

The *Parable* of:
The
Forgotten
Restingplace

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The Parable of: “The Forgotten Restingplace”

JEREMIAH 50:6

6 “My people hath been lost **sheep** : their **shepherds** have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the **mountains** : they have gone from **mountain** to **hill**, they have forgotten their **restingplace**.”

In this Parable the Lord has revealed **valuable truth**,
But once again it is hidden and can only be understood as we discover the Spiritual meanings of the *Real Objects* used in the Parable.

REAL OBJECTS and KEY WORDS

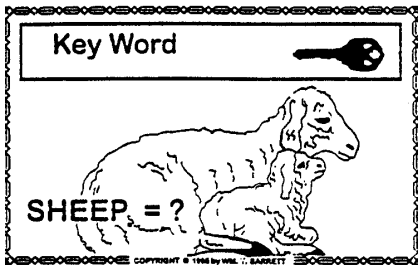
Sheep, Shepherds

lost, astray

Mountain, Hill

restingplace

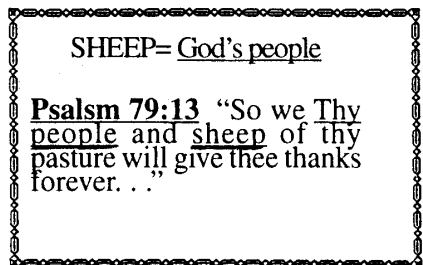
Who do the “**sheep**” represent ?



Key Word

SHEEP = ?

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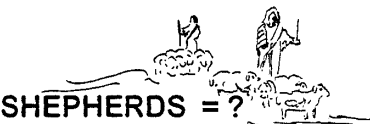
SHEEP= God's people

Psalm 79:13 “So we Thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks forever. . .”

THE “**SHEEP**” represent **GOD'S PEOPLE**

Who do the “shepherds” represent ?

Key Word 



SHEPHERDS = ?

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SHEPHERDS = Pastors
(Ministers)

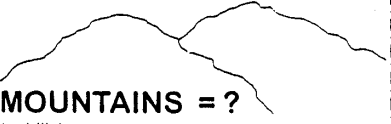
Jere 23:1 “Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! Saith the Lord

Jere 50:6 “My people hath been lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray. . . .”

THE “*SHEPHERDS*” represent the *MINISTERS OR PASTORS*

What do the “mountains” represent ?

Key Word 



MOUNTAINS = ?
(or hills)

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MOUNTAINS = God’s word
(Old & New Testament)


Joel 3:18 “. . . the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk. . . .”

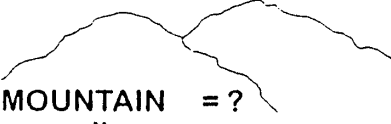
Heb 5:12 “. . . The milk of the word.”

Song of Sol 8:2 “. . . Instruct me: I would . . . drink wine. . . “Wine comes from the “mountains” (Doctrine) comes from (God’s word) O.T. Milk comes from the “hills”. Basic gospel comes from Gods word N.T.

The “Mountains” or Spiritual High Place represents **God’s Word** (The Bible).

What does the “hill” represent ?

Key Word 



MOUNTAIN = ?
or Hill

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Hill or MOUNTAIN = man’s word

LUKE 3 4 As it is written in the book of E-sai as the prophet.
5 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low;

ISAIAH 2 14 And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up, . . . Ch. 30:25
17^a And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, . . .

The “hill” or Spiritual low place represents **man’s word** (words of a Minister).

What does it mean to “go astray” ?

Key Word 


THE WAY = ?
(THE PATH - THE TRUTH)

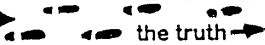
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THE WAY = Jesus

John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way. . ."

PSALM 25 : 4 *Shew me thy ways, O LORD
teach me thy paths.
5 Lead me in thy truth.

Key Word 

THE WAY →  the truth →

Astray = ? 

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go Astray = (leave the true "way" or truth)

ISAIAH 53
6 "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way;

II PETER 2
15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray,


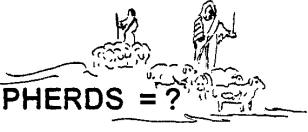
TO GO “ASTRAY” MEANS TO LEAVE THE *RIGHT WAY* OR THE “TRUTH” AND TO FOLLOW A PATH OF ERROR OR **FALSE TEACHING** THAT WILL RESULT IN BEING “**LOST**” !

