



**PSALM 23:**  
**THE PROCEDURE TO RESPONDING**  
**TO THE SHEPHERDING OF THE SHEPHERD**  
**(PART 1)**

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**Since God is your shepherd and you shall not want, you must have a faith that works--embracing the character of God and the promises of God.**

- A. You must repent of sin and put confidence, trust, and assurance in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ to rescue you from sin and to reconcile you unto a new and right relationship with God in this life and the life to come, as you trust and anticipate the benefits that are to come at the return of Christ (1 Thessalonians 1:3).
- B. You must not merely embrace the fact that God exists as a rewarder, but that He will prove Himself to be a rewarder of that person who diligently seeks Him (Hebrews 11:6).<sup>1</sup>
- C. You must approach God embracing the fact that He is Supreme – He is first and foremost before all things. All things exist to show the greatness of His Character (Colossians 1:15-19).
- D. You must approach God embracing the fact that He is Sovereign – He controls all things. Nothing happens unless He allows it or ordains it (Ecclesiastes 7:13-14).
- E. You must approach God embracing the fact that He is Sufficient – He is enough and is doing enough for you even when you don't have all of what you think you need or want (Psalm 145:17-21).
- F. You must approach God embracing the fact that He is Holy – He is unique and set apart from sin, and dedicated to His Glory (Isaiah 6:1-4).
- G. You must approach God embracing the fact that He is Faithful – He is true to His Word and will do what He says and promises (Numbers 23:19).
- H. You must approach God embracing the fact that He is Loving – He seeks the highest good of others based upon His character. He does this unconditionally with your good and His Glory in mind (Romans 8:28-39).

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<sup>1</sup> Wuest, Kenneth Samuel. *Wuest's Word Studies from the Greek New Testament: for the English Reader* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997), Hebrews 11:6.

- I. You must approach God expecting Him to provide all the wisdom you need for your situation (James 1:5-8).
- J. You must approach God expecting Him to help you make it through every trial or temptation you encounter (1 Corinthians 10:13).
- K. You must approach God expecting Him to provide you with all of what you need to function in this world accordingly (Matthew 6:25-34).
- L. You must approach God expecting Him to be your Helper (Hebrews 13:5-6).
- M. You must approach God expecting Him to work all things together for your ultimate good (sanctification) (Romans 8:29-31).
- N. You must approach God expecting Him to return for you and to make you like Him in return (John 3:1-3).
- O. You must approach God expecting that He has an inheritance reserved in heaven that will not fade away (1 Peter 1:1-5).

**Key Point:** We have this life in Jesus Christ-- the abundant life which is the Eternal life. This quality of life includes intimately knowing of God, experiencing character transformation into His image, and being productive for His kingdom as an ambassador and a builder. This quality of life also includes a place in the presence of the King in His Kingdom forever. This faith we have gained should lead us to embrace the one who gave it to us and embrace the promise that He will reward us for embracing Him accordingly.