
PSALMS
FOR THE VALLEY




Grand Bazaar, Istanbul






PSALMS
FOR THE VALLEY
Where can we find the confidence
to face whatever lies ahead?


THE SHEPHERD IN THE VALLEY
PSALM 23

Big Idea

Remember who's with you, *whatever the valleys may hold*



A Favourite Psalm!

Henry Ward Beecher

The Singing Pilgrim: A Characterization of the Twenty-Third Psalm

The Twenty-third Psalm is the nightingale of the psalms. It is small, of a homely feather, singing shyly out of obscurity; but oh, it has filled the air of the whole world with melodious joy, greater than the heart can conceive! Blessed by the day on which that psalm was born!



Quoted in *The Song of Our Syrian Guest*, William Allen Knight, pp. 54-56

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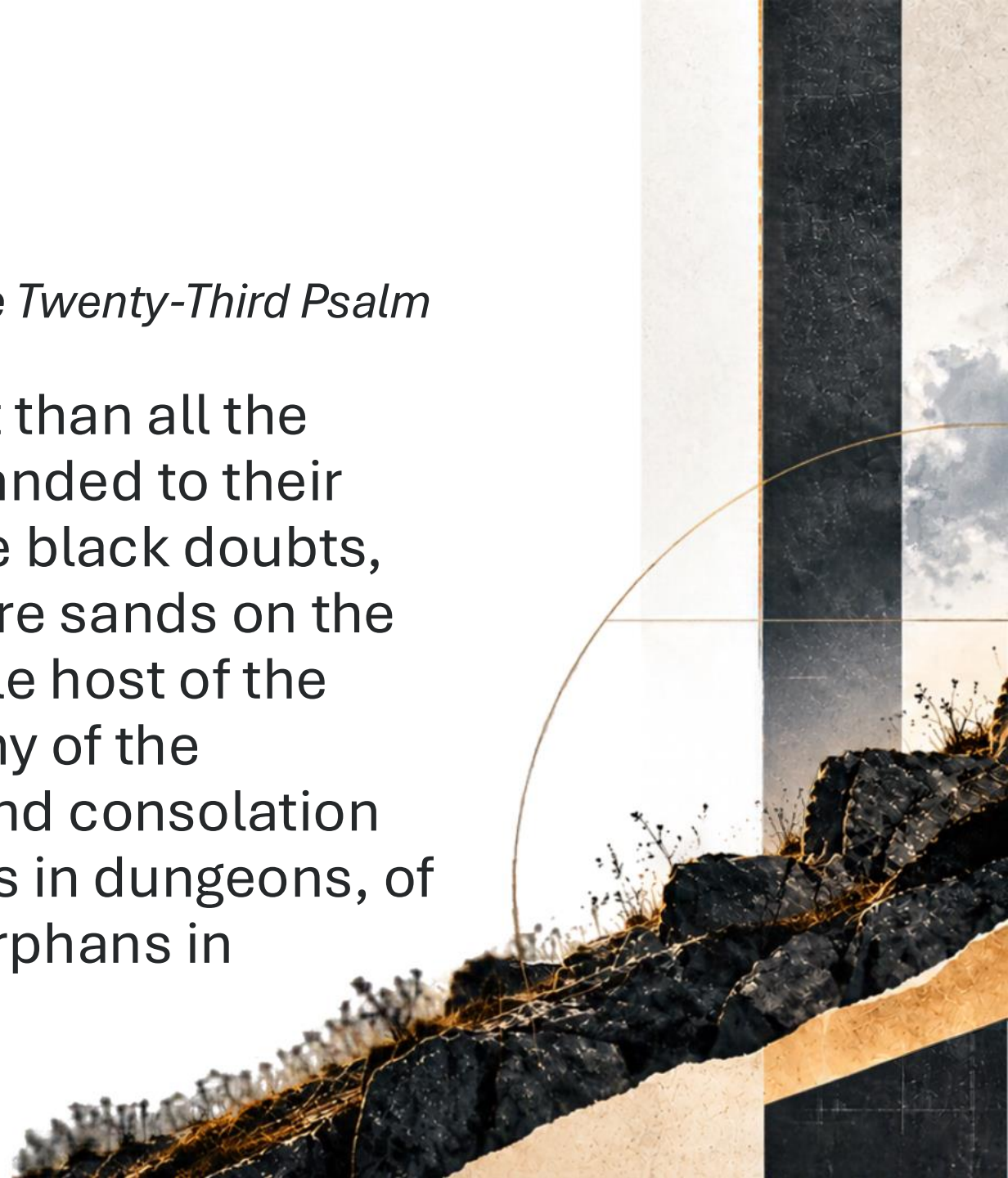
...It has charmed more griefs to rest than all the philosophy of the world. It has remanded to their dungeon more felon thoughts, more black doubts, more thieving sorrows, than there are sands on the seashore. It has comforted the noble host of the poor. It has sung courage to the army of the disappointed. It has poured balm and consolation into the heart of the sick, of captives in dungeons, of widows in their pinching griefs, of orphans in their loneliness.

