

A sepia-toned photograph of a shepherd with a staff and sheep in a field. The shepherd is in the foreground, wearing a long robe and holding a staff. A flock of sheep is grazing in the background.

Psalm 23

The Good Shepherd

Sermon series summary

Pastor Ian Bayne, July 2020



Series outline

Click each of the blue buttons below to view the sermon notes.

Sermon 1

Psalm 23:1 & John 10:1-18 – The Lord is my shepherd

Sermon 2

Psalm 23:2 & Hebrews 3:1-11 - He makes me lie down in green pastures

Sermon 3

Psalm 23:3 & 1 Peter 1:3-9 – He restores my soul

Sermon 4

Psalm 23:3 & Acts 8:1-5 – He leads me in paths of righteousness

Sermon 5

Psalm 23:3 & 1 John 3:16-24 – For His name's sake

Sermon 6

Psalm 23:4 & 2 Cor 4:16-5:10 – The valleys of life

Sermon 7

Psalm 23:4 & Ephesians 6:10-17 – The shadow of death

Sermon 8

Psalm 23:4 & 2 Cor 4:16-5:10 – Your rod and staff comfort me

Sermon 9

Psalm 23:5 & John 21:12-23 – You prepare a table before me

Sermon 10

Psalm 23:5 & Luke 7:40-50 – You anoint my head with oil

Sermon 11

Psalm 23:5 & Mat 18:23-25 – My cup overflows

Sermon 12

Psalm 23:6 & John 14:8-17 – Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

Sermon 13

Psalm 23:6 & Heb 13:20-21 – I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever

Summary

Psalm 23 - Summary

Finale

Psalm 23, Deuteronomy 15:12-18 & John 16:5-11 – Recognising God's sheep



The Lord is
my Shepherd
I
shall not
want

Psalm 23:1

Sermon 1



There is a shepherd

Psalm 23:1

The Lord has His sheep

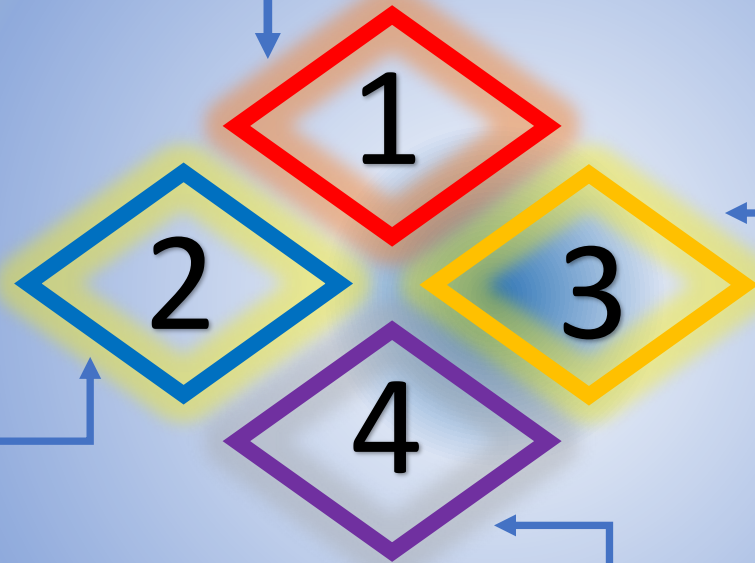
John 10:12-15

The Lord is our shepherd

John 8:58

The shepherd has entered into a covenant with the sheep

Philippians 4:9



Dependence





Dependant

So to live by faith

So to grow in humility

So to magnify God's power, grace and providence

Trust





Trust

Because God is good

Because He knows us and
makes Himself known to us

Because He has saved us and given His life for us

He gently leads us

When we go astray He will search for us and find us

Security





Secure

Because we are in God's almighty hand

Because our salvation is based on God's will not
our own



He makes me
lie down in
green pastures
He leads me
beside quite
waters

Psalm 23:2

Sermon 2





A picture
of rest

Rivers rushing down
there rapids form the
mountains
Spreading out slowing
down on the river flats
here there is much feed
on the fertile plains
Here there is a place
where sheep can relax
and enjoy much food
and water in peace



