

## The Believer's Divine Caretaker

### Psalm 23:2a

*He makes me to lie down in green pastures;*

Introduction- How does the shepherd make his sheep lie down? By eliminating the four 'f's.'

Fear, Frustration, Friction, and Famine or hunger

How does our Good (Ps.22), Great (Ps.23), Chief (Ps.24) Shepherd make us, His sheep, lie down in green pastures? Not by force, but through His Word. The believer's green pasture is the Word of God. If believer's want the 4-f's eliminated from their lives they must live the Word of God by . . .

#### **I. Delighting in the Word. Psalm 119**

Delight 8xs in 119 (16,35,47,70,77,92,143,174), Mediate 7x's, Revive 8 x's

What motivates us to delight in the Word of God.

1. The Word is Jesus – John 1:1, 14
2. Live by Jesus' Word – Matthew 4:4
3. The Words are living words – Hebrews 4:12
4. The Word is Eternal or everlasting – I Peter 1:23f
5. The Word is God breathed – II Timothy 3:16-17

#### **II. Dwelling in the Word. Colossians 3:16**

1. Abide or continue in the Word – John 8:31-32
2. Admonish one another from the Word.

#### **III. Depending on the truthfulness of the Word. Heb. 4:12**

1. No fear – Isaiah 43:1
2. No frustration – James 4:1
3. No friction – Romans 12:18
4. No famine – Matthew 4:4
  - a. Don't drift from the Word. Hebrews 2:1
  - b. Don't doubt the Word. 3:8
  - c. Don't be dull of hearing the Word. 5:11
  - d. Don't diet the Word. 5:12f

The Takeaway: Story of JFK, Jr. crashing his plane because of 'spatial disorientation.' Live by the Word not by sight. The believer's instrument panel is the word of God which will steer him to safety, to wisdom, yes to the green pastures where peace rules the heart.