Quoted in *The Song of Our Syrian Guest*, William Allen Knight, pp. 54-56



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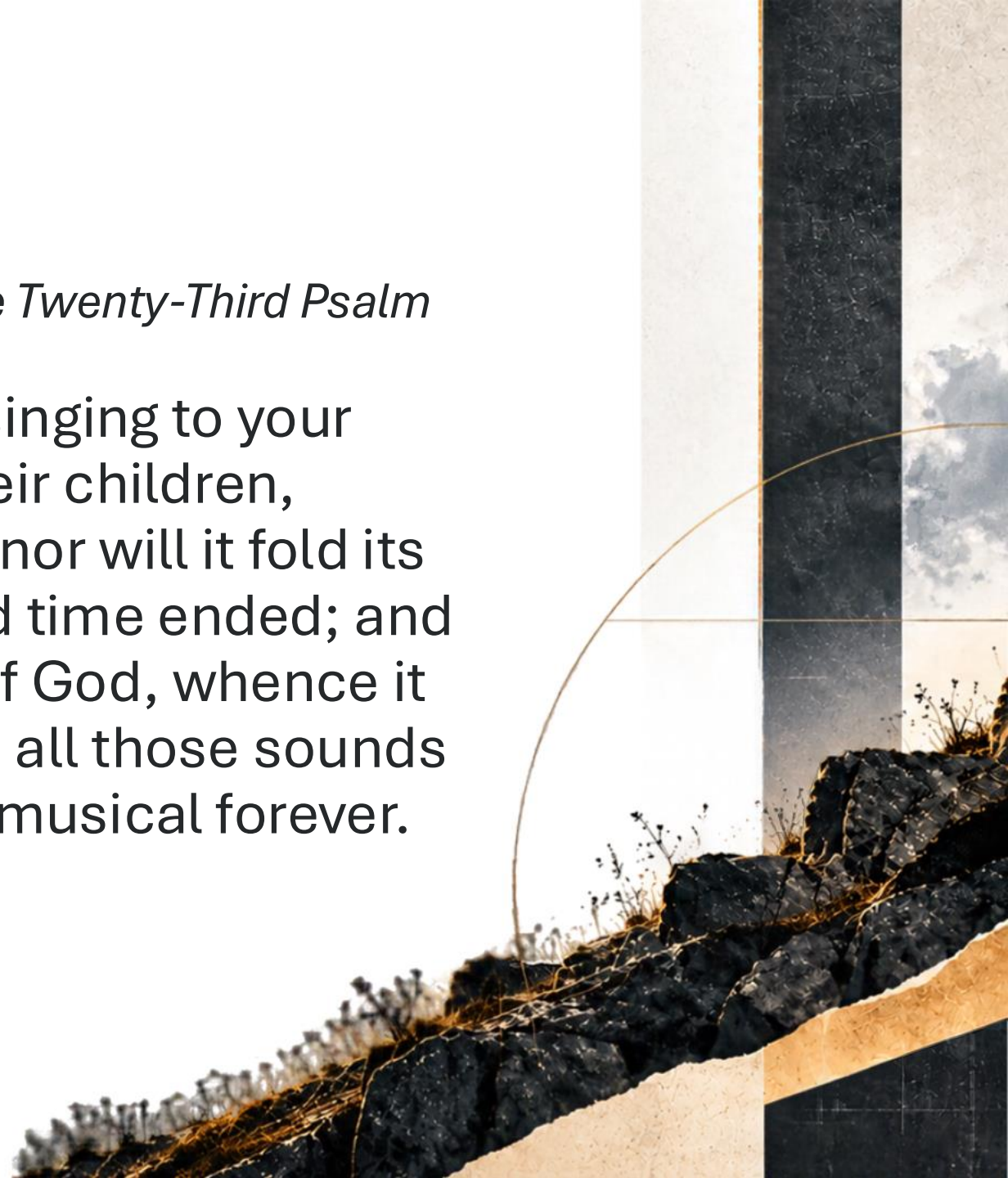
…Nor is its work done. It will go on singing to your children and my children, and to their children, through all the generations of time; nor will it fold its wings till the last pilgrim is safe, and time ended; and then it shall fly back to the bosom of God, whence it issued, and sound on, mingled with all those sounds of celestial joy which make heaven musical forever.



