

<p>I. Psalms 22 through 24 are a group of psalms revealing Christ from His crucifixion through His shepherding to His kingship in the coming age: <u>Psalms22:22</u> I will declare Your name to my brothers; In the midst of the assembly I will praise You. <u>23:1</u> ☩ Jehovah is my Shepherd; I will lack nothing. <u>24:9</u> Lift up your heads, O gates; And lift up, O long enduring doors; And the King of glory will come in. <u>10</u> Who is this King of glory? Jehovah of hosts-He is the King of glory!</p>	<p>A. Psalm 23, which concerns Christ as the Shepherd in His resurrection and ascension, is the bridge between Christ's redeeming death and His church-producing resurrection in Psalm 22 and Christ's coming back as the King, who will regain the entire earth through the church as His Body in Psalm 24.</p> <p>B. In His heavenly ministry Christ is shepherding people, and we need to cooperate with Him by shepherding people; if this fellowship is received by us, there will be a big revival on the earth to bring the Lord back.</p>
<p>II. John 21 reveals the apostolic ministry in cooperation with Christ's heavenly ministry; it is the completion and consummation of the Gospel of John:</p>	<p>A. The Gospel of John has twenty-one chapters, but it actually ends with chapter 20.</p> <p>B. The entire book covers the earthly ministry of Christ, beginning with His incarnation as the Word of God to become a man in the flesh and ending with His resurrection as the last Adam to become the life-giving Spirit; hence, chapter 21 should be an appendix.</p> <p>C. Although it is correct to say this, it is more intrinsic to say that John 21 is the completion and consummation of the Gospel of John; it consummates the entire Gospel of John by showing that Christ's heavenly ministry and the apostles' ministry on the earth cooperate together to carry out God's economy.</p>
<p>III. In John 10:10-11 and 16 the Lord unveiled to the disciples that He was the good Shepherd who came that the sheep might have life abundantly and that He had other sheep (the Gentiles) which He must lead to join with them (the Jewish believers) to be one flock (one church) under one Shepherd: <u>John10:10</u> The thief does not come except to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and may have it abundantly. <u>11</u> I am the good Shepherd; the good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. <u>16</u> And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must lead them also, and they shall hear My voice, and there shall be one flock, one Shepherd.</p>	<p>A. The Lord's shepherding was firstly in His earthly ministry—<u>Matthew9:36</u> And seeing the crowds, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were harassed and cast away like sheep not having a shepherd.</p> <p>B. The Lord's shepherding is secondly in His heavenly ministry to take care of the church of God, issuing in His Body. <u>1Peter5:4</u> And when the Chief Shepherd is manifested, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.</p>
<p>IV. The Lord commissioned Peter to feed His lambs and shepherd His sheep:</p>	<p>A. When the Lord stayed with His disciples after His resurrection and before His ascension, in one of His appearances, He commissioned Peter to feed His lambs and shepherd His sheep in His absence, while He is in the heavens— <u>John 21:15</u> Then when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You. He said to him, Feed My lambs. <u>16</u> He said to him again a second time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You. He said to him, Shepherd My sheep. <u>17</u> He said to him the third time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me? Peter was grieved that He said to him the third time, Do you love Me? And he said to Him, Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You. Jesus said to him, Feed My sheep.</p> <p>B. This is to incorporate the apostolic ministry with Christ's heavenly ministry to take care of God's flock, which is the church that issues in the Body of Christ.</p> <p>C. Later, in the book of Acts, Peter said, "We will continue steadfastly in prayer and in the ministry of the word"; this is to cooperate with Christ's heavenly ministry of intercession and of ministering God into His people. <u>Acts 6:4</u> But we will continue steadfastly in prayer and in the ministry of the word.</p> <p>D. Peter was so impressed with this commission of the Lord that in his first book he told the believers that they were like sheep being led astray, but they had now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of their souls— <u>1Peter 2:25</u> For you were like sheep being led astray, but you have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.</p> <p>E. Peter exhorts the elders to shepherd the flock of God among them so that when the Chief Shepherd is manifested, they, the faithful elders, will receive the unfading crown of glory— <u>1Peter 5:2</u> Shepherd the flock of God among you, overseeing not under compulsion but willingly, according to God; not by seeking gain through base means but eagerly; <u>3</u> Nor as lording it over your allotments but by becoming patterns of the flock.</p> <p>F. Peter's word indicates that the heavenly ministry of Christ is mainly to shepherd the church of God as His flock, which issues in His Body.</p>
<p>V. The following words of the apostle Paul also show the incorporation of the apostolic ministry with Christ's heavenly ministry to take care of God's flock:</p>	<p>A. In Acts 20:28 Paul told the elders in Ephesus, "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among whom the Holy Spirit has placed you as overseers to shepherd the church of God, which He obtained [or purchased] through His own blood." <u>Acts 20:28</u> Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among whom the Holy Spirit has placed you as overseers to shepherd the church of God, which He obtained through His own blood.</p> <p>B. Paul said, "I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock"; the apostle did not care for his own life, but he was very concerned for the future of the church, which was a treasure to him and to God.</p> <p>C. Paul says in Hebrews 13:20, "God...brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, in the blood of an eternal covenant": <u>Hebrews 13:20</u> Now the God of peace, He who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, in the blood of an eternal covenant,</p> <p>1. The eternal covenant is the covenant of the new testament to gain a flock, which is the church issuing in the Body and consummating the New Jerusalem; the eternal covenant of God is to consummate the New Jerusalem by the shepherding.</p> <p>2. God raised up our Lord from the dead to be the great Shepherd to consummate the New Jerusalem according to God's eternal covenant.</p>

