

## “WORD OF LIFE”

July 28, 2024

### 44. CHRIST IN HIS PERSON (24) –

#### In the Fulfillment of the Types and Figures of the Old Testament

### 34. The Shepherd

Hymns: # 527/ Drink Offering / # 600

+ “In my heart I have treasured up Your word...” (Psa. 119:11)

[Type/Figure]

Psa. 23:1 - Jehovah is my Shepherd; I will lack nothing.

[Fulfillment]

John 10:11 - I am the good Shepherd; the good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

+ “...For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of Jehovah, ...” (Isa. 11:9)

❖ Christ is our Shepherd, and we are His sheep.

➤ The Lord is our shepherd (Psalm 23).

- The main thing a shepherd does is to feed the sheep.
  - He is the green pastures and the waters of rest (v. 2);
  - He restore our soul and guide us on the paths of righteousness (v. 3);
  - He is with us and comfort us through the valley of the shadow of death (v. 4);
  - He spread a feast before us in the presence of our adversaries (v. 5);
  - He ushers us into the enjoyment of God in the house of God (v. 6).

➤ In John 10:11 the Lord Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.”

- As a man the Lord Jesus has the human life, and as God He has the divine life.
  - The Lord laid down His human life to accomplish redemption for us, His sheep (John 10:15, 17-18)
  - so that we may have His divine life, the eternal life (John 10:10, 28),
- We are formed into one flock under Himself as the one Shepherd.
  - Christ feeds us with the divine life.
  - Inwardly we have Him as our Shepherd, a Shepherd of life and in life.
  - He is life to us; His living within us is actually His shepherding.
  - Christ shepherds us by being life to us and by living in us.

+ “And having gift that differ..., let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;” (Rom. 12:6)

+ God raised Christ from among the dead to be the great Shepherd of the sheep in resurrection. Having been redeemed by Christ, we are now being fed by Him as our great Shepherd. (Heb. 13:20)

+ In 1 Peter 2:25, He is the Shepherd of our souls. Christ was our Redeemer in His death on the cross.

- ✓ Now He is our soul’s Shepherd in the resurrection life within us and thus is able to guide us and supply us with life.
- ✓ He shepherds us by caring for the welfare of our inner being. In order to be our living Shepherd, it is necessary for Christ to dwell within us. Today Christ as the life-giving Spirit lives in us to be the Shepherd of our souls.

### Hymn 527

- 1 The Lord's my **Shepherd**,  
I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
In **pastures** green; He leadeth me  
The quiet **waters** by.
- 2 My **soul** He doth **restore** again,  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the **paths of righteousness**,  
E'en for His own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk  
in death's dark vale,  
Yet will **I fear no ill**;  
For Thou art with me, and Thy **rod**  
And **staff** me comfort still.
- 4 My **table** Thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with **oil anoint**,  
And my **cup** overflows.
- 5 **Goodness** and **mercy** all my life  
Shall surely **follow me**,  
And in **God's** house forevermore  
**My dwelling-place shall be**.

### Drink Offering

Who can match  
the "waste" He **tendered**,  
Willingly so much surrender?  
Who can count the **fruit** of His labor?  
Who else can  
such rich harvest render?  
Though all **drank**,  
the **cup's** o'erflowing;  
Though all **ate**, the **table's** loaded;  
He sought nothing,  
yet caused others' **blessing**,  
Ne'er sought payment,  
to others **dispensing**.  
Free from bondage and frustration,  
Free from sorrow and vexation,  
E'er outpouring, love bestowing,  
Ever surging, ever o'erflowing.

To **flow out this life**,  
He was willing to taste **death**,  
To be broken that **resurrection's**  
fragrance spread.  
These are just the footsteps  
You left behind,  
Quietly calling, "**Follow Me**."  
From their **shining faces** we can see  
Just how **glorious**  
this path's end will be.

I've clearly counted  
the **cost to take this way**,  
And gladly now  
all for **You lay down** today;  
Just a **drink offering**,  
joy to others I'd bring,  
Ceaselessly **pouring out**  
through all my days;  
Let me **love**, O **Lord**!  
You be my **reward**!  
Let Your presence  
forever with me stay.  
Cause me to maintain,  
**Lord**, Your joy within,  
Let eternity wash my tears away.

### Hymn 600

- 1 My **God**, my **Portion**,  
and my **Love**,  
My everlasting All,  
**I've none but Thee**  
in heav'n above,  
Or on this earthly ball.  
What empty things are all the skies,  
And this inferior clod!  
**There's nothing here**  
**deserves my joys**,  
There's nothing like my **God**.
- 2 To Thee I owe my wealth,  
and friends,  
And health, and safe abode;  
**Thanks to Thy name**  
**for meaner things**,  
But they are not my **God**.  
How vain a toy is glittering wealth,  
If once compared to Thee!  
Or what's my safety, or my health,  
Or all my friends to me.
- 3 Were I possessor of the earth,  
And called the stars my own,  
Without Thy graces and Thyself,  
I were a wretch undone.  
Let others stretch their arms  
like seas,  
And grasp in all the shore;  
**Grant me the visits of Thy grace**,  
And **I desire no more**.