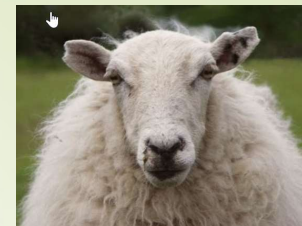




Brave Sheep,
Courageous Shepherds

Sheep Metaphors 101



- ▶ 65 altogether, starting in Gen 48:15 and ending in Rev 7:17
- ▶ 50 have the form “God is the shepherd; we are the sheep”
- ▶ Our word Pastor comes from the Latin for graze and shepherd

Origin

LATIN
pascere



LATIN
past-
fed,
grazed



LATIN
pastor

shepherd





Why are sheep so dumb?

- ▶ Compared to wildlife, from a survival standpoint, they are completely helpless.
- ▶ They've been domesticated over thousands of years to be totally reliant on humans.



Created to be Sheep

- ▶ Psalm 23 – God leads us to what we need and away from what we don't.
- ▶ We are created by God to be totally reliant on Him.
- ▶ John 10:1-6 – God is the only one that can be our shepherd; no one else and nothing else will do.
- ▶ Look for how God is trying to help you.



Created to be Shepherds

- ▶ 1Pet 5:1-4
- ▶ God also created us to be shepherds—helping the Chief Shepherd.
- ▶ All roles in the church have a pastoral element (caring for people), but also have other elements.
- ▶ Examples: Evangelists help disciples to evangelize (2Tim 4:5). Elders refute false doctrine. (Titus 1:9).

Sheep not *Sheeple*

- Sheep follow God with intent. Sheeple follow people (often blindly).
- Heb 13:17 – Be a good sheep!
- Mature and shepherd as you can, but you don't graduate from sheep to shepherd-- you'll always be a sheep!



Biblical Sheep/Shepherd Metaphors

All metaphorical references: Gen 48:15, 2Sam 5:2, 2Sam 7:7, 2Sam 24:17, 1King 22:17, 1Chr 11:2, 1Chr 17:6, 1Chr 21:17, 2Chr 18:16, Ps 23, Ps 28:9, Ps 44:11, Ps 44:22, Ps 49:14, Ps 74:1, Ps 78:52, Ps 78:71, Ps 79:13, Ps 80:1, Ps 100:3, Ps 119:176, Ecc 12:11, SS 4:2, SS 6:6, Isa 13:15, Isa 40:11, Isa 44:28, Isa 53:6, Isa 53:57, Isa 63:11, Jer 12:2, Jer 13:20, Jer 17:16, Jer 31:10, Jer 50:6, Ezk 34, Ezk 37:24, Mic 2:12, Mic 5:4-8, Mic 7:15, Zec 10:2-3, Zec 11, Mat 2:6, Mat 9:36, Mat 10:6, Mat 10:16, Mat 12:11-12, Mat 15:24, Mat 18:10-14, Mat 25:31-46, Mat 26:31, Mark 6:34, Mark 14:27, Luke 15:1-6, John 10:1-18, John 10:26-27, John 21:15-19, Acts 8:32, Acts 20:28, Rom 8:34, Heb 13:20, 1Pet 2:25, 1Pet 5:2-4, Jude 1:12, Rev 7:17

65 altogether. 15 differ from the "God is the shepherd and we are the sheep" metaphor:

- ▶ Psalm 42:22, Rom 8:34: like sheep to the slaughter
- ▶ SS 4:2 and 6:6 sheep are teeth. :-)
- ▶ Isa 53:57, Act 8:32: metaphor where Jesus will be silent like a sheep before its shearer.
- ▶ Jer 12:2 sheep refers to the wicked.
- ▶ Jer 13:20 refers prophetically to Israel
- ▶ Mat 25:31-46 sheep are the saved after judgement day.
- ▶ Mat 26:31 and Mark 14:27: Prophecy "strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered" Jesus is the shepherd and the apostles are the sheep.
- ▶ John 21:15-19: Peter is the shepherd and he is to feed Jesus' sheep.
- ▶ Acts 20:28, 1Pet 5:2-4: elders are to the shepherds to the church of God
- ▶ Jude 1:12: shepherds are twisted anti-Christ