

The LORD is my shepherd, there
is nothing I lack. (*Holman*)

The LORD is my shepherd, I have
everything that I need. (*NLT*)

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall
not be in want. (*NIV*)

If the LORD is my shepherd, my most significant is **covered**.

My “want” list may be long, but my actual “need” list is quite short.

My most crucial, necessary need in life lies in the **spiritual** realm.

Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body, but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both body and soul in hell. (*Matthew 10:28*)

What will it be for a man if he gains
the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?
What can a man give in exchange
for his soul? (*Matthew 16:26*)

SPIRITUAL. I need to be prepared to die.

Man is destined to die once, and
after that to face judgments.

(Hebrews 9:27)

We have this hope [sacrifice of
Christ] as an anchor for the SOUL.

(Hebrews 6:19)

Even if all my physical/material needs are perpetually met, this need **remains**.

Other needs (mental or emotional)

- **LONELINESS**
- **PURPOSE**
- **PEACE**

IF YOU ALLOW THE LORD
TO BE YOUR SHEPHERD,
He will meet those needs.

The Lord will **fill** the emptiness, **still**
the restlessness, and **thrill** the
paralysis.

The shepherd's entire instinct,
intention, and interest is the
WELL BEING of its animal.

Toward this end the shepherd watches,
worries, and works.

This ANALOGY is a description of
God's role over my life.

The ANALOGY implies my need
to acknowledge and trust God
as the one who will meet all my needs.

For you were like sheep going astray,
but now have returned to the Shepherd
and Overseer of your souls.

(1 Peter 2:25)

This poem was written by David who WAS a shepherd prior to his career as soldier and politician. Understanding the responsibility, authority, and unpredictability of that role gave him an appreciation for it. But knowing the vulnerability and weakness of a sheep gave him the keen realization that he needed a shepherd for his humanity. His choice was personal and sincere. "The Lord is my shepherd."