<p>VI. The main purpose and goal of the apostolic ministry incorporated with Christ's heavenly ministry are to build up the Body of Christ, which will consummate the New Jerusalem for the accomplishment of the eternal economy of God— <u>Ephesians 3:2</u> If indeed you have heard of the stewardship of the grace of God which was given to me for you, <u>8</u> To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel, <u>9</u> And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things, <u>1Peter 5:10</u> But the God of all grace, He who has called you into His eternal glory in Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself perfect, establish, strengthen, and ground you.</p>			
<p>VII. The matter of shepherding God's flock for the main purpose and ultimate consummation of the eternal economy of God is even referred to in Song of Songs:</p>	A. "Tell me, you whom my soul loves, Where do you pasture your flock [for satisfaction]? / Where do you make it lie down at noon [for rest]?"		
	B. "Go forth on the footsteps of the flock, / And pasture your young goats / By the shepherds' tents"		
	C. "My beloved is mine, and I am his; / He pastures his flock among the lilies [the seekers of Christ who live a life of trusting in God with a single heart]"		
	D. "I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine; / He pastures his flock among the lilies"		
<p>VIII. To shepherd the believers is very crucial for their growth in life; we must take the shepherding way to preach the gospel and revive the church:</p>	A. We should pray, "Lord, I want to be revived; from today I want to be a shepherd; I want to go to feed people, to shepherd people, and to flock people together."		
	B. In John 10 and 21 the Lord used three words concerning shepherding: feed, shepherd, and flock (10:16; 21:15-16); we can also use the word flock as a verb.		
	C. All the churches have to learn how to flock together so that they can be blent together; the elders and co-workers should take the lead to practice this.		
<p>IX. The organic maintenance of the golden lampstand is Christ's heavenly ministry to cherish the churches in His humanity and nourish the churches in His divinity to produce the overcomers through His organic shepherding— <u>Revelation 1:12</u> And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands, <u>13</u> And in the midst of the lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment reaching to the feet, and girded about at the breasts with a golden girdle. <u>2:7</u> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God. <u>John 10:14</u> I am the good Shepherd, and I know My own, and My own know Me,</p>	A. The Son of Man is in His humanity, the golden girdle signifies His divinity, and breasts are a sign of love:	<p>1. Christ was girded at the loins, strengthened for the divine work to produce the churches, but now He is girded about at the breasts, caring for the churches that He has produced by His love.</p> <p>2. The golden girdle signifies Christ's divinity as His divine energy, and the breasts signify that this golden energy is exercised and motivated by and with His love to nourish the churches.</p>	
	B. Christ takes care of the churches in His humanity as the Son of Man to cherish them:	<p>1. He dresses the lamps of the lampstands to make them proper, cherishing us that we may be happy, pleasant, and comfortable: <u>Exodus 30:7</u> And Aaron shall burn on it fragrant incense; every morning when he dresses the lamps he shall burn it. <u>Psalms 42:5</u> Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I will yet praise Him For the salvation of His countenance. <u>42:11</u> Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I will yet praise Him, The salvation of my countenance and my God.</p>	<p>a. The Lord's presence provides an atmosphere of tenderness and warmth to cherish our being, giving us rest, comfort, healing, cleansing, and encouragement.</p> <p>b. We can enjoy the cherishing atmosphere of the Lord's presence in the church to receive the nourishing supply of life: <u>Ephesians 5::29</u> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ also the church, <u>1 Timothy 4:6</u> If you lay these things before the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, being nourished with the words of the faith and of the good teaching which you have closely followed.</p>
		<p>2. He trims the wicks of the lamps of the lampstand, cutting off all the negative things, which frustrate our shining: <u>Exodus 25:37</u> And you shall make its lamps, seven; and set up its lamps to give light to the area in front of it. <u>38</u> And its tongs and its firepans shall be of pure gold.</p>	<p>a. The charred part of the wick, the snuff, signifies things that are not according to God's purpose, which need to be cut off, such as our flesh, our natural man, our self, and our old creation. <u>Exodus 27:21</u> In the Tent of Meeting, outside the veil which is before the testimony, Aaron and his sons shall set it in order from evening to morning before Jehovah; it shall be a perpetual statute to be observed throughout their generations by the children of Israel. <u>30:7</u> ...every morning when he dresses the lamps he shall burn it. ... <u>8</u> nd when Aaron sets up the lamps at twilight,...</p> <p>b. He trims away all the differences among the churches (the wrongdoings, shortages, failures, and defects) so that they may be the same in essence, appearance, and expression— <u>1 Corinthians 1:10</u> Now I beseech you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be attuned in the same mind and in the same opinion <u>Philippians 2:2</u> Make my joy full, that you think the same thing, having the same love, joined in soul, thinking the one thing,</p>
	C. Christ takes care of the churches in His divinity with His divineloove, signified by the golden girdle on His breasts, to nourish the churches:	<p>1. He nourishes us with Himself as the all-inclusive Christ in His full ministry of three stages so that we may grow and mature in the divine life to be His overcomers to accomplish His eternal economy.</p> <p>2. As the walking Christ, He gets to know the condition of each church, and as the speaking Spirit, He trims and fills the lampstands with fresh oil, the supply of the Spirit <u>Revelation 2:1</u> To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: <u>7</u> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.</p> <p>3. To participate in His move and enjoy His care, we must be in the churches.</p>	
	<p>X. Through Christ's wonderful shepherding, we will enjoy Him as our blessings both today and for eternity— <u>Isaiah 49:10</u> They will not hunger or thirst; Neither the scorching heat nor the sun will strike them; For He who has compassion on them will lead them And will guide them beside the springs of water; <u>Revelation 7:17</u> For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and guide them to springs of waters of life; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.</p>		

