else, he is at least *my* shepherd.

**What does this phrase, “I shall not want” mean? 2 things:**

1. ***I shall not want because in Him (in the Lord) I have every want and every need satisfied.***

**David's point is simply this:**

Jesus + Nothing=Everything

Everything - Jesus=Nothing

1. ***I shall not want…another shepherd…another master or leader.***

**#2: The Lord is our Perfect Provider (v. 2-3a)**

**David mentions three things in verses 2 and the first part of 3 that the Good Shepherd has provided:**

*#1: The Good Shepherd provides spiritual food.*

*#2: The Good Shepherd provides spiritual drink.*

**John 7:37-38:***“If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water’”*

**In Jeremiah 2:12-13,** *“Be appalled at this, you heavens, and shudder with great horror,” declares the Lord.**“My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.”*

**#3: The Good Shepherd provides spiritual restoration.**

**God uses three primary means to restore us:**

1) Sleep and Rest

2) Fellowship with God’s people

3) Time alone with God and His Word.

***Psalm 23:1-3a:***

***1*** *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.* ***2****He makes me lie down in green pastures.**He leads me beside still waters.* ***3****He restores my soul.*