Sheep only lie
down when they are
full and content



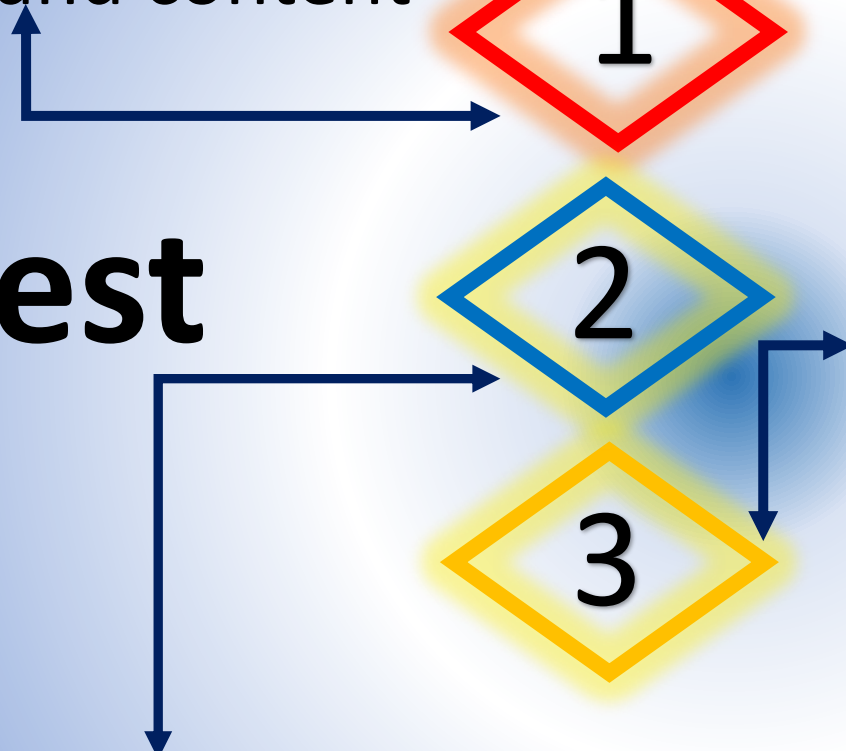
Rest



Sheep only surely rest
when they have both the
required food and water



Sheep when they
lie down ruminates

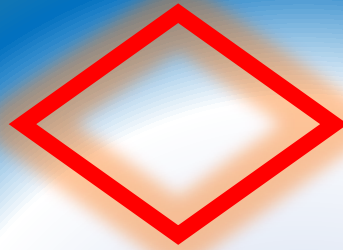




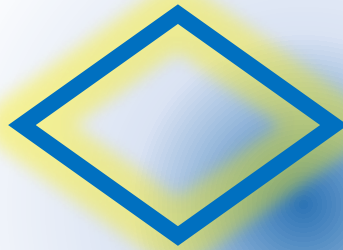
A picture
of good
news

Good News

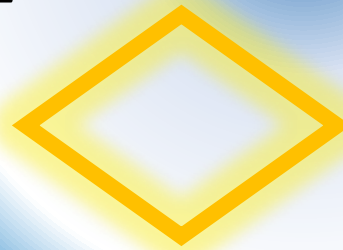
Hebrews 3:1-11



Christians called to



- hold fast their confidence

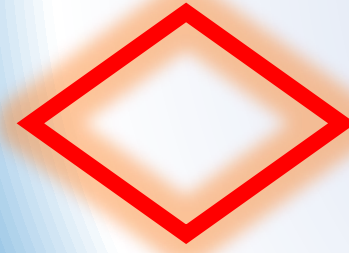


-Stand firm until the end

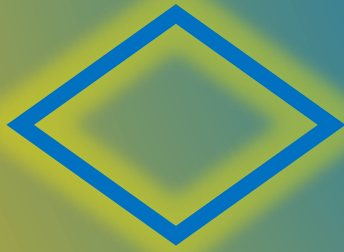


A picture of
Preparation

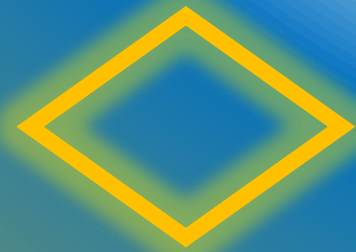
Days of plenty never last



(life's rhythms)



- Bears need to hibernate



- Sheep must endure long hard winters

1 Timothy 4:2



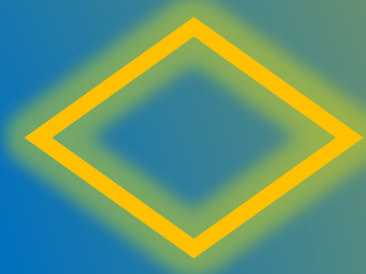
1

- Bears need to hibernate
So be ready in season and out



2

- A soldier never leaves it till on the front line to get His kit on and arm himself, He prepares before



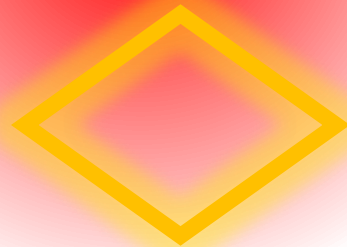
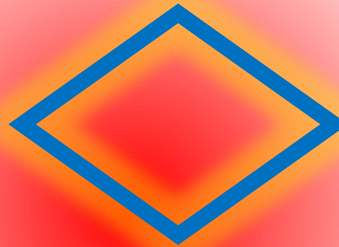
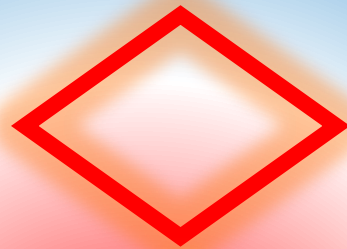


