

SERMON STARTERS

Series: **THE SHEPHERD MINISTRY OF JESUS**

Message # 3 **“THE CHIEF SHEPHERD”**  
I Peter 5:4

*“And when **the Chief Shepherd** appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.”*

Intro.

1. Jesus is presented in Scripture as a three-fold Shepherd:
  - In John 10 – **The Good Shepherd**, who gives His life for the sheep;
  - In Hebrews 13 – **The Great Shepherd**, who cares for His sheep;
  - In I Peter 5 – **The Chief Shepherd**, who comes for His sheep.
2. The well-known trilogy of Psalms, Psalm 22, 23 and 24, compare so clearly with the three Shepherd titles of the Lord Jesus:

<p><b>PSALM 22</b> <b>GOOD SHEPHERD</b> Provision Crucifixion Past Ministry</p>	<p><b>PSALM 23</b> <b>GREAT SHEPHERD</b> Protection Consolation Present Ministry</p>	<p><b>PSALM 24</b> <b>CHIEF SHEPHERD</b> Prospect Coronation Future Ministry</p>
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3. This study: **“The Chief Shepherd” as seen in I Peter 5:4 and reflected in Psalm 24.**

**I. THE CHIEF SHEPHERD COMES TO REDEEM HIS OWN.**

There are 3 tenses to redemption: past (redeemed by His atonement); present (redeemed by His advocacy); and future redemption (redeemed by His advent). NOTE:

**A. Past Redemption.** We have been redeemed from:

- Gal 3:13 *“Christ **has redeemed** us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”). AND*
- I Pet. 1:18-19 *“knowing that **you were not redeemed** with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”*

**B. Present Redemption.** We are being redeemed from:

- Psalm 103:3 *“Who **redeems** your life from destruction”.*
- Dan 6:27 *“**He rescues** and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.”*

**C. Future Redemption.** We will be redeemed from:

- Ps 49:15 *“But God **will redeem** my life from the grave; he will surely take me to himself.”*
- Gal. 1:4 *“who gave Himself for our sins, that He might **deliver us from this present evil age.**”*

- Rom. 8:23 *“Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”*

## II. THE CHIEF SHEPHERD COMES TO REVIEW HIS OWN.

Rom 14:10-12 *“But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for Your brother? For we shall all stand before **the judgment seat of Christ**. For it is written: “As I live, says the LORD, Every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall confess to God.” So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.”*

This is the **“Bema Seat.”** The concept of the Bema Seat comes from the ancient Olympics, where a judge would sit on the Bema Seat at the finish line. The judge's purpose was to determine what position the runners came in—first, second, and so on—and then to give out the appropriate rewards. That is the imagery behind what is known as the Bema Seat. Also known as the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Bema Seat is described in 1 Corinthians 3:12-15. The Bema Seat judgment does not determine salvation. Rather, it is when believers must give an account of their lives to Christ.

### A. We Have An Appointment To Keep.

*“we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ”*

### B. We Have An Acknowledgement To Make.

*“And every tongue shall confess to God.”*

### C. We Have An Account To Give.

*“each of us shall give account of himself to God.”*

## III. THE CHIEF SHEPHERD COMES TO REWARD HIS OWN.

- 1 Peter 5:4 *“And when **the Chief Shepherd** appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.”*
- Rev. 22:12 *“Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.”*
- II John 8 *“Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.”*
- 1 Cor 3:11-15 *“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.”*

**The Chief Shepherd is coming back again! Are we looking for Him? Psalm 24 is a Psalm anticipating His return.**

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