

4. He is servant to all: gender, ethnic association, life position are all n the same mix to the Lord. He is not biased or prejudiced...He reaches out "indiscriminately" (although that word may not be rightly used...)

III, Conclusion: There is joy in serving Jesus, as the old Gospel song goes, and part of that joy is in doing what He did as a servant to the people. *Don't be afraid of serving, the Lord did it with distinction. I know that those who serve are sometimes taken advantage of but the Lord did not let that bother Him or detract from His efforts His public ministry is serving and we cannot do better than that!*

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MESSAGE # 5: HE IS THE ONE WHO PUBLICLY LIVED AS A SHEPHERD TO THE FLOCK

Biblical passage: John 10:1 ff, Psalm 23, etc.

I. Introduction to the Study

The portrait of the Lord as the good shepherd is a very familiar presentation---one of the best known identifications for the Lord in His public ministry. His care for the flock is seen in His redemptive work *and the ministry of grace that He showed to all in His time in our sphere.* It challenges us to care for one another and to work for the health of the people of God. Psalm 23 is probably the best known Scripture that deals with this and Keller's book on the 23rd Psalm is the best treatment I have ever read on the matter. But there are many books and, fortunately, there is only one Shepherd...one who lived before the world as a shepherd to His flock.

II. Discussion:

A. Relevant Scriptures (there are a lot of them so....)

1. John 10:1 ff...as a Shepherd He comes to them (vv 1-2) calls them (3), leads (3), precedes (4) provides (9), enriches (10) and protects them at the cost of His own life (11)
2. Luke 10:1-2 shows how the Good Shepherd prepares His sheep for their duties....