A picture of
meditation

Joshua 1:8

Ruminare

Psalm 119:11



Is not to be empty but to chew over information

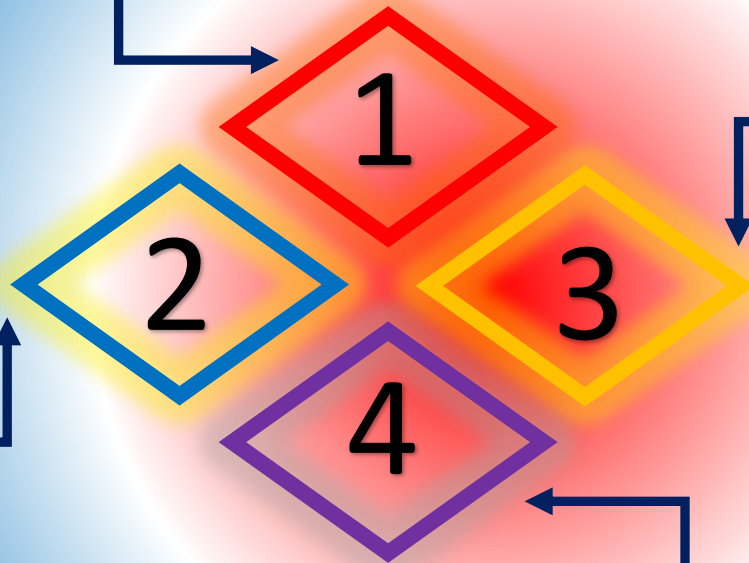
To ruminare **Truth** already eaten

Appreciation

– of God worship and praise

Cognition

– True understanding of Gods Word



Interpretation

– The true meaning of Gods Word

Application

- True action resulting from Gods Word



He restores my soul

Psalm 23:3a

Sermon 3



Necessary Restoration

- a. Because of the tragedy of the fall (brokenness)
- b. Because of wear and tear (Time, age, rot and rust)

1. Potential

- The Lord does not look on us as what we are but what we will be

2. Purpose

– When we are restored we discover our original purpose (Reason)

3. Possibilities

– In Christ's strength having been restored the future looks good.



