

## **Meditation 12: Psalms 23 & 24 “The LORD is My Shepherd and My King.”**

*“The LORD is my shepherd; I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters... Only goodness and steadfast love shall pursue me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.” 23:1, 2; 23*

*“The earth is the LORD's and all that it holds, the world and its inhabitants. O gates, lift up your heads! Lift them up, you everlasting doors, so the King of glory may come in! Who is the King of glory? -- the LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!” 24:1; 9, 10*

David, the writer of Psalm 23, loved and served the LORD all his life. A shepherd in his youth, warrior in early adulthood and king in later years, he offered unceasing praise to the LORD. Centuries later his descendant Jesus who said “before Abraham was, I AM entered Jerusalem on a donkey as king. At that time Jesus spoke of himself, saying “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep. My sheep know my voice and they follow me.” The night he was taken this same Jesus said “If I wished I could call on the army of heaven to rescue me from this suffering but that is not the Father’s plan.” With these words He identified Himself as commander of the LORD’s armies. Someday, at the time of the Father’s choosing Jesus will return at the head of those armies to bring all peoples into his kingdom of peace.

***Prayer: “O LORD, I confess you as the shepherd of my soul, my commander and my king. Amen.”***