What condition are the sheep in ?
THE “SHEEP” ARE **LOST** !

JEREMIAH 50 : 6 My people hath been **lost sheep** : their shepherds have caused them to go astray,...

Why are the sheep lost ?

JEREMIAH 50 : 6 My people hath been **lost** sheep : their **shepherds** have *caused them* to go astray,...

Key Word 	SHEPHERDS = Pastors (Ministers) Jere 23:1 "Woe be unto the <u>pastors</u> that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! Saith the Lord Jere 50:6 "My people hath been lost sheep: their <u>shepherds</u> have caused them to go astray..."
 SHEPHERDS = ? <small>COPYRIGHT © 1998 BY W.L.T. BARRETT</small>	

THE "SHEPHERDS" HAVE CAUSED THE SHEEP TO BE "LOST" OR TO GO ASTRAY!

THE PASTORS AND MINISTERS HAVE CAUSED GOD'S PEOPLE (SHEEP) TO BE LOST !

What is the "job" of a "shepherd" ?

PSALMS 23

THE LORD *is* my **shepherd**; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he **leadeth** me beside the still waters.

THE "JOB" OF A SPIRITUAL SHEPHERD IS TO LEAD THE PEOPLE (SHEEP) IN THE RIGHT WAY OR THE PATH OF TRUTH.

How does a “shepherd” **lead** sheep ?

JOHN 10 : 2 But he that entereth in by the door is the **shepherd** of the sheep. **3** To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice ; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and **leadeth them** out. **4** And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the *sheep follow him*: for they know his voice.

A shepherd **leads** his sheep with **his voice**.
Just as a sheep follows the voice of the shepherd,
Similarly, **people** follow the **voice** of their **Minister**.
They do what **he tells them** to do.

What have the **shepherds** done to the *sheep* ?

JEREMIAH 50 : 6 My **people** hath been lost sheep : their **shepherds** have *caused* them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains: they have gone from *mountain* to *hill*,....

The “shepherds” or **Ministers** have:

Caused the people to “go astray” or to leave the “right way” or the truth and to **follow false teachings** instead of the truth.

Caused the people to go from a “high place” (mountain) to a “lower place”(hill).

The people have gone from following **God’s Word** (high place) to following **man’s word**(lower place). They do what their Minister says to do instead of what God says to do.

What have the “sheep” forgotten?

JEREMIAH 50

6 My people hath been lost sheep : their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains : they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their **restingplace**.

The “sheep” have forgotten their “**restingplace**”.

A “*restingplace*” is something that would provide Physical Rest for Physical sheep and something that would provide Spiritual Rest for Spiritual “sheep” or people.

Let’s see what the Bible says about **Spiritual Rest**.

HEBREWS 4 : 3 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

4 For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, and God did rest the seventh day from all his works.

5 And in this place again, if they shall enter into my rest.

9 There *remainth* therefore a **rest** to the people of God.

10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Thus, the Bible says that the **restingplace** of God is **His 7th day Sabbath** and He invites **us** to enter into **His Rest** with Him. Clearly, the “restingplace” of the “sheep” or God’s people is to be with Him in the Sabbath Rest.

The Bible verse we have been studying said that the “sheep” or people had **forgotten** their “**restingplace**”. In other words this Bible Parable is predicting that the *7th day Sabbath Rest* of God’s people would be “**forgotten**” by them!!! Let’s see if this has happened.

