

***Shepherds and Sheep, Part 1***  
**Ezekiel 34:1-10**

Main Point:

Acknowledge your shepherds, be a faithful shepherd, and rest in the care of the Good Shepherd.

1. A good shepherd is selfless.
2. A good shepherd gives strength.
3. A good shepherd seeks the straying.
4. A good shepherd is submissive.
5. The Good Shepherd is always faithful.

**Derek Thomas** “It is here in Ezekiel 34 that we discover the most comprehensive analysis of the true nature of the shepherd’s responsibilities.”

**Derek Thomas** “To rule was to ensure the protection and well-being of the people – the main function of a shepherd.”

**Matthew Henry** “They made sure of the profits of their places ...”

**1 Peter 5:2-3** 2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; 3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; (NKJV)

**Matthew Henry** “There is a woe to those who are in public trusts, but consult only their own private interest, and are more inquisitive about the benefice than about the office, what money is to be got than what good to be done.”

**Matthew Henry** “When any of the flock were sick or hurt, worried or wounded, it was all one to them whether they lived or died; they never looked after them.”

**1 Thessalonians 5:14** 14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all. (NKJV)

**Christopher Wright** “While holding all his people responsible for their own sin, God and his prophet were well aware that some among them were ‘more responsible’ than others.”

**Matthew Henry** “It is just with God to take out of men's hands that power which they have abused and that trust which they have betrayed.”

**Christopher Wright** “It not only expresses Yahweh’s personal concern for the flock that is being so badly treated, but also makes clear where the true ownership lies. The shepherds did not own the flock; they were simply employed to look after it.”

**Christopher Wright** “The sheep needed rescuing from their own shepherds. So God would act to do so, removing the tyranny and restoring his own divine kingship.”

**Matthew Henry** “The under-shepherds may prove careless, but the chief Shepherd neither slumbers nor sleeps. They may be false, but God abides faithful.”