

Psalm 23:6

Our Good Shepherd Provides for His Sheep's Future Needs.

RSY unauthorized translation:

“For sure! Your benevolence and loving devotion will tail me all my days.
And I will frequent Your house for the rest of my days (on earth).”

I. “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life (Ps 23:6a, KJV).”

- A. Surely = This is for sure.
- B. Goodness = benevolence, *tov* (Gen 50:20; Ps 34:10; Matt 6:31-33; Rom 8:28).
- C. Mercy = loving devotion, *chesed* (Ruth 2:11. 3:10; Rom 8:35-39).
- D. Follow = pursue (1 Sam 17:52; Prov 15:9; John 10:10b-11; Rev 3:20).
- E. All the days of my life = every day on earth (Ps 27:5; Prov 31:11; John 10:27-28).

II. “And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever (Ps 23:6b, KJV).”

- A. Dwell = frequent (Ps 26:8; 27:4).
- B. House of Lord = *Yahweh*'s tabernacle in Jerusalem (1 Chr 16:1; Ps 26:8; 27:4-6; 122:1).
- C. Forever = to the length of my days [on earth] (Jer 52:34).

III. Our three applications:

- A. Let this Psalm be your song.
 - 1. This prayer of David's was added to Israel's hymnbook because it can be prayed by all genuine believers (Ps 100:5).
 - 2. Jesus is now our good pursuing Shepherd (John 10:10b-11, 27-28; Heb 13:5-6).
- B. Let us frequent heaven's tabernacle!
 - 1. Our Lord is in His original tabernacle today, not an earthly model (Heb 8:1-2).
 - 2. We have direct access to His present throne room (Heb 10:19-21).
 - 3. Let's frequent His guest room through prayer (Heb 4:16; 10:22).
- C. Let's pray for persecuted Christians in China today.
 - 1. China has 97 million Christians.
 - 2. 3,000 of their churches have been attacked this year.
 - 3. About 1,500 believers have been imprisoned.
 - 4. Many of their homes are under government surveillance.
 - a. Their online and off-line interactions are tracked.
 - b. Many of their “faces have been scanned into the Public Security database.”¹
 - 5. “It remains illegal for under 18-year-olds to attend church.”²

¹ <https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2019/january/50-worst-christian-persecution-open-doors-world-watch-list.html>, accessed November 10, 2022.

² 2022 report; <https://www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/world-watch-list/china/> accessed November 10, 2022.