The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20 : 3-17)

- (1) 3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me 1 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (2) 4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven 2 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
 image, or any likeness of anything that is in
 heaven above or that is in the earth beneath,
 or that is in the water under the earth.
- 5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them or
 serve them : for I the Lord thy God am a
 jealous God...
- (3) 7 Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy 3 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
 God in vain for the Lord will not hold him
 guiltless that taketh his name in vain.
- (4) 8 Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy 4 **MOST MINISTERS**
 9 Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work **DO NOT ACCEPT THE**
 10 But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the **7TH DAY SABBATH**
 Lord thy God : in it thou shalt not do any
 work. Thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter,
 nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant,
 nor thy cattle, that is within thy gates.
- 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and
 earth, the sea and all that in them is, and
 rested the seventh day wherefore the Lord
 blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.
- (5) 12 Honor thy father and thy mother : that thy 5 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
 days may be long upon the land which the
 Lord thy God giveth thee.
- (6) 13 Thou shalt not kill 6 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (7) 14 Thou shalt not commit adultery 7 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (8) 15 Thou shalt not steal 8 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (9) 16 Thou shalt not bear false witness 9 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
 against thy neighbor
- (10) 17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s 10 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
 house, thou shalt not covet thy
 neighbor’s wife, nor his manservant
 nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor
 his ass, nor anything that is thy
 neighbor’s

Clearly the “shepherds” or **Ministers** have rejected the **7th day Sabbath Rest** and as a result the “sheep” or God’s people have **forgotten** their “*restingplace*”.

We have seen that the Bible's prediction has come true, now let's see if we can discover **what caused** the "sheep" or God's people to **forget** the 7th day Sabbath Rest.

We know from our previous study that it was the "**shepherds**" that caused the "sheep" to go astray and therefore to forget their restingplace. So, we would expect that sometime in the past the "Church" made this change. Let's see if we are right.

THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC QUARTERLY REVIEW
Volume VIII
FROM JANUARY to OCTOBER, 1883
THE OBSERVANCE OF SUNDAY AND CIVIL LAWS
FOR ITS ENFORCEMENT. 139

"The **Sunday**, as a day of the week set apart for the obligatory public **worship** of Almighty God; to be sanctified by a suspension of all servile labor, trade, and worldly avocations and by exercises of devotion, is **purely a creation of the Catholic Church**.

The day and the regulations have **no logical basis** except the **authority of the Catholic Church**.

In the **primitive days** of fervor and piety all days were so consecrated by exercises of devotion that **no special command for the sanctification of the first day is traced**.

This became **gradually obligatory**, although the command was not at first peremptory. The Council of Laodicea, in 364 A.D., defines : "That Christians must not Judaize and refrain from manual labor on Saturday, but work on that day ; and that, **preferring the Lord's day, they must then rest, if this can be done, as becomes Christians**".

The **Church** thus began by **calling her children to sanctify the first day** of the week, that on which God the Son rose from the dead, that, on which God the Father began the creation of the world, and God the Holy Ghost descended on the Apostles. **Constantine** lent the **power of the state to enforce the regulations** of the **Church**, and the **civil law** began to enforce the **spiritual decrees**. He **commanded the Lord's day to be observed by all** as a festival and **day of rest**.

Protestantism, in discarding the authority of the Church, **has no good reason** for its **Sunday theory**, and ought, logically, to **keep Saturday** as the Sabbath, with the Jews and Seventh-Day Baptists."

Thus, the **Catholic Church** is clearly *responsible* for accomplishing the change of the days of worship !

Men and women did **not** willingly change from the **7th day** to the **1st day**.

They were forced by civil laws of the government, enforcing the decrees of the Catholic Church, to *make the change* or suffer the penalty of the law !

According to the Catholic Church, “nothing in Scripture requires the change or justifies it”.

Most of the Protestant world has *accepted* the **change** of worship days from the **7th** to the **1st** day *without* having a **Biblical** basis for the change.

Now we are ready for a **final Paraphrase** of our Bible text.

THE LOST SHEEP THAT HAVE FORGOTTEN THEIR **RESTINGPLACE**

JEREMIAH 50

6 My people hath been lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains : they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their restingplace.

PARAPHRASE :

My people are **lost people** (sheep) !

Their **Pastors** and **Ministers** (Shepherds) have **caused** them to leave the **truth** and accept their **false teachings** (go astray).

They have **misled them** (turned them away) in the **churches**.

They have convinced the people to accept **their words** (hill) instead of **God's Word** (mountain).

They have told them to **forget** the **7th day Sabbath** (forgotten "restingplace") of the LORD and to "remember" instead the **1st day SUNDAY** !