Quoted in *The Song of Our Syrian Guest*, William Allen Knight, pp. 54-56

1. The LORD is your shepherd (vv.1-4)

a) The Lord is *my* shepherd

i. The national shepherd

Psalm 78:70-71

He chose David his servant
and took him from the sheep pens;
from tending the sheep he brought him
to be the shepherd of his people Jacob,
of Israel his inheritance.



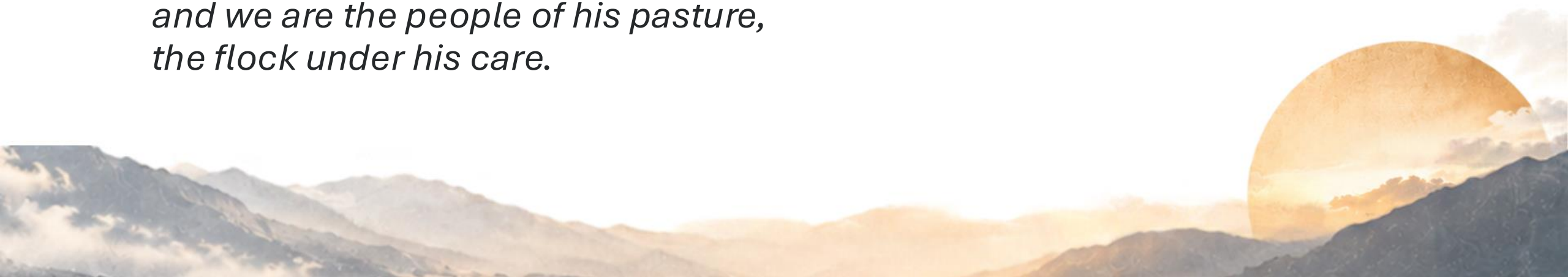
1. The LORD is your shepherd (vv.1-4)

a) The Lord is *my* shepherd

i. The national shepherd

Psalm 95:6-7

Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
for he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.



1. The LORD is your shepherd (vv.1-4)

a) The Lord is *my* shepherd

i. The national shepherd

Isaiah 40:1

Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem…



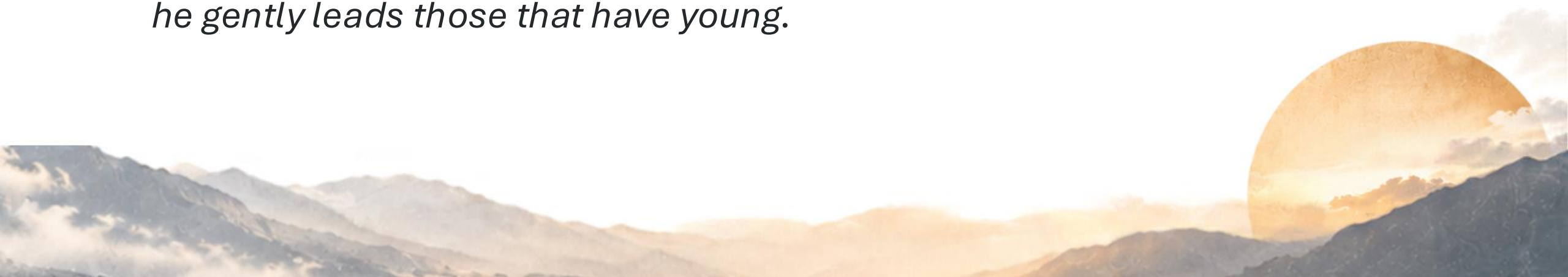
1. The LORD is your shepherd (vv.1-4)

a) The Lord is *my* shepherd

i. The national shepherd

Isaiah 40:11

He tends his flock like a shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;
he gently leads those that have young.