Experience: ① even with a busy working life, shepherd and cooperate with Christ's heavenly ministry

If all the churches receive this teaching to participate in Christ's wonderful shepherding, there will be a big revival in the recovery...Shepherding and teaching should be like two feet for our move with the Lord. Our shepherding should always be with teaching, and our teaching should always be with shepherding.

John 21 reveals the apostolic ministry in cooperation with Christ's heavenly ministry. In His heavenly ministry Christ is shepherding people, and we need to cooperate with Him by shepherding people. Without shepherding, our work for the Lord cannot be effective. We must learn all the truths so that we may have something to speak and go to contact people to shepherd them.

Shepherding is something divine. In order to be a shepherd, we must be a witness of Christ, a member of Christ, and a brother of Christ, sharing His sonship. Then we will participate in the oracle of the sonship to become a prophet. As a prophet for God's oracle, we will speak for the Lord. Meanwhile, we need to shepherd people. This is the way to be fruitful, to have the multiplication and the increase. If this kind of fellowship is received by us, I believe there will be a big revival on the earth, not by a few spiritual giants but by the many members of Christ's Body being shepherds who follow the steps of the processed Triune God in seeking and gaining fallen people.

The working young saints' model:

The working young saints are the waist of the church, and as they are the core of the company, they bear the responsibilities in executing affairs. Therefore, you need to bear responsibilities both in the church and in the company. You should never think like this, "I shall bear no important responsibilities in the company. I then can carry out the services in the church." This notion is of Satan's maneuvering (Of course, if you are too busy or you cannot have the Lord's Day sanctified, you need to consider changing the job.)

For you, the Business life is for the following four purposes.

