

The Lord is My Shepherd **[Psalm 23]**

Background Scripture: *I Am the good Shepherd: the good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep. I Am the good Shepherd, and know My sheep, and am known of Mine.*

[John 10:11, 14]

Qualification for Shepherds

Old Testament

[Numbers 27:15-19]: *And Moses spoke unto the Lord, saying, Let the Lord, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the Lord be not as sheep which have no shepherd. And the Lord said unto Moses, take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay thine hands upon him; and set him before Eleazar the priests, and before all the congregation; and give him charge in their sight.*

Note: Joshua was already filled with the Holy Spirit. The Hebrew does not have the ability to capitalize letters. Most Scholars recognize that “the spirit” here is the Holy Spirit.

Among Joshua’s many qualifications for leadership, the greatest was that he was Spirit-led. As a man who was anointed and who had proven himself open to being led by the Spirit of the Lord, he was preeminently qualified to be commissioned (vs.19) and invested with authority (vs.20) for leading the people.

New Testament

[Acts 20:28]: *Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood.*

Note: No church can function without designated leaders. Thus, as **(Act 14:23)** indicates, certain individuals were appointed to the office of Elder, or Overseer (or Bishop) by Paul and Barnabas, Spirit-filled missionaries (Modern day Evangelist)) who sought God’s will through prayer and fasting in accordance with the spiritual qualifications, which were later set down by the Holy Spirit in **(I Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9)**. Ultimately, therefore, it is the Spirit who makes someone an overseer of the church.

[Psalm 23]

Final Thought: *And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fades not away. [I Peter 5:4].*