

# SBAOC Weekly Update

## NEWS & PRAYER REQUESTS

*If you have any news, prayer requests, or events that you would like to have included in this update, please email the information to [spurgeonassociation@gmail.com](mailto:spurgeonassociation@gmail.com) or call us at 785-456-8513.*

## THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; I SHALL NOT WANT

by Sinclair B. Ferguson

It was many years before I could say, “I love Psalm 23.” I can still see the cover of my child’s storybook version. There stands David, ruby cheeks and curly hair, shepherd’s crook beside him, spotless sheep nearby. He was the model child—everything I was not. This perfect boy condemned me.

It took more than twenty years and some major sorrows before the key turned in the lock. That boy did not write this psalm. The David of Psalm 23 needed soul restoration (v. 3): he had visited “the valley of the shadow of death”; he faced “evil” (v. 4); he had enemies (v. 5). This was a well-tested believer speaking from long experience with God. His confidence about the future was based on experiences in the past.

But David was not staking everything simply on his own experience. He is not the first person in the Bible to say, “The Lord is my shepherd.” He was simply applying to himself something he had learned from Jacob.

Genesis 48:15–16 records the moving scene at the end of Jacob’s life when he blesses Joseph and his two sons:

*The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day, the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the boys.*

Jacob had not been the easiest of sheep. Even after his encounter with the angel at Jabbok, he needed more untwisting. His sad repetition of his parents’ folly of having favorite children led to family dysfunction, jealousy, sin, and sorrow. But now he looked back with clear vision and marveled at the way the Shepherd had pursued and preserved him, hurt him only to protect him, and

*(Continued on page 2)*



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Lord Is My Shepherd; I Shall Not Want .....	2
Comments on our Purpose Statement .....	2
Upcoming Events .....	2
Contact Us .....	3
Pulpit Supply .....	3
Prayer Meetings .....	3

### PURPOSE STATEMENT:

We unite as an association of Southern Baptist churches in order to manifest the glory of God above all. We purpose to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. We covenant to strengthen and support one another, motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

*“If there is no church... should you not commence one?” C. H. Spurgeon*

## COMMENTS ON OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

We unite as an association of Southern Baptist churches in order to manifest the glory of God above all. We purpose to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. We covenant to strengthen and support one another, motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

*"If we indulge in the use of dark sentences in our speaking to God, we might as well pray in an unknown tongue, which was so much disapproved by the apostle. 1 Cor. 14:9. Let not the pomp and sound of any hard Hebrew names or obscure phrase in Scripture allure us to be fond of them in social prayer, even though we ourselves should know the meaning of them, lest we confound the thoughts of our fellow worshipers."*

Isaac Watts

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

**KNCSB Annual Meeting**—October 8-9 in Pratt, KS. Website: [kncsb.org/annual-meeting/](http://kncsb.org/annual-meeting/)

**Reformation Weekend**—October 26-28. Trinity Baptist Church, Wamego, Kansas. The SBAOC annual meeting will be held on Saturday, October 27, in conjunction with this conference. Speakers for this conference will be announced soon. For more information email Tony Mattia at [surgeonassociation@gmail.com](mailto:surgeonassociation@gmail.com).

(Continued from page 1)

brought about so much good. His son Joseph had already seen that (45:5–8), and he would later confirm it: what others meant for evil, God meant for good (50:20)—the Old Testament version of Romans 8:28.

David had learned that what was true for Jacob was also true for him. And without mentioning any specific situations in his own life, he describes the Lord's shepherding in a way that shows how applicable it is to every situation in our lives as well.

When you know that the Lord is your Shepherd, you can be confident you will lack nothing. Elsewhere, David records that even in old age he had never "seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread" (Ps. 37:25).

The verb David uses ("not want"/"lack nothing") occurs elsewhere. During the wilderness wanderings, the people "had no lack" (Ex. 16:18). Moses could say: "These forty years the Lord your God has been with you. You have lacked nothing" (Deut. 2:7). God promised the same would be true in the land He was giving to them (8:9). He had made provision for this in the law concerning gleaning (Lev. 19:9–10).

Thus, David was probably also thinking of how Yahweh had led the multitude through the wilderness (Pss. 77:20; 78:32) and had proved Himself to be the "Shepherd of Israel" (80:1). If Yahweh could sustain that enormous flock, David concluded, then surely He could provide for one sheep. And now the Lord had vindicated his faith by meeting all his needs.