He guides me in the paths of righteousness

Psalm 23:3b

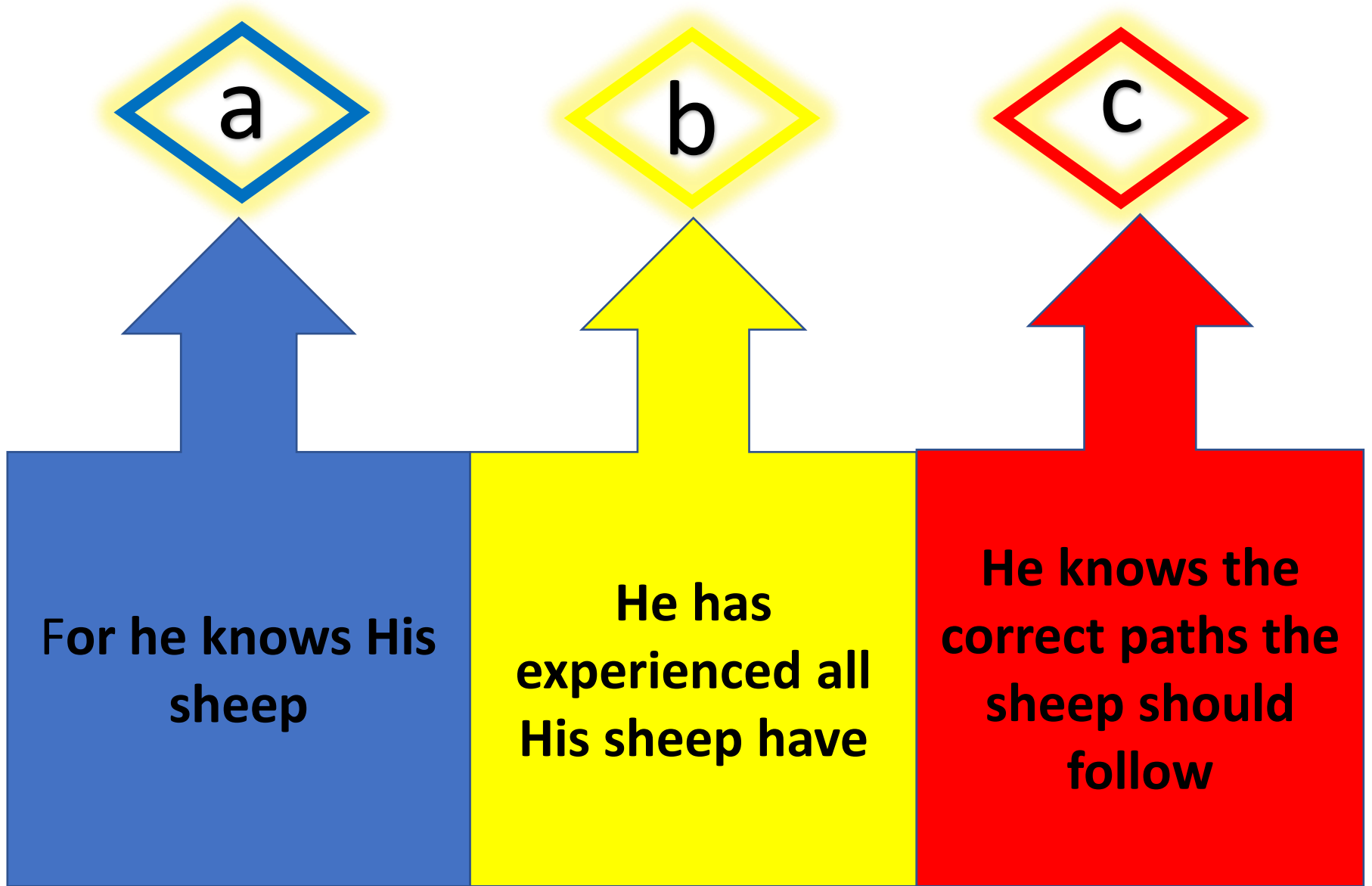
Sermon 4



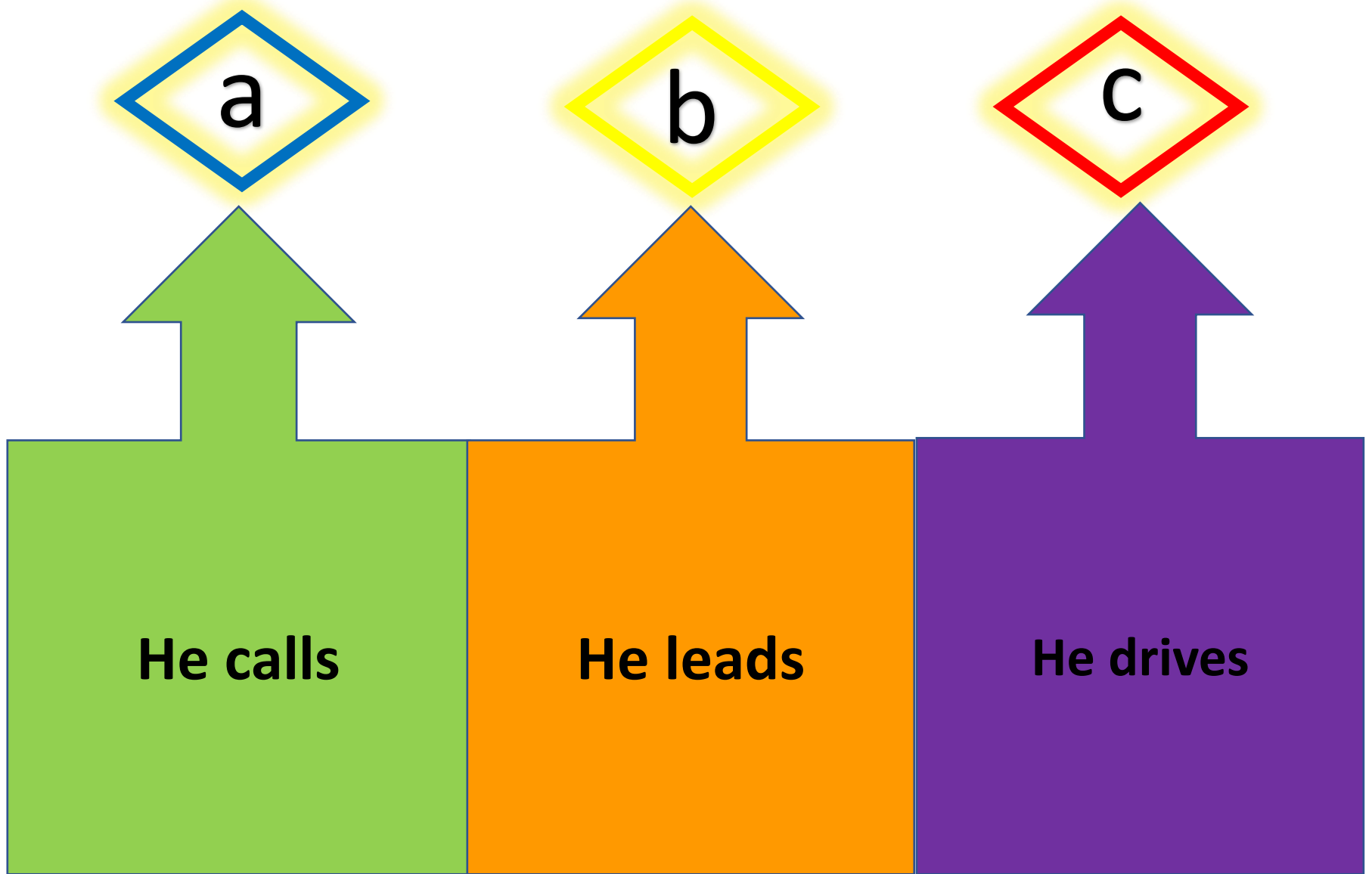
Wise Guidance



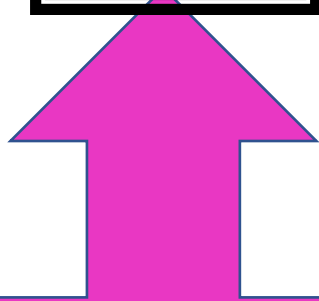
1. By a qualified guide



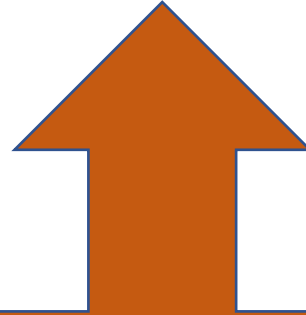
2. By a careful and actively involved guide



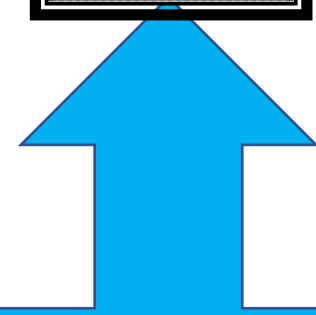
3. Because there are many Hazards out there



Internal hazards
(our own hearts)



Intrinsic hazards
(Because of the times and culture)



Inherent hazards
(Constant difficulties in a fallen world)

SO

Watch Out

– For immediate dangers

Wake Up

– He who snoozes loses

Walk On

– The shepherd knows best



for His name sake

Psalm 23:3c

Sermon 5



For His name sake



Demonstrates

1. An inseparable relationship between the paths taken by the sheep and Gods Honour

For His name sake



Demonstrates

2. Not just an inseparable relationship between the knowledge about God but the actual paths taken and knowledge of God (i.e. Paths are for walking not talking about)

For His name sake



Demonstrates

3. A desire at the deepest level of their being to live for Gods glory not their own

SO Take Care Because

1. The flock of God acts as a window through which others catch glimpse into the character and attributes of the Shepherd

SO Take Care Because

