



63. Green Pastures

*“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside quiet waters,”*
Psalm 23:1-2.

The great Shepherd Jesus is the only one who can satisfy His flock. Sheep are content when they are satisfied ... when they are free from hunger, thirst, fear, and friction. Sheep won't lie down until they are content. The green pastures of this verse are comfortable meadows of soft,

new grass. And the paths beside the still waters are soothing and refreshing. Sheep are easily frightened ... but they are calm next to quiet waters. Stagnant and polluted waters are undrinkable. And torrents of rushing waters are dangerous for sheep and frightening to them because of the noise. Quiet waters are safe and soothing. The Lord satisfies and soothes those who truly follow Him. Contentment is found only in His green pastures and beside His quiet waters.

Whose pasture are you in? Whose waters do you walk beside? The pastures and paths of the world, the flesh, and the devil don't satisfy. Are you truly satisfied? Jesus said, "*Blessed are those*

who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied,” Matthew 5:6. Follow Him to the satisfying pastures and waters of righteousness. Follow the good Shepherd at all times. Don't take your eyes off of Him. Don't let your trials distract you. First century Christians were ridiculed, persecuted, tortured, and martyred ... but they found contentment. One of the common phrases found where they were buried in the catacombs of Rome was *“In Christo, in paci”* ... in Christ, in peace. Do you have that kind of peace? Trust your Shepherd. Follow Him to His peaceful pastures and quiet waters.