

Isa 40:11
The Shepherd Care.

^{To the Oriental}
The term Shepherd carried with it the thought of the dearest relationship that could exist between a depend-
ent creature & its benefactor.

The True Oriental Shepherd has an untrusting love for his sheep & quiet patience with their weaknesses, &c. but while his relationship with them is most tender, he is an indomitable enemy to every enemy of the sheep. He will not hesitate to lay down his life for his sheep.

Our Lord in describing the good human Shepherd said that he would leave the 99 & go after the wonderer &c. Jacob was the first to express the idea God's care over him under symbolism of a shepherd. He saw so much in his retrospect of life of God's dealing with him, that was akin to his dealing ^{with} sheep, that he recognized God had shepherded his life. He had chosen his own

does not mean much to us
until we can say with the
Psalmist. The Lord is my S-
The word picture given to us in
the 23rd Psa, of God's dealing
with an immortal soul is one
which the angels love to study.
Its language is as simple as
the rhymes of childhood, but at
the same time as profound as the
angelic anthem of Hosanna + the
Lamb.

ways but God had overruled his wilfulness + hedged about his ways that Jacob is finally brought to the place where he was ready to declare that had it not been for God's shepherding care, his wilfulness would have proved his ruin. He thought God's way was hard + severe, but he found out that all that made life's trials heavy to bear was his own fighting against God's restraining grace, + his resisting God's constraining love.

When we distrust God's providence it is evident that we are trusting in ourselves. We cannot, however trust God's providence until we learn to distrust ourselves.

There is a general sense in which God may be said to be exercising a shepherding care over our lives, but the term Good Shepherd

I His boundless affection shown
in His care of the flock.

The meadows of Palestine

The resting-places,

The paths of righteousness

The correction of the willful sheep.

(The soul)

Psa. 119: 67 Isa. 53: 6

II His tenderness - shown in guiding
protecting + feeding.

The opening words of the chapter

Comfort ye. - God does not +
cannot comfort if we persist
in sin, but it is when they
seek deliverance from it. Then

He will apply the balm of
Gilead which will check

the pain + mollify the wound.

Ill-farmer Joseph Taylor

III Absolute safety.

When He sees that the lamb
cannot keep up with the flock
He take it out of the way of danger