1. The LORD is your shepherd (vv.1-4)

a) The Lord is *my* shepherd

i. The national shepherd

ii. Our personal shepherd



1. The LORD is your shepherd (vv.1-4)

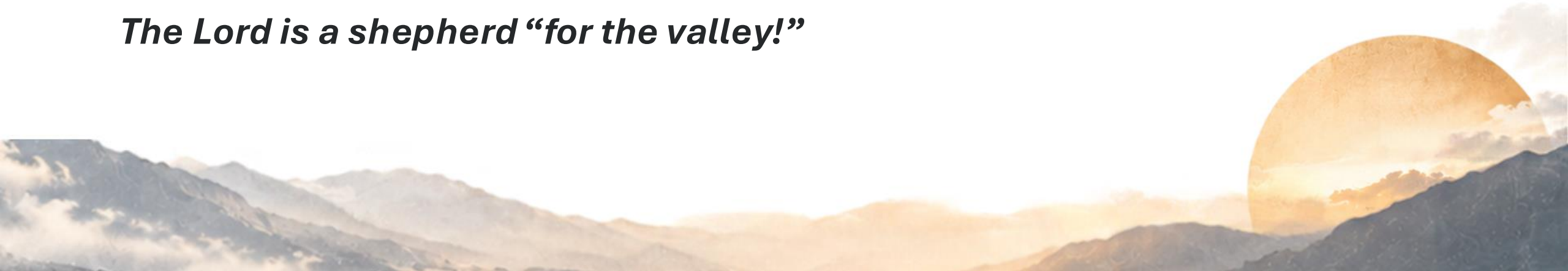
a) **The Lord is *my* shepherd**

b) **The Lord cares for His flock**

Nehemiah 9:21

For forty years you sustained them in the wilderness; ***they lacked nothing****, their clothes did not wear out nor did their feet become swollen.*

The Lord is a shepherd "for the valley!"



Big Idea

Remember who's with you, *whatever the valleys may hold*



1. The LORD is your shepherd (vv.1-4)

a) **The Lord is *my* shepherd**

b) **The Lord cares for His flock**

i. **The Shepherd feeds the sheep**

ii. **The Shepherd leads the sheep**

- ***Along right paths***
- ***For His name's sake***



1. The LORD is your shepherd (vv.1-4)

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b) **The Lord cares for His flock**

   i. **The Shepherd feeds the sheep**

   ii. **The Shepherd leads the sheep**

   iii. **The Shepherd bleeds for the sheep**







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b) **The Lord cares for His flock**

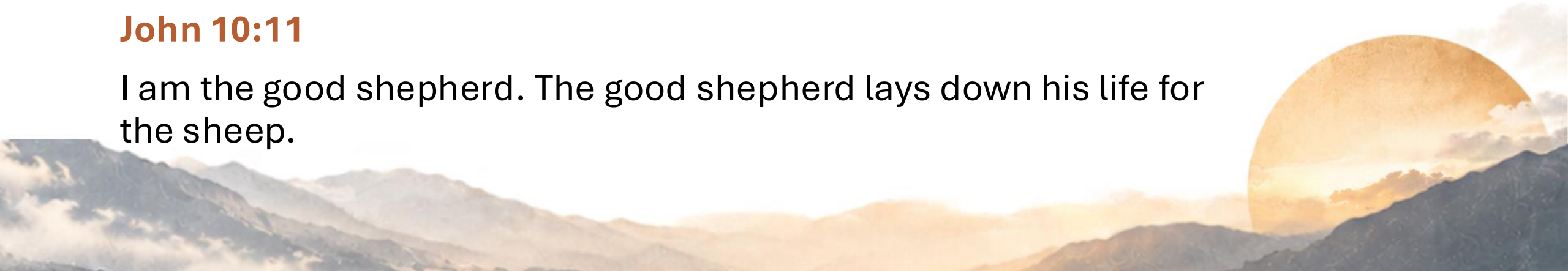
   i. **The Shepherd feeds the sheep**

   ii. **The Shepherd leads the sheep**

   iii. **The Shepherd bleeds for the sheep**

John 10:11

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.



1. The LORD is your shepherd (vv.1-4)

Luke 2:8-12

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. **But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid.** I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."



Big Idea

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2. The LORD is your host (vv.5-6)

a) **The Host prepares a table**

b) **The Host provides in abundance**

c) **The Host promises His permanent presence**



Principle

The Lord's presence is not merely the means by which we survive the valleys;

it's the blessing we learn to treasure above everything else.



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Application

Meditate on Psalm 23 this week

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