



As has already been noted the Second Person of the Trinity showed up in the Old Testament record and appeared as The Angel (messenger) of the Lord to Abraham:

**Genesis 18:1** *“The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.”*

**Genesis 22:15** *“The Angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time.”*

## Theophany—An Appearance of God

### Old Testament Heroes.

If the Lord was the all sufficient One, who sustained and inspired the Old Testament heroes (Hebrews 11). How much more is He not able to sustain you and me in the days of so much chaos and confusion?

### Psalm 23—Exposé

This famous and oft quoted Psalm is a good example of His sufficiency.

**Vs1**     **The Lord (Yahweh) Jehovah is my Shepherd** “Yahweh Rho-i” while the Lord is “our” Shepherd we need as individuals (my) to know Him personally (**Romans 10:9**). The Lord is called the Shepherd of Israel (**Genesis 49:24, Psalm 80:1, Isaiah 40:9-11**). To know Him as Shepherd is to have all your needs met (Phil. 4:19). You won’t want more if you trust Him at all.

Hear Us, O Shepherd Of  
Israel, You Who Lead Joseph  
Like A Flock; You Who Sit  
Enthroned Between The  
Cherubim, Shine Forth

Psalms 80-1

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## The Benefits of knowing Him/continued....

**Vs2**     **The Benefits of knowing Him**—Green pastures to feed His sheep. He leads His sheep beside quite (still) waters. This implies He avoids the river rapids and dangers of getting too close to a raging river. We need to depend on God to lead us and to be responsible to avoid the dangers of the worlds dangers flow of trends that often cause the unexpected to be caught in its flow. The quiet waters quench the thirst of the thirsty. God is able to satisfy our thirst for meaning and purpose from the river of His Spirit.



**John 4:14** *“But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”*

**John 7:38** *“Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living Water will flow from within them.”*

**Vs3**     **He restores the soul.** All of us have had our souls affected by choices, Consequences and challenges. You may feel emotionally drained and Inadequate to meet the demands of life. He restores your soul and leads you Back to the path of righteousness (right, and honourable conduct).

**Vs4**     Even when we are confronted with destruction, darkness and death we have no reason to fear **He’ll walk with us through the valley**. Nothing can separate us from God’s love—**Romans 8:35-39** *“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

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## Vs 4/continued...

**Vs4** **Rod and staff comfort me.** The staff was used to rescue the sheep if they had fallen into a rock crevice or valley. The rod was used to fend off predators and served as a counting rod to count the sheep at the end of the day before nightfall. The Lord gives us the security we so desperately need **John 10:14** *“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— “*

**Romans 8:1** *“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”*

**John 10:27-29** *“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.”*

**Vs5A** The Lord prepares a table of welcoming to celebrate our home coming even in the presence of our enemies. The final enemy is death and yet in death we conquer the enemy and are welcomed home to God’s heavenly family:

**1 Corinthians 15:55-58** *“Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.”*



**Vs5B** The anointing of the head of the sheep with oil as an ointment to repel insects and bugs from ears, nose and eyes. God by His Spirit who resides in us sustains and protects us by His indwelling Spirit which causes us to rejoice and to be glad. Our cup overflows:

**Philippians 4:4** *“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!*

Vs6/...

**Vs6** This final verse of Psalm 23 speaks of the House of the Lord. A family house is called a household. What does it mean to **live in the House of the Lord forever?** It simply relates to our adoption into God's family forever. A member of His household—**John 14.**



**Romans 8:15-18** *“The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”*

**See John 10:1-18.**

## Our Citizenship

We are guaranteed of our citizenship in heaven.

**Philippians 3:20** *“But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.”*

*Our future is literally out of this world!  
Praise God!*

