The Believer's Devine Caretaker Psalm 23:3b

He leads me on the path of righteousness for His name sake. Introduction: The Shepherd who . . .

- 1. Leads Isaiah 42:16
- 2. Teaches Psalm 25:4

Remember our identity as believers: sheep, children, slaves.

We must acknowledge His leadership and teachings so our pathway will be straight. Proverbs 3:6 - *In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths*. In a circumstance or crisis, acknowledge your deficiency while acknowledging God's sufficiency.

- I. The believer's <u>walk</u> is on the path of righteousness. This path we walk on is . . .
- 1. a path of **mercy** (lovingkindness) and truth. Ps. 25:10

The cross of Christ is the beginning of our pathway of righteousness. It was there we received mercy.

- 2. a path of **Truth** John 1:14, 14:6, Jere. 7:28, Zech. 8:16
- 3. a path of life and no death. Proverbs 12:28
- 4. a path of peace. Proverbs 3:17
- 5. a narrow path. Matthew 7:13-14
- 6. a path that leads to the kingdom of God. Rom. 14:17

The resurrection of Jesus creates this path of righteousness for us to walk on.

- II. The believer's <u>warnings</u> to stay on the path of righteousness.
 - 1. Path of the wicked Psalm 1:1
 - 2. Path of destruction of the unrighteous Romans 3:16
 - 3. Path of the forgotten God Romans 3:18
- III. The believer's dependence on the <u>Word of the Lord</u> allows the believer to stay on the path of righteousness.
 - 1. The Word is light for my path Ps. 119:105
 - 2. Delight of the Word Psalm 119:35
 - 3. Abide in the Word John 8:31-32

The Takeaway: All for His name sake or for His glory. Psalm 106:7-8

The chief end of man is to glorify the Lord and to enjoy Him forever. Westminster Confession

God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him. Pastor John Piper