

A GOOD YEAR? IT DEPENDS.

Psalm 23:3 ³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. (NKJV)

Psalm 51:12 ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. (NIV)

THREE TRUTHS THAT WILL GET YOU RIGHT AND KEEP YOUR RIGHT.

1. _____.

Three kinds of sheep that need to be restored.

a. *The stubborn sheep.*

Isaiah 53:6 ⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (NIV)

b. *The straying sheep.*

c. *The sick sheep.*

Three tools God uses to restore his sheep to his fold.

- *a rod*
- *a staff*
- *a bottle of oil.*

Hosea 6:1 "Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. (NIV)

Hebrews 11:21 ²¹ By faith Jacob worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff. (NIV-paraphrased)

Hebrews 12:5-11 ⁵ "My son, do not despise the chastening (shaming) of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; ⁶ For whom the Lord loves, he chastens and scourges every one whom he receives. ⁷ And if you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? ⁸ But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. ⁹ Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. ¹¹ Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (NKJV)

When God's chastisement comes a stubborn sheep will,

a. *Resent it. Hebrews 12:5*

Why it's foolish to resent the correction of the Lord.

- *It reveals that you're a child of God. Hebrews 12:6*
- *It renews your worship. Hebrews 12:9-10*
- *It restores our fellowship. Hebrews 12:11*

b. *Faint under it. Hebrews 12:5*

c. *Be strengthened by it. Hebrews 12:11*

How does the shepherd deal with the stubborn sheep? THE ROD

Psalm 23:4 ³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. (NKJV)

How does the shepherd deal with the straying sheep? THE STAFF

Psalm 40:2 ² He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire.
He set my feet on solid ground and steadied me as I walked along. (NLT)

How does the shepherd deal with the sick sheep? THE OIL

Psalm 23:4a ³ He restores my soul. (NKJV)

2. _____.

Psalm 23:3 ³ He leads me into the paths of righteousness. (NKJV)

Luke 7:43-47 Those who've been forgiven of much ought to love much. (paraphrased)

John 10:23 ²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

Three things are necessary to follow the shepherd.

- You've got to be obsessed with the shepherd.
- You have to observe the shepherd.
- You have to obey the shepherd.

John 6:63 The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life.

John 10:10 I've come that ye might have life and have it abundantly.

3. _____.

Psalm 23:3 ³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. (NKJV)

Psalm 23:1a The Lord is my shepherd. (NIV)

Matthew 6:9 Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Song of Solomon 1:3 His name is like ointment poured forth.

Matthew 1:21 Thou shalt call his name Jesus (Jehovah) for he shall save his people from their sins. (NKJV)

John 10:10 I am the Good Shepard.

Proverbs 22:1 A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches.

Psalm 23:4 He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.