

# Elder Vernon Johnson

## Numbers

### One Shepherd

There are numerous verses of scriptures that depict the Lord as being the one shepherd over his flock or people:

1. Eccl 12:11 "The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd."
2. Ezek 34:23 "And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd."
3. Ezek 37:24 "And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them."
4. John 10:16 "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."
5. Mat 26:31 "Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad."
6. Mark 14:27 "And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered."
7. John 10:2 "But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep."
8. John 10:12 "But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep."
9. 1 Pet 2:25 "For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls."

A shepherd cares for, watches over, and feeds his flock. He is responsible for every one of his flock. A good shepherd will do what he can to protect and deliver every sheep of his fold. Jesus is that good shepherd that died in order to save his people from their sins. He is that great shepherd of the sheep that preserves every one of his flock from destruction and will finally deliver every one into heaven's glory world, without the loss of one. He is the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls. He is also called the chief shepherd meaning that there are under shepherds. These under shepherds are to feed the flocks according to the direction of the chief Shepherd. These under shepherds are limited in their abilities as the Lord directed the disciples to cause the people to sit down in companies of fifty and a hundred when he fed the thousands

with five loaves and two fishes. This teaches us that in most cases the ability of a pastor to care for a congregation is generally around fifty to one hundred disciples.