- a) to experience and enjoy the all-inclusive Christ as your wisdom, perseverance, insight, strength, and as everything in the actual events of business life
- b) to economically support yourself and your family
- c) to financially support the needs of the church
- d) be a testimony of Jesus in your busyness, preach gospel to your gospel friends who are busy, and shepherd the newcomers

To cherish, care, and Pray for others in your busyness, are the true praying and shepherding. Never think that you can begin with shepherding after retiring. With that kind of thinking, it means you will not be able to shepherd until the retirement age. Instead, you should learn to shepherd in the kind of current situation that is busy and without much time. For this, drip irrigation prayer and shepherding are very effective. You form a group of prayers and pray for one minute every day using Line and/or similar applications. You can also form a group to shepherd, send a 1-minute fellowship for shepherding, a message excerpt, and Bible verses via sentences or voice messages. In this way, a busy business person can also shepherd gospel friends and newcomers who are busy with their lives. Do carry it out from this week.

A brother's testimony: Since I started working at the age of 30, I have busily engaged in the services for the past 27 years. I have thought up various reasons in order to return home early from my work. For example, I will leave early today; because my relatives will come for a visit (brothers and sisters are spiritual relatives, so it is not a lie). Sometimes Satan would attack and say, "Do you think you can keep on using such reason every week"? In a sense it is quite true, but day by day I simply trust in the Lord, for 27 years, the Lord has miraculously helped me to keep such way of living. Thanks unto the Lord. Christian life is not to worry about tomorrow, it is a life experiencing the Lord one day at a time, and it is a life filled with the Lord, a life that advances with the Lord.

Matthew 6:33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things (Food, clothing, shelter) will be added to you. 34 Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself; sufficient for the day is its own evil.

Experience: ② Listen to the Spirit that speaks to the churches, and be the overcomer

Revelation 2:1 To the messenger of the church in Ephesus write: These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: 7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.

The outcome of our High Priest's ministering in the churches is that a number of overcomers are brought forth....We are now under this ministry. Christ is busy walking through the churches and speaking. As He walks through the churches, He speaks to everyone.

His speaking is according to what He is and also according to the condition of the church. In every epistle He begins by saying who and what He is. Then He also speaks in every case according to what the church is. His speaking is both practical and equipping.

Your experience will confirm this. When Christ came and walked through the church in your locality, you were enlightened and rebuked. The walking Christ became the speaking Spirit. Christ is the Spirit. By His speaking you are supplied with the tree of life and the hidden manna. Then you are transformed. Little by little the muddy things are washed away, and you become a white stone, justified, accepted, and approved by God for the building up of His dwelling place, which consummates in the New Jerusalem. Christ today is busy ministering His heavenly priesthood.

Junior high/Senior high students' model:

Brothers and sisters who are junior high and senior high students should enjoy the Lord's shepherding by listening to the words of the Spirit from young ages. The Lord hopes that you will push hard and study diligently for the college entrance exams.

Colossians 1:29 For which also I labor, struggling according to His operation which operates in me in power.

In the future, even if you entered the college or graduate school, even if you got a job, you will be dumped into dustbin unless you push yourself hard. The Lord is walking in between the churches and is shepherding you. The Lord first exposes your ruddy attitude toward your studies and reprimands you. If you amen to this exposure and rebuke, the Lord can supply you with life, transform you, advance you, and can make you a junior high and/or senior high student with testimony.

Matthew 25:15 To one he gave five talents, and to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability. And he went abroad....20 And he who had received the five talents came and brought another five talents, saying, Master, you delivered to me five talents; behold, I have gained another five talents. 21 His master said to him, Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful over a few things; I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master. 22 And he who had received the two talents also came and said, Master, you delivered to me two talents; behold, I have gained another two talents. 23 His master said to him, Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful over a few things; I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master. 24 Then he who had received the one talent also came and said, Master, I knew about you, that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow. 25 And I was afraid and went off and hid your talent in the earth; behold, you have what is yours. 26 And his master answered and said to him, Evil and slothful slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not winnow.

The Lord provided the talent according to each one's ability. The Lord expects profit-making of one talent for one talent, two talents for two talents and five talents for five talents. The point here is to fully use up the talent. In order to max out, you have to push yourself ahead. And the Lord cares not how much you made, but how much effort used and how faithful you are. The Lord gives the same compliments to the one who made five talents, and the one who made two talents. Moreover, the Lord does not deny that it is a strict one in demand. When looking only at the demand, the Church life can be tough for you,. However, because there is a supply commensurate with the demand, just open to Lord's shepherding and enjoy the rich supply. By doing that, you can fully utilize the talent. Amen!

