

Have you ever seen a farmer trying to drive geese from one location to another? He goes *behind* the geese. Compare this to a shepherd who leads his sheep. He goes *before* them, and the sheep simply follow him.

Jesus is our shepherd and we are His sheep. He does not drive us, but He *leads* us. Legalistic people drive others. Jesus leads. He goes in front of us. He is not like the sergeant who says, "Men, cross this river. I'll cover you from behind", because he suspects that the river is infested with crocodiles. Jesus is not that kind of leader. He goes in front of us. In the Old Testament, Jesus led the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt. Do you know how Jesus appeared back then? He appeared in a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night. Where was that pillar? It was in front of them. In fact, the pillar of cloud shaded them from the hot desert sun so that they were kept cool during the day. At night, when the desert got very cold, Jesus, the pillar of fire, gave them light as well as warmth. Whether He was the pillar of cloud or fire, He went in front of them. As long as they followed Him, the Israelites did not have to worry about anything. Jesus took care of all their needs. He gave them water when they were thirsty, and bread and meat when they were hungry. Their clothes did not wear out, and their feet did not swell. They were kept in good health throughout the 40 years of their wandering in the wilderness.

Jesus your shepherd wants you to just follow Him. As long as you allow Him to lead you, all your needs will be taken care of. He is your provision, healer, counselor, wisdom, righteousness and sanctification. He is everything you need Him to be!

John 10:4 "And when He brings out His own sheep, He goes before them; and the sheep follow Him..."