2. There is always a temptation present to limit our Christian experience to “Just on academic exercise.”

SO Take Care Because

3. There is a sinful tendency in all of us to either minimize sin, or excuse sin in ourselves and by doing so denying the proper glory and honour due to the Shepherd



Even though I
walk through
the valley of the
shadow of death
I fear no evil for
You are with me

Psalm 23:4a

Sermon 6

Sermon 7





The valleys of life



1. Often follow hard on the heels of good times
 - life rhythms
 - change is a given



2. Come in various shapes and sizes

- Natural vicissitudes (beyond our control)
- Manufactured vicissitudes (of our own making)
- Short, long, deep, shallow



3. Tend to obscure our vision of the wider picture of life

- occupying our immediate attention
- disabling our peripheral vision



4. Are part of the paths of righteousness for everyone believers included



We Should
learn then:



1. That the
valleys
foster and
nurture
humility in
the sheep



2. That the valleys are conducive to building more faith and trust in the Shepherd by the sheep.



3. The valleys help us to appreciate our weaknesses and dependence on the Shepherd



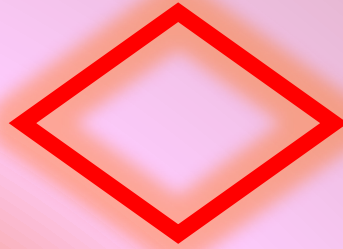
4. The valleys aid the sheep to be “World defying” as well as “Eternally aspiring”



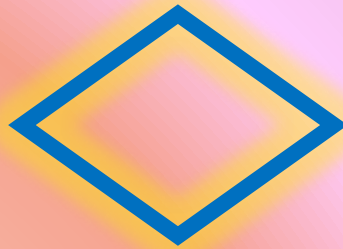
5. The valleys of life are often places where we are vulnerable to predators



