

Our Great Shepherd Cares!

Mark 6: 30-34

September 6, 2026

A man with a beard and mustache, wearing a grey hoodie and a grey baseball cap with an American flag patch, is looking upwards with a questioning expression. The background is a light-colored wooden wall. The text "If God Is Good, Why Does He Allow Evil?" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**If God
Is Good,
Why Does
He Allow
Evil?**

Verse 30

Our Shepherd receives a report

There is an air of excitement, “*what they had done*”; more importantly, “*what they had taught*”

What they taught - “*repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand*”, the kingdom offer to the Jews

Every believer is given this mandate – **preach the Word in context!**

Acts and the Epistles salvation message is different than Jesus’ message in the Gospels – how so?

Jesus’ message in the four Gospels was to Israel only – believe in Messiah, the kingdom now offer

Acts and the Epistles are NOT isolated to Israel only, but to the entire world - “*the end of the earth*” – Acts 1: 8

The Church's mission is to the world; the message - repent, believe and receive salvation – John 1: 12

The 12 returned and gave a report, an account of the results of their mission

HEAR THIS:

**Every believer will give an account for your mission
Romans 14: 12**

Verse 31

Our Shepherd cares – There is a time to rest

Mission can take a toll even on the strongest saint

Everyone, including Jesus, needs rest

What is rest?

For Jesus, rest was time alone with Father, away from people and pressure

An exhausted, haggard, drained saint is a non-productive saint

Every believer **MUST** take time to recharge, rest from the frantic pace of life

There is a ***DANGER*** of too much rest (*habit rest, Christian withdrawal rest*) from mission

“I have served my time, I did my part, I just want to withdraw into myself” – **this permeates Christianity**

Your mission may change with life circumstances and situations

However, mission will continue; it may not look the same, but will continue

The modern concept of retiring to a life focused solely on pleasure and hobbies is not found in Scripture

I serve
at the
pleasure of
my King



Verse 32 - 33

Our Shepherd instructs us – Rest may be interrupted by needs

Life happens and needs happen – your plans may be interrupted!

Jesus departed with the 12 to a deserted place, BUT the multitudes followed



Galilee

Bethsaida -
Suburb of
Capernaum

Bethsaida

Decapolis

Verse 34

**Our Shepherd's rest – interrupted by a need
for compassion**

Are you moved with compassion when your plans get messed up?

Why is Jesus moved with compassion?

Jesus sees what we do not see – sheep without a Shepherd, sheep who need their Shepherd

The Shepherd's job is to guide, guard, and encourage to advance further and to *FEED* the sheep!

Notice what the Great Shepherd does:

“He began to teach them many things”

Jesus is doing what He came to do – *teach / preach!*

Closing Thoughts

Many today sacrifice the integrity of the Word

The Word in context, with a literal, contextual, grammatical, meaning of the text

Miracles are times when God breaks into the results of sin in our world

Temporal miracles pale in comparison to the spiritual miracle of salvation

The disciples are in training, they are not shepherds yet; the crowds are a nuisance, a hassle, a problem

Brothers and sisters, what we see as a giant inconvenience, God sees as an opportunity!

Truth be known, we all need our Great Shepherd!

I believe **Psalm 23** is a summation of David's life with the Great Shepherd

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake
Yea, 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.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever and ever, and ever!

*My Shepherd is with me; He guides me,
comforts me, protects me, and loves me!*

*Oh yes, My Shepherd cares; I will dwell
with my Shepherd in His house forever!*

This I can rest in:

***“THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD;
I SHALL NOT WANT”!!***

OUR SHEPHERD CARES!!