

Astray!