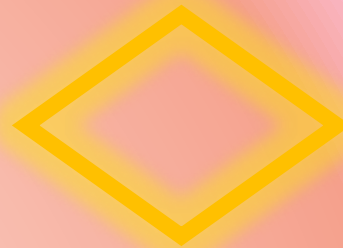
Three enemies



1. Our own hearts

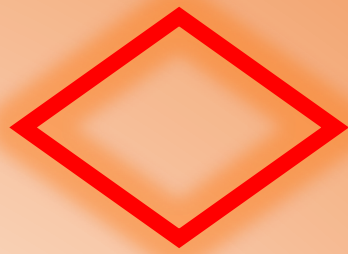


2. The world

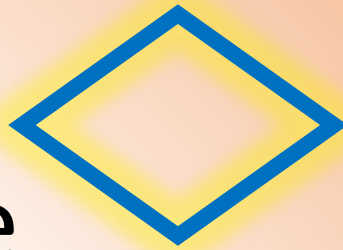


3. The Devil himself

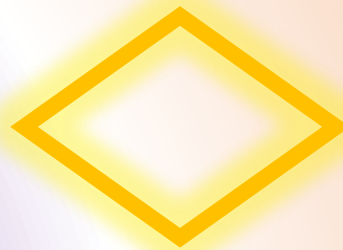
Evil
enemies are
manifested
through



1. Argument (Denial of depravity)



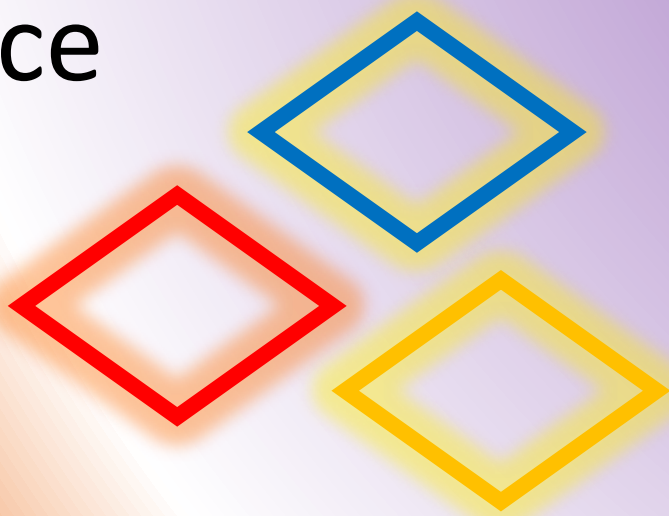
2. Accusation (You try but you always die)



3. Attack
(Propaganda and poison redefining the truth)

The
Sheep's
defence

The presence of the
shepherd



The equipping and
arming of the
sheep by the
shepherd



Your rod and
Your staff
they comfort
me

Psalm 23:4b

Sermon 8



The multi tool of the Shepherds trade used to:



Defend the sheep (from predators)

Dividing the Sheep (Good, bad, fat, thin, sheep, goat)



Discipline the sheep (Spare the rod spoil the sheep)

Deliver the sheep (catch and return)

Because of:

His preservation
of His sheep

His intention for His
sheep (Holiness)



His love for His
sheep

His care for His
sheep

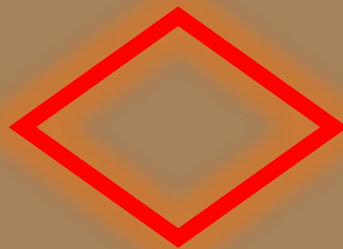


You prepare a
table before
me in the
presence of my
enemies

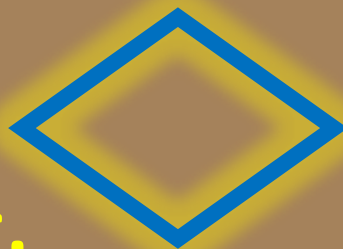
Psalm 23:5a

Sermon 9

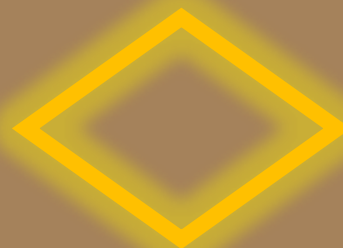




Compassion



Communion



Celebration

A Table of:



You have
anointed my
head with
oil

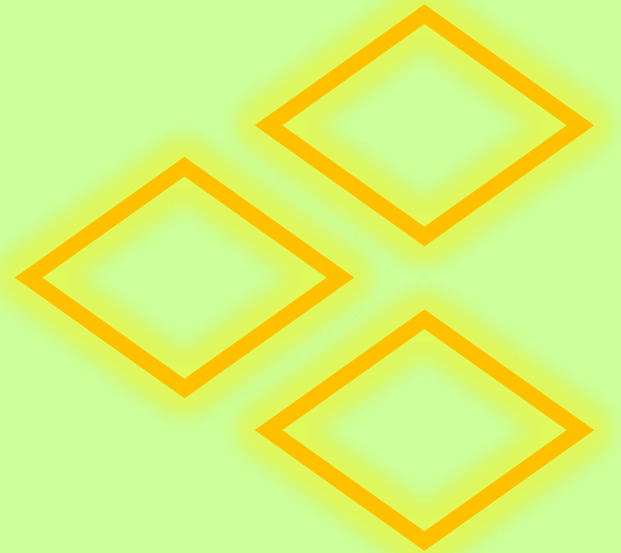
Psalm 23:5b

Sermon 10



Because He:

- a. loves them and values them
- b. desires them to be at their best
- c. wants them to never forget such a memorable experience





