### The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, July 2, 2017 "He Is...The Hebrew Names of God ~ Jehovah Rohi" John 10:1-19

"A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold." (Proverbs 22:1)

The Hebrews were \_\_\_\_\_\_ people, wondering from place to place, seeking pasture for their herds of sheep, goats, and cattle. To sustain their livelihood, it was vital for shepherds to keep their animals from straying; \_\_\_\_\_\_ them from thieves and wild animals; and \_\_\_\_\_\_ them with plentiful pastures and clean water.

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want." (Psalm 23:1)

God is the One who \_\_\_\_\_, protects, provides, and \_\_\_\_\_ for His people–like a shepherd for his sheep.

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father." (John 10:11)

As God's Son, Jesus takes on the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jehovah-Rohi, and calls Himself the "\_\_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd."

He does this in direct contrast to the \_\_\_\_\_\_ and other religious leaders, who knew nothing about what it meant to \_\_\_\_\_\_ for God's people.

Jesus responds to their \_\_\_\_\_\_ and spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_ by accusing them of failing to \_\_\_\_\_\_ God's people–failing to provide for their safety and security.

"A <u>hired hand will run</u> when he sees a wolf coming. He <u>will abandon</u> the sheep because they don't belong to him and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. The <u>hired hand runs away</u> because he's working only for the money and <u>doesn't really care about the sheep</u>." (Jn 10:12-13)

"You shepherds of <u>Israel-should not shepherds feed the sheep</u>? You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. Therefore you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord, <u>I am against the shepherds</u>." (Ezekiel 34:1-10)

If Jesus is the shepherd in John 10, then we are the \_\_\_\_\_.

"For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand." (Psalm 95:7)

#### **3 REASONS WHY THIS IS A GOOD IMAGE**

It puts us in our proper \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
It reminds us that Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and we are the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
It reminds us how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we are on Him.
Sheep are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ animals, and so are we. We all get knocked down in life; we all have hardships; we all experience fear; and we all fall \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to something bigger than ourselves.
It reminds us that we need \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
Sheep are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ animals, and so are we. We all need a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
Sheep are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ animals, and so are we. We all need a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
And we all need a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. –family and community–where we find love and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
It reminds us that we are easily \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, We may think we're in charge and make all our own \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the

reality is, we can be highly influenced by other \_\_\_\_\_ and the

\_\_\_\_\_around us.

#### JESUS OUR GOOD SHEPHERD

#1. Jesus, our Good Shepherd \_\_\_\_\_us.

"The gatekeeper opens the gate for the shepherd, and the sheep hear his voice. <u>He calls his own sheep by name</u> and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." (John 10:3)

Jesus calls us by \_\_\_\_\_; his voice is \_\_\_\_\_; and we need to

\_\_\_\_\_·

Jesus calls us by name because He \_\_\_\_\_us by name–He knows us \_\_\_\_\_because He created us.

## "My sheep <u>hear my voice</u>. I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27) How well do you know the Good Shepherd's voice? How well do you hear it?

 #2. Jesus, our Good Shepherd \_\_\_\_\_\_us.

 Jesus clears up the \_\_\_\_\_\_and offers us \_\_\_\_\_\_for our everyday lives.

"When He's brought His own out, <u>He goes on ahead of them and His sheep</u> follow Him because they know His voice." (John 10:4)

Notice, it says the shepherd \_\_\_\_\_\_ the sheep, He doesn't \_\_\_\_\_\_ them, or walk alongside them. Jesus is always with us, however, He's the One out in \_\_\_\_\_\_, leading us forward–not the other way around.

We can follow the Good Shepherd with \_\_\_\_\_\_ that there's no situation we will encounter in life that Jesus hasn't already \_\_\_\_\_\_.

"This High Priest of ours <u>understands our weaknesses</u>, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin." (Hebrews 4:15)

Jesus came to earth to experience everything that we experience–He's already been there and done that–so He not only \_\_\_\_\_\_ with us and offers us comfort and strength, He can also show us the \_\_\_\_\_\_ through.

## **3 TOOLS THE SHEPHERD USES TO LEAD US**

• A \_\_\_\_\_ was used to defend the sheep against an attacker. It was also used to keep the sheep from \_\_\_\_\_.

Has God ever done that for you-you were wondering away and He sent a rock ahead to warn you.

• A \_\_\_\_\_ with a spiked end was also used to defend the sheep against \_\_\_\_\_.

"<u>Greater is He who is in us</u> than He who is in the world." (1John 4:4)

• A \_\_\_\_\_\_ to guide the sheep. Every moment of our lives, Jesus is checking us over, taking note of our hurt and pain, so that He can bring \_\_\_\_\_\_

# and \_\_\_\_\_. Who is out front in your life: you or the Good Shepherd? How closely are you following Him?

 #3. Jesus, our Good Shepherd \_\_\_\_\_\_ His life for us.

 In John 10:7-9, Jesus uses a the metaphor of a \_\_\_\_\_\_ to describe His relationship to the sheep.

"I tell you the truth, <u>I am the gate for the sheep</u>. All who came before me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. Yes, I am the gate. <u>Those who come in through me will be saved</u>. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures." (John 10:7-9)

"I am the good shepherd. <u>The good shepherd lays down His life</u> for the sheep." (John 10:11)

Jesus meant this \_\_\_\_\_\_. He didn't just lie down to provide a protective \_\_\_\_\_\_ for the sheepfold. He laid down His very \_\_\_\_\_\_ on the cross, to show us the kind of shepherd He really is.

"Here is the <u>Lamb of God</u> who takes away the sin of the wold!" (John 1:29) Who are you going to follow? Who are you going to trust as your shepherd?