

The Lord is My Shepherd
“His People”
Psalm 23:1-6
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the difference between Gods People (His People) and the world.

- Intro:
1. Our previous lessons: His Presence (protection & guidance), His Provision (blessings), His Promise (Eternal life for the faithful).
 2. God’s people are different. God’s people are not like the people of the world.
 3. What is it that makes God’s people different?

I. God’s people are unlike any other.

- A. God’s people are guided unlike any other (**Ps 23:1-2,4**).
 1. The world’s wisdom is empty and based on man’s limited wisdom.
 2. God’s wisdom is righteous and guides us through life’s hardships and not into books filled with the men’s wisdom (**Proverbs 2:6-7**).
- B. God’s people are blessed unlike any other (**Ps 23:5**).
 1. God’s people are blessed according to His standards and not man’s. The standards of man’s blessing are based on material things (**Matthew 6:19**)
 2. God’s blessings are eternal and thus never fade away (**Matthew 6:20**)
 3. True blessings do not have to be physical things that we can hold or see. Blessings can be spiritual in nature.
- C. God’s people receive promises unlike any other (**Ps 23:6**).
 1. God promises HIS PEOPLE – eternal life-eternal rest with the faithful.
 2. This promise is unique to His people.
 3. Only those who have God as their shepherd receive this promise.
 - How could David say that he would dwell with God for all eternity, because of v.1- the Lord is his shepherd!

II. God’s people are wiser than the world (**Ps 23:3**).

- A. Wisdom sets God’s people apart from the world (v.23a)
 1. God leads His people down the paths of righteousness
 2. How does He lead them down this path? By His wisdom not man. God leads us down the path, not man(the world).
 3. **Job 38:1-4** reminds us of just how little wisdom and understanding man really possesses. *After reading verse* - Thus it’s not possible that man could properly lead himself in this life, only God the possessor of true wisdom can properly lead man.
- B. The world pulls man to hell, while God guides humble and obedient men to heaven (v.23b, **Matthew 7:13-14**).
 1. God is a god of mercy, love, forgiveness, and vengeance. He also desires mankind to find true happiness-happiness that can only be found in Him (**John 10:10**).
 2. God’s people are not dragged to damnation by the world’s ways but are guided to the heavenly home by the heavenly shepherd.

- Conc:
1. God's people are not weak today, but are mighty through the power of truth that is found in God's Word (**2 Tim 1:7-10-key v.7 & 10b**)
 2. God's people are; different, unique, special-God's people are called such- because they are GOD'S PEOPLE (**Titus 2:11-14, 1 Peter 2:9-10**).
 3. Full Invitation