



## This World is not My Home

*“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.” Psalm 23:6 NKJV*

### Number 34 in the series “The Lord is My Shepherd”

When David wrote this psalm, he had a bold assurance. Look at the words: *“I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”* Let’s look closely at those words. *I will.* He had a bold assurance of where he would spend his life on earth and eternity, and it was because of his relationship with God. He had experienced God’s faithfulness daily through pain, sorrow, illness, persecution and temptations. He had no reason to doubt God.

Beloved, I have the same assurance. Because I have trusted Christ as my Savior, I know I will spend eternity with my Lord. Through all the tests, trials, sorrows, sicknesses, temptations, and good and bad times, I have experienced God’s amazing grace. His goodness and mercy have never failed me.

Next, I look at the word *dwell*. As a shepherd, David had taken the sheep into valleys, mountains and many different grazing grounds. Some of these places were peaceful and free from danger. Other grazing grounds were turbulent; the sheep were in constant danger from storms, great heat in summer and icy rain and wind in the winter, as well as the danger from wild animals. David had seen God as the Good Shepherd constantly provide for the sheep. He knew he could trust God to protect him and provide for his daily needs.

However, no matter how well sheep are provided for, both the shepherd and the sheep look forward to going home—returning to their home ranch, their dwelling place. David was a good shepherd. He took good care of the sheep. He

traveled a lot with them, taking them to green pastures and still waters. However, his heart longed to dwell in the house of his Lord.

I travel a lot in ministry, teaching in churches in the U.S. and other countries. I love to teach God’s Word, to see the power of it transform sinful and broken lives. I stay in many homes and meet wonderful people. But I am traveling, through. Their house is not my home; it is not my dwelling place. I miss my husband, family and close friends. I look forward to dwelling in my own home, but more than that, I long to be with Jesus and spend eternity with Him. Psalm 27:4 (NASB) reads, *“One thing I have asked from the LORD, that I shall seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD and to meditate in His temple.”*

This is the cry of my heart. This world is not my home; I am just traveling through. My dwelling place is with Jesus. Through His amazing grace, I can boldly say, “I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.” Beloved believer, I hope you are not spending too much time, money and affection on the things of this world. I hope you long to dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Let’s keep our priorities in order.

— Janice McBride

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