Daily Devotional, June 14, 2020

"I Am the Good Shepherd", (John 10:14, NKJV)

"I am the good shepherd" (John 10:14)

"I am the good shepherd." The Good Shepherd provides. Jesus begins, "I am", and so He is. Did He not call Himself "I AM...the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last" (John 8:58; Revelation 1:11)? As God, Jesus "is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20). Has the Psalmist not said, "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want" (Psalm 23:1)? Our God, the Good Shepherd, does provide, and will provide, for our every need. The Good Shepherd nurtures. "He makes me to lie down in green pastures" (Psalm 23:2a). "He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them in His bosom" (Isaiah 40:11). When our earthly parents held us tight when we were young, did we not feel safe? How much more so when our heavenly Father does the same! Pray, and you shall know this to be true. Have any of you known nurturing love of this kind? Well then, accept the embrace of the Savior, "casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7). The Good Shepherd guides. "He leads me beside still waters" (Psalm 23:2b). The Good Shepherd protects. Jesus protects us from the wolves of the world, and the serpent of old. "The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep" (John 10:11). This is how far Jesus was willing to go for you! Do you see Him lifted up, on that hill over there, that you, sheep and sinner, might go free (John 3:14)! As the Shulamite says to her beloved, so the longing soul says to Christ: "Tell me, O you whom I love, Where you feed your flock, Where you make it rest at noon" (Song of Solomon 1:7). Christ replies to you: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). "I am the good shepherd".