The milestone of John 8: The necessity of a man under the bondage of sin - Life releases

By God BSG OB / OG

John 8:1 And everyone went to his own house. But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2 And early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him, and He sat down and taught them. 3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the midst,

4 They said to Him, Teacher, this woman has been caught committing adultery, in the very act. 5 Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. What then do you say? 6 But they said this to tempt Him, so that they might have reason to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote with His finger on the ground. 7 But when they persisted in questioning Him, He stood up and said to them, He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her. 8 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 And when they heard that, they went out one by one, beginning with the older ones. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman stood where she was, in the midst. 10 And Jesus stood up and said to her, Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you? 11 And she said, No one, Lord. And Jesus said, Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more. 12 Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. 24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am, you will die in your sins.

The scribes were very excited and appealed to stone a woman who got captured in an occasion of adultery. But the Lord crouched down and was writing on the ground with his fingers. The Lord may have written that "any person who is without sin may stone this person". It was also an act to calm down those who excitedly appealed. But when they persisted in questioning Him, He stood up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her". After that, they went out one by one, beginning with the older ones. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman stood where she was, in the midst. This woman stood before the LORD, thinking that she would be killed due to the sin of adultery; she must be afraid and was trembling in fear. At that moment, if you were Jesus, what would you have said? Read verses 10 and 11 again.

10 And Jesus stood up and said to her, Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you? 11 And she said, No one, Lord. And Jesus said, Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.

What a loving Word this is. The Lord was able to stay there, was a sign that the Lord is without sins. The Lord was qualified to condemn her, but he did not do so. Please read the following verses of John 3.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that every one who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.

People of the world here are referring to those who have fallen because of sin, they are called sinners. God loved the people of the world, and the woman of adultery. Thank God for His deep love.

The case in this chapter reveals everything related to the problems of sin. (1) Sources of Sin - Devils. (2) Three major items of sin - adultery and misconduct, murder, lies. (3) The bondage of sin, or slave. (4) The conclusion of sin, or consequences - death. (5) The one without sin - the Lord. (6) The one qualifies to liberate crimes - the Lord. (7) The one qualifies to pardon sin - the Lord. (8) The one who can release a person from sin - the Lord. The Lord is the everlasting God, the great "I am", who became a man-child, carried our sins and was sent up to the cross. Therefore, he is

qualified to pardon our sins. Moreover the Lord is an eternal god, entered in us and became our life and light, and can save us from the bondage and darkness of sin.

The sacred name of "I am" means that God self-exists, who exists forever, who does not rely on anything other than himself. As "I am", he is all-inclusive, the actuality of all the positive things, and all that you actually need. For example, you need wisdom. As "I am", Lord is the wisdom. You lack in joy. Lord is the joy. When in the dark, Lord can be your light. Because the Lord is "I am ...", so the Lord is whatever positive thing you need.

You believe that the Lord Jesus is "I am ...", that is to believe the Lord is the one God that was made human. Then the Lord will be the light of life in you, shine upon the inner darkness of your heart and release you from the bondage of sin. The light of life shines in the person by the feeling of the inner life that saves the person from his sin. Hallelujah!

Like the woman who had committed adultery, just stand before the Lord without concealment. The Lord knows about the many sins in your heart, but He will say the following to you, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more." What blessed and loving-filled words!

Believe the Lord is "I am". And confess your sins. Then the Lord pardons your sins and dispenses God's life into you. This life will be the light of life in you; you release you from the bondage of sin. May the Lord bless your campus life. Amen!

244 救いを得た確信と喜び — 主によって解放される

- 1 主はわれをかい放された; イエスわがおう, すくいぬし;
霊に満たされ, 日々うたう; われ, かい放された!
(復) 栄ごうのかいりまう! つみにしばられない;
血であらわれ, ひかり得た; われ, かい放された!
- 2 地のきずな, 断ち切られた; つみと情よく, ちからなし,
おもいわずらい, なやみなし; われ, かい放された!
- 3 主はそくばく打ちやぶり, わがため, あく魔ほろぼす;
めぐみのひかりかがやく; われ, かい放された!

1. 我因归耶稣,
全人得着释放;
耶稣我救主,
今在我心作王;
圣灵充满我,
使我终日欢唱;
主耶稣已把我释放!
释放! 释放! 荣耀释放!
我不再被罪恶捆绑;
宝血洗净我, 全人明亮, 清爽;
主耶稣已把我释放!