

*“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.” Psalm 23:1*

Sheep with a Good Shepherd do not have a care in the world. He watches over every aspect of their welfare with a vigilant eye. He knows where the green pastures are. He provides safety in the night. He leads them to still cool water that they may slack their thirst. He knows every sheep by name and they know Him, and will not



follow another. A friend of mine once visited an early morning gathering of shepherds and noticed that all the hundreds of sheep mingled together, while the several shepherds chatted over campfire and coffee. He wondered “How in the world would they ever sort them out?” The shepherds seemed oblivious to the situation. When it came time to go, one by one the shepherds arose and walked away making a particular call. At once, his sheep began to separate and follow him as he walked away. In the end, not one sheep was misplaced or confused. Each knew the voice of its shepherd and followed him. Not one sheep followed the wrong shepherd. The sheep knew the shepherd because they had spent their whole life with him. Jesus said, *“My sheep know my voice and they follow me.”* Do we know the Voice of the Shepherd? Is His voice so familiar that we can instantly recognize it? Are we so alert to His call that we follow without hesitation? If I follow His lead, I shall never lack. I shall never want or have need of anything. I will rest in the security of His Divine Protection and feed at the bounty of His table. The Eye that never sleeps or slumbers will guard and guide my pilgrimage to that city *“whose builder and maker is God”* I can be as carefree as a playful child while He is my Guardian. We hoard care as if God is incapable of handling anything. We let Satan delude us into thinking that He couldn’t be bothered with the “small details” of our lives. We forget the marvelous intricacy and detail of the universe that surrounds us. Our God is a God of infinite detail, and to think that He couldn’t be bothered with the finite management of our frail existence is nothing short of satanic. Didn’t God order and create all the fragile ecosystems on this planet? If our earth drifted just a few miles out of orbit we would either fry or freeze. If God can manage the universe, He can effortlessly order our puny existence. We are in Good Hands with the Good Shepherd.

*“The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” Psalm 27:1*

C. G. Palmer