

Speaker for Today
Thank you again, Alexis Brown

Attention
Business Meeting next Sunday,
June 8, at 2:30 p.m.

Psalms 23

*"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."*

June Birthdays
9 Debbie Pescador

June Anniversaries
5 Kurt & Debbie Hoffman

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Website:
indiochurchofchrist.com

Preacher: Vacant

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*"Trust in the Lord with all
your heart and do not lean on
your own understanding."*
Proverb 3:5

- *"Fight the good fight"*
- *"Keep the faith"*
- *"Finish the course"*

Providence...*"A Divinity that Shapes Our Ends"*

By John Gipson

The word providence is often on our lips, but we may not have a clear conception of its meaning.

The idea is forethought. It comes from a combination of words: before and to think. Hence, forethought. The word is inserted into the New Testament by a certain orator named Tertullus who took the lead in bringing charges against the apostle Paul. In an effort to praise Governor Felix, Tertullus said, *"Since through you we enjoy much peace and since by your provision (forethought, providence), most excellent Felix, reforms are introduced on behalf of this nation, in every way and everywhere we accept this with all gratitude"* (Acts 24:2-3). In the eyes of Tertullus, Felix was quite a man. The nation had been blessed by his providence. Felix had looked ahead, planned, and brought to pass needed reforms.

Whatever the providence of Felix might have been, it is nothing compared to the forethought of God who planned our redemption from the foundation of the world.

We see God's providence throughout the realm of nature, in the guidance of the nations, and in the deliverance of Israel from bondage into the promised land.

Benjamin Franklin said, "The longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of man; and if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?"

We see God's providence in individual lives: In David guarded from so many perils; in Joseph who could review the past and tell his brothers that they weren't responsible for bringing him to Egypt—it was the forethought and planning of God.

He who is truly thoughtful finds providence not only in the history of the world, but in his own personal and family history.

He therefore has confidence in the future. If God sustained the Israelites in the wilderness so that they lacked nothing, can't He provide for us? We need the same conviction with which Abraham spoke to his son, Isaac when he said, "*God will provide.*"



Five Wonderful Words

By Edd Sterchi

The 23rd psalm has been a favorite of God's people for thousands of years. It is steeped in the Israelite culture of husbandry. But all through the years it has appealed to people who realize that God is watching over them. Just the first five words alone in the English versions reveal so much – even for us today.

- **The** - This is a definite article in reference to God. He is not one of many gods, He is the God. He is the only God.
- **Lord** - This indicates that God is our savior. He is the only one who can bring us eternal salvation.
- **Is** - This present tense word reveals that God is alive and always with us. He remains all powerful and all loving.
- **My** - This shows that God is a personal God. He wants a relationship with us and deals with each us on a most individual, intimate level.
- **Shepherd** - This reminds us that God is always guiding, feeding, and protecting us. He will never lead us down the wrong path.

And that's just the first five words of the psalm! Give the rest of it a read with these thoughts in mind, and we will gain the most wonderful feelings of joy, satisfaction, and peace within our heart.