



## [Psalm 23:6](#)

(6) Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
All the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD  
Forever.  
*New King James Version*

This psalm began with the sheep, as it were, bragging across the fence to his neighbor. Through the course of the psalm, we went through the cycle of a year, and in this last verse, we find ourselves back again at the home ranch. The sheep is speaking about his shepherd's house, which is not up on the high tableland but down where the home ranch is.

The psalm began with a buoyant, "The LORD is my shepherd!" and it closes with an equally buoyant, positive note. The sheep is utterly satisfied. He is saying, "Boy, I [love](#) it here! Nothing will get me out of this outfit! You see, I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

We have come full circle with the sheep giving a statement of composure and contentment. In [Ephesians 2:19](#), the house is defined as the family of [God](#), of which [Jesus](#) is the Head.

Do our neighbors see us as being contented, happy, at [peace](#)? Do they see the effects of our intimate relationships with God in our lives? Are we good witnesses for His way? That is the question we are to ask ourselves as the psalm ends.

The sheep proclaims, "I will dwell in the presence of the LORD forever," concluding this poem of praise and thanksgiving of the sheep for his shepherd. The sheep had experienced life in the shepherd's care, and he wanted more of it! That thought should be a guiding beacon for us the remainder of our lives, as long as they might be—that is our fervent desire to dwell in the presence of the Lord always.

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Psalm 23:6 (<http://www.theberean.org>)

— John W. Ritenbaugh

**To learn more, see:**

[Psalm 23 \(Part 3\)](#)



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