

I die daily

I hope this devotion finds you doing well, and it is a blessing and an encouragement.

The bible often refers to God as the Shepherd of His Sheep, also the Chief Shepherd. The one that knows us better than anyone.

Imagine that if you would for a moment. I don't know how many times I have gone through trials that I honestly felt like no one understood what I was going through. I was either in a place I couldn't talk about it, or if I did I just couldn't convey the entirety of it. I more often in those times than not, just don't talk about it. I have found my only refuge to be with the Lord. I have found comfort in knowing that well.... He knows. He knows the things I can't explain. He knows my heart..... I don't have to convince Him, He knows...... He knows all involved,

every in and out..... and if there is peace to be found in a trial, He is where it's to be found. There is contentment in that, for me that is priceless. His love for me is something that I depend on.

It's funny how before I got saved, I can remember having ideas about God and Him "knowing all about it". Maybe you were the same. It was more on the lines of "When I did something wrong" "you know Paul, God see's everything He knows everything you do". God knowing all about me was more of a fearful thing, than it was a positive one. I am thankful for TRUTH. And I am thankful for a relationship with THE God, that is a revealing one. He knows me and makes Himself known to me. He does know my every wrong. But He also provided a way for me to be cleansed and just. He also knows my every need, and even my wants. In my rebellious state, I didn't understand what it was to have a Shepherd. Now... Oh my ... I never want to be without Him ever again. Before I ran from Him Now "He leads me in the paths of righteousness" He is the Good Shepherd! "He leads me beside the still waters" HE Is the Good Shepherd!....."Even thought I walk through the valley of the shadow of death YOU ARE WITH ME!" Praise God He is the Good Shepherd.

God knowing all about you isn't a negative. It's a blessing and a gift. His concern is commendable. His Love is undeniable and certainly unexplainable. His knowing, His taking interest, His concern.... are just some of the qualities of our God that make worthy of our service. God knows, and He is the one that you can go too no matter what you are dealing with in life. When NO one else knows When NO one understands, HE knows and He will be straight with you Not just tell you what you want to hear.

I am thankful to be KNOWN of God To be LOVED BY HIM and I am thankful that He is my Shepherd.

Do you know Him? Are you allowing Him to lead you?

God bless - Pastor Paul

May 26

Our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep. <u>Heb. 13:20</u>

The chief Shepherd. I Pet. 5:4

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. John 10:14, 27, 28

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Psa. 23:1-3

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isa. 53:6

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. John 10:11

I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick. <u>Ezek. 34:16</u>

Ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls. <u>I Pet. 2:25</u>