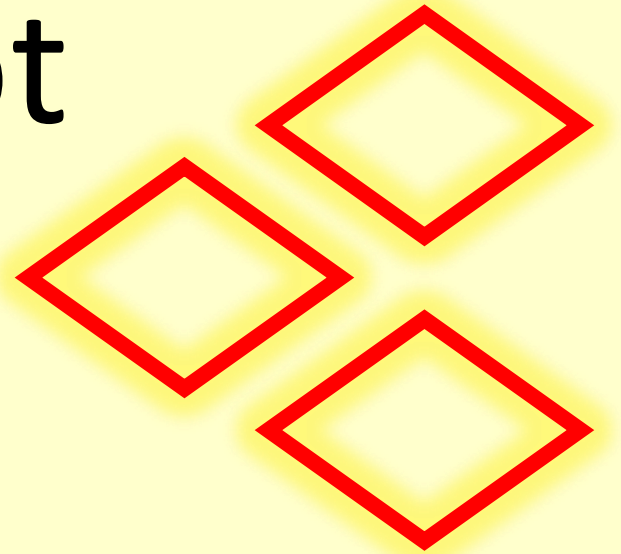
My cup overflows

Psalm 23:5c

Sermon 11

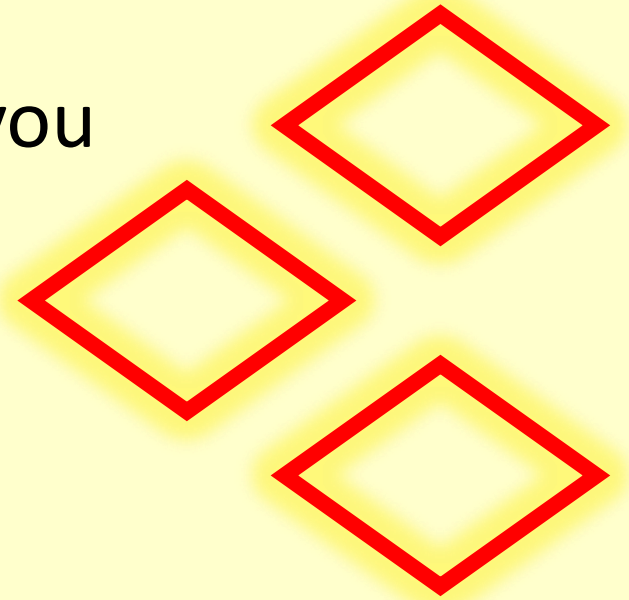


The best wine
served in
abundance, our
shepherd is not
stingy.



SO:

1. Be watchful (Pride is never far from plenty)
2. Be not wasteful (Good sheep are good stewards)
3. Be waiting (Serve others as you have been served)
4. Be worshipful (A heart of praise seldom goes hard)





Surely
goodness and
lovingkindness
will follow me
all the days of
my life

Psalm 23:6a

Sermon 12





Time to reflect
on:

The shepherds
goodness towards the
sheep

On the shepherds love and mercy for the sheep

On the shepherds promise to always be present
with the sheep

On the future prospects the Shepherd has for
His sheep



And I will
dwell in the
house of the
Lord forever

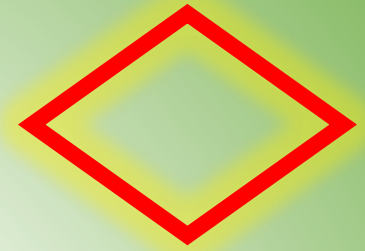
Psalm 23:6b

Sermon 13

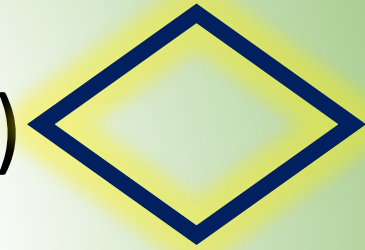


So reflecting involves:

1. Remembering (Past providences)



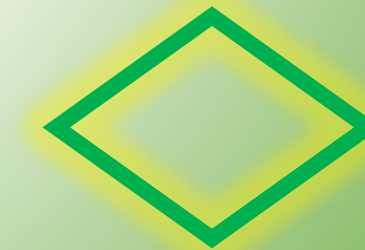
2. Appreciating (Current situations)