What looks at first like a shepherd's lessons from shepherding turns out to be the confidence of a believer based on the truth of the Word of God and the revelation of His character. Perhaps this is less David the pastor thinking of caring for sheep and more David the expositor applying God's Word to himself. He thus came to share the faith of Jacob and to experience the sovereign provision of the God of the exodus.

Jesus saw depths of meaning in these words; He must have sung them with joy. He looked back to His fathers Jacob and David and like them trusted His Father to provide all His needs. Indeed, as He explained to His puzzled disciples, His Father provided His nourishment: "I have food to eat that you do not know about. . . . My food is to do the will of him who sent me" (John 4:32, 34).

But Jesus must also have read Psalm 23 with a deep sense of burden. For He knew that, ultimately, He Himself was "the good shepherd" who "lays down his life for the sheep" (10:11, 14). What Jacob and David saw only dimly, Jesus saw clearly. The Shepherd must suffer for His sheep.

As the Good Shepherd, Jesus would take the place of His sheep and be led to the slaughter (Isa. 53:7). For them He would be smitten (Zech. 13:7; see Matt. 26:31). He would give everything of Himself to provide everything for us. The implication? Since He was not spared but delivered up for us all, we can be sure He will give us everything we need (Rom. 8:32).

This is what a Christian means by saying, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

\*\*\*\*\*

Dr. Sinclair B. Ferguson is a Ligonier Ministries teaching fellow and Chancellor's Professor of Systematic Theology at Reformed Theological Seminary. He previously served as senior minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, S.C., and he has written more than two dozen books, including *The Whole Christ*.

<https://tabletalkmagazine.com/article/2018/08/the-lord-is-my-shepherd-i-shall-not-want/>

**SPURGEON  
BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION  
OF CHURCHES**

**PO Box 155  
Wamego KS 66547**

Phone: (785) 456-8513

Email:  
spurgeonassociation@gmail.com

**Contact Us:**

**Administrative Council:**

J.W. Glidewell,  
Moderator  
Phone: (785) 772-1176  
jwglidewell@gmail.com

Tony Mattia  
Corresponding Secretary  
Trinity Baptist Church  
Wamego, Kansas  
Phone: (785) 456-3796  
spurgeonassociation@gmail.com

Ken Jorgenson, At Large  
kjorg@hotmail.com

Robin Jackson, At Large  
jacksonrobin@gmail.com

Bill Ascol, At Large  
bascol@sbcglobal.net

Paul Walker, At Large  
pastorpaul@elmavenuebaptist.org



[WWW.SBAOC.ORG](http://WWW.SBAOC.ORG)

**MEN AVAILABLE FOR PULPIT SUPPLY**

Kevin Berens  
Colby, Kansas  
Email: berens.kevin@gmail.com  
Cell Phone: 785-332-7184

Nathaniel Penland  
Lawrenceville, Georgia  
Email: n8penland@gmail.com  
Phone: 678-925-7024

Tim Lambert  
Lindsborg, Kansas  
Email: tlambert@smokyvalley.org  
Phone: 785-614-3651

Bake Ottogy  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Email: bakeottogy@gmail.com  
Phone: 636-467-7446

Brad Richardson  
Lawrence, Kansas  
Email: richbud@hotmail.com  
Phone: 785-766-7268

John Grove  
Ocala, FL  
Email: trsjwg@gmail.com  
Phone: 352-286-5494

**PRAYER MEETINGS FOR SPIRITUAL  
AWAKENING AND REVIVAL**

- Fellowship Baptist Church in Onaga, Kansas—5:00 pm on Sundays
- Trinity Baptist Church in Wamego, Kansas—8:00 pm on Saturdays

*The Spurgeon Baptist Association of Churches is an association of Southern Baptist Churches that are united to manifest the glory of God above all. We set out to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. As an association of churches we are bound in mutual covenant to strengthen and support one another - motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture - by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.*

*We are a non-geographic association seeking to include any like-minded body of believers so that together we might better fulfill the great commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our intent is to lean on His instruction and not our imaginations so that He is honored in all that we do. We welcome churches who adhere to the confessions of faith accepted by Southern Baptists throughout their history, including, but not limited to, the Second London Confession (1689) and the Baptist Faith and Message.*



Baptist Association of Churches