

Advent from Jesus' s Own Words: This is Why I Came to You
I Came to Give Abundant Life
John 10:10

December 23, 2018

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Core value: Jesus-Centered

I came that they may have life, and have *it* abundantly.



Upside-down environment:

⁸ "All who came before Me are thieves and robbers... ¹⁰ "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy...

How do we get robbed, killed and destroyed?

Right-side up entry:

⁹ "I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

Right-side up protection and care:

I came that they may have life, and have *it* abundantly. ¹¹ "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

What makes a good shepherd (like a good doctor)?

What can be abundant about my life with Jesus, the Good Shepherd?

What we aren't promised:

- Health and wealth
- Exemption from any difficulty
- Lack of loving correction when I've strayed

What we are promised:

- Protection
- Pasture (provision)
- Restoration

An example of abundant life from Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, ³ he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Do I feel that I'm under the thief's _____ or under the Good Shepherd's protection and provision?

Have I walked through the _____ of salvation to begin to enjoy God's salvation and abundant life?