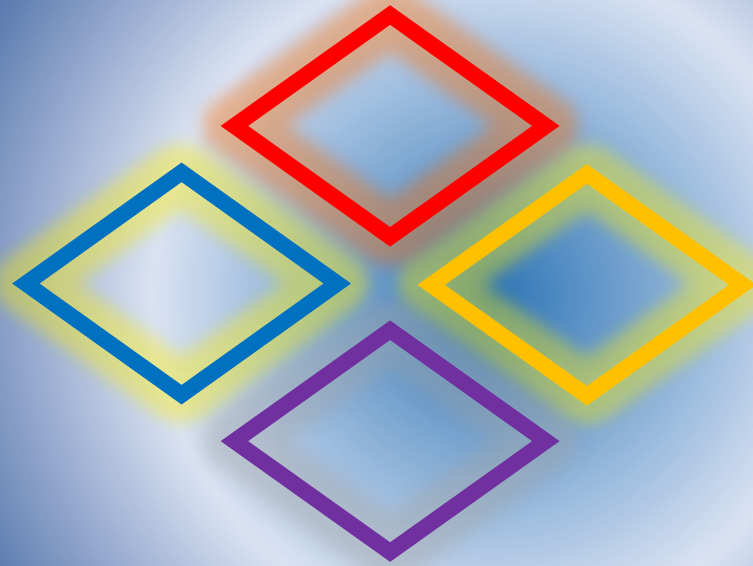


3. Anticipating (future possibilities)



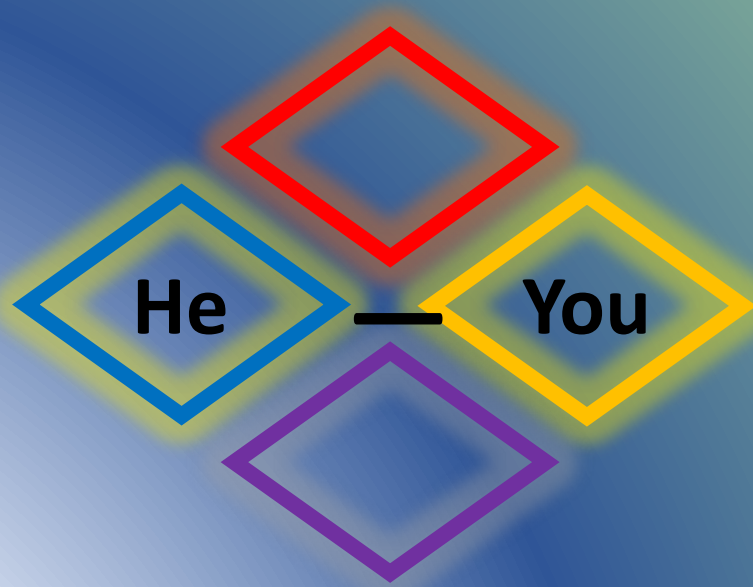
3. Anticipating (future possibilities)



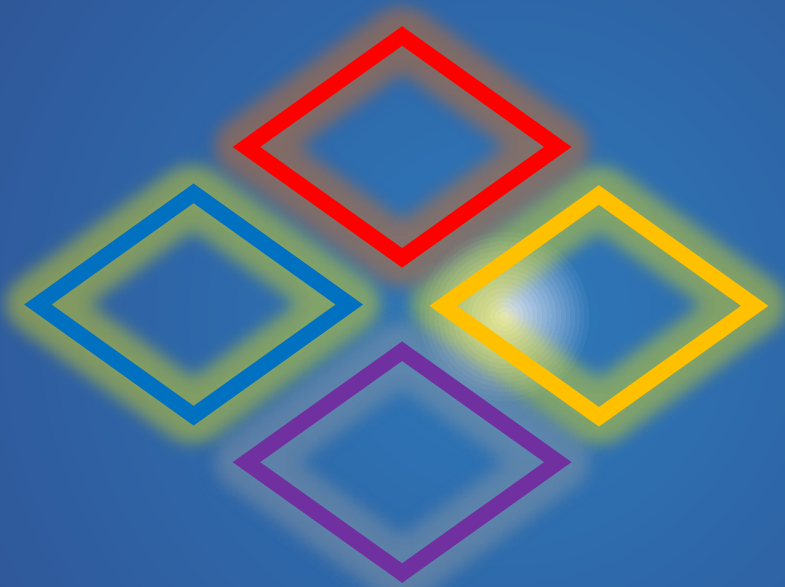


Some further observations

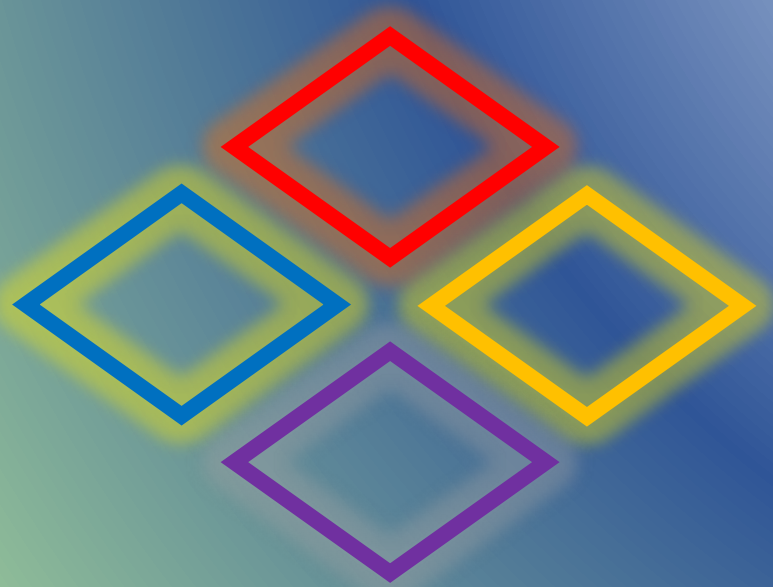
The transition which occurs from the beginning to the end from non-personal to Personal



The transition from metaphor to actual



From sacrificial lamb to sacrificial shepherd



- Necessary for eternal presence to be realized