

Gospel-Shaped Leadership (Part 1)

1 Timothy 3:1 & Assorted Texts

Thesis: We are all sheep who have gone astray, but God sent his Son Jesus, the Shepherd and Overseer of our souls, to seek out and gather those who are lost and lead them to eternal life.

I. The Lord Has Ordained Overseers to Shepherd His Flock (1 Timothy 3:1)

- A. One Office: Overseers, Elders, Pastors/Shepherds (cf. 1 Peter 5:1-4)
- B. Jesus is the Chief Shepherd and Overseer of Our Souls (1 Peter 2:25; 5:4)

II. The Lord Leads His People Like a Shepherd (Psalm 23:1-3)

- A. Israel's Shepherd in the Old Testament
 - 1. Patriarchs (Genesis 48:15)
 - 2. Exodus (Psalm 78:52)
 - 3. Exile (Isaiah 40; Ezekiel 34)
- B. Jesus Is Our Shepherd
 - 1. The good shepherd (John 10)
 - 2. The great shepherd of the sheep (Hebrews 13:20)
 - 3. The chief shepherd (1 Peter 5:4)
 - 4. The lamb who IS the shepherd (Revelation 7:17)
- C. Implications
 - 1. We're all sheep in need of a shepherd (cf. Isaiah 53:6a; Jeremiah 50:6)
 - 2. Christ's sheep hear his voice and follow him out (John 10:3, 4, 14)
 - 3. Those who trust in God for everything lack nothing (Psalm 23:1; Matthew 6:25-34)
 - 4. He leads us on the right paths; Christ IS the path (cf. John 14:4-6)

III. The Shepherd Saves His People from Death and Evil (Psalm 23:4)

- A. Old Testament
 - 1. Noah and family (Genesis 6-8)
 - 2. The Passover (Exodus 12)
 - 3. Expected a suffering shepherd to save them (Zechariah 13:1, 7; Isaiah 53:4-7)
- B. Fulfilled in Jesus Christ
 - 1. He seeks out the lost sheep (Matthew 18:10-13; Luke 15:1-7)
 - 2. He became the sacrificial Lamb (John 1:29)
 - 3. God struck him, fulfilling Zech. 13:7 (Matthew 26: 31)
 - 4. He laid down his life for his sheep (John 10:10b, 11, 14-18; 1 Peter 2:24-25)

IV. The Shepherd Blesses and Leads His People to Eternal Life (Psalm 23:5-6)

- A. Old Testament
 - 1. Wilderness (Psalm 78:18-25) and Promised Land (Exodus 3:7-8)
- B. Fulfilled in Jesus Christ
 - 1. He came that we may have life abundantly (John 10:10b)
 - 2. He has prepared a place for us in God's house (John 14:1-6)
 - 3. On the Day of Judgment he will bring his sheep into eternal life but sentence all others to eternal punishment (Ezekiel 34:11-24; Matthew 25:31-46)
 - 4. He's the Lamb who'll shepherd us into God's house (Revelation 7:9-17)