

## GREEN PASTURES OR BRIAR PATCHES?

May 3, 2020

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Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-60; Psalm 23 KJV; John 10:1-10

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### THE TWENTY-THIRD PSALM

It is \_\_\_\_\_ for stress.

It is \_\_\_\_\_ for recovery.

It is \_\_\_\_\_ in dying.

It is \_\_\_\_\_ in life.

### A PSALM OF THANKSGIVING AND CONFESSION

*The LORD is my shepherd; \**

*I shall not want.*

### DAVID'S CONFESSION:

*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: \**

### GREEN PASTURES OR BRIAR PATCHES?

### WHERE ARE YOUR BRIAR PATCHES?

### THIS BECOMES A GREEN PASTURE WHEN...

1) YOU RECOGNIZE WHY GOD MADE  
THE WHOLE WORLD LIE DOWN?

2) YOU RECOGNIZE WHY HE MADE YOU LIE DOWN?

### GOD'S GOAL FOLLOWING THE PSALM

*"He restores my soul. He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake."*

Psalm 23:3

- Is not to continue to be sheep...

- Is to grow and deepen our relationship with God that we become what He created us to be. Not sheep, but human beings, created in His image.

*"... for His name's sake."*

God does these things - not for "our sake" but for His sake.

## 23

*King James Version*

1 *The LORD is my shepherd; \**

*I shall not want.*

2 *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: \**

*he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

3 *He restoreth my soul: \**

*he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.*

4 *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: \**

*for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

5 *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: \**

*thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

6 *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: \**

*and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*

The Gathering Prayer for Sunday, May 3rd

O God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice, we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*