"The Shepherd's Sheep"

(John 10; Psalm 23)

INTRODUCTION: Any Pastor can tell the story:

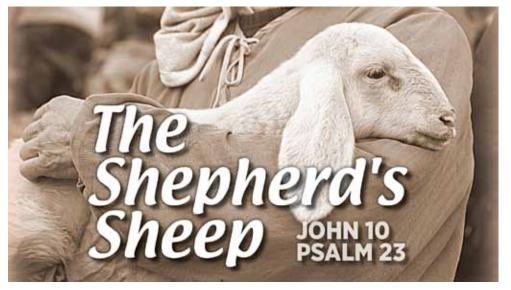
"The midnight call & the 23rd Psalm"

I. ALMIGHTY GOD CARES FOR US BECAUSE WE ARE IMPORTANT TO HIM & HE LOVES US

- A. This was a radical idea when this Psalm was first written
- B. Note: Not a shepherd, but my shepherd (verse 1)
- C, Don't listen to the lies of the devil of this world that say you are of no worth
- D. Your worth is that you belong to the Good Shepherd (John 10)
- E. What makes Him a good shepherd:

"He lays down His life for His sheep" (John 10:11)

+ Where we get the phrase: "over my dead body"



II. ALMIGHTY GOD KNOWS OUR EVERY NEED

- A. "He leads me beside the still waters" (Psalm 23:2)
 - -- Freedom from fear
- B. "Your rod & staff, they comfort me" (v.4)
 - Protection & guidance
- C. "You anoint my head with oil" (v.5)
 - -- Freedom from torment(ers)

III.ALMIGHTY GOD'S CARE NEVER ENDS

- A. "Surely goodness & mercy... all the days of my life... in the house of the Lord forever" (v.6)
- B. Jesus said "They shall never perish & no one shall snatch them out of my hand" (John 10:28)

CONCLUSION: The "mistake" on the church sign:

'The Lord is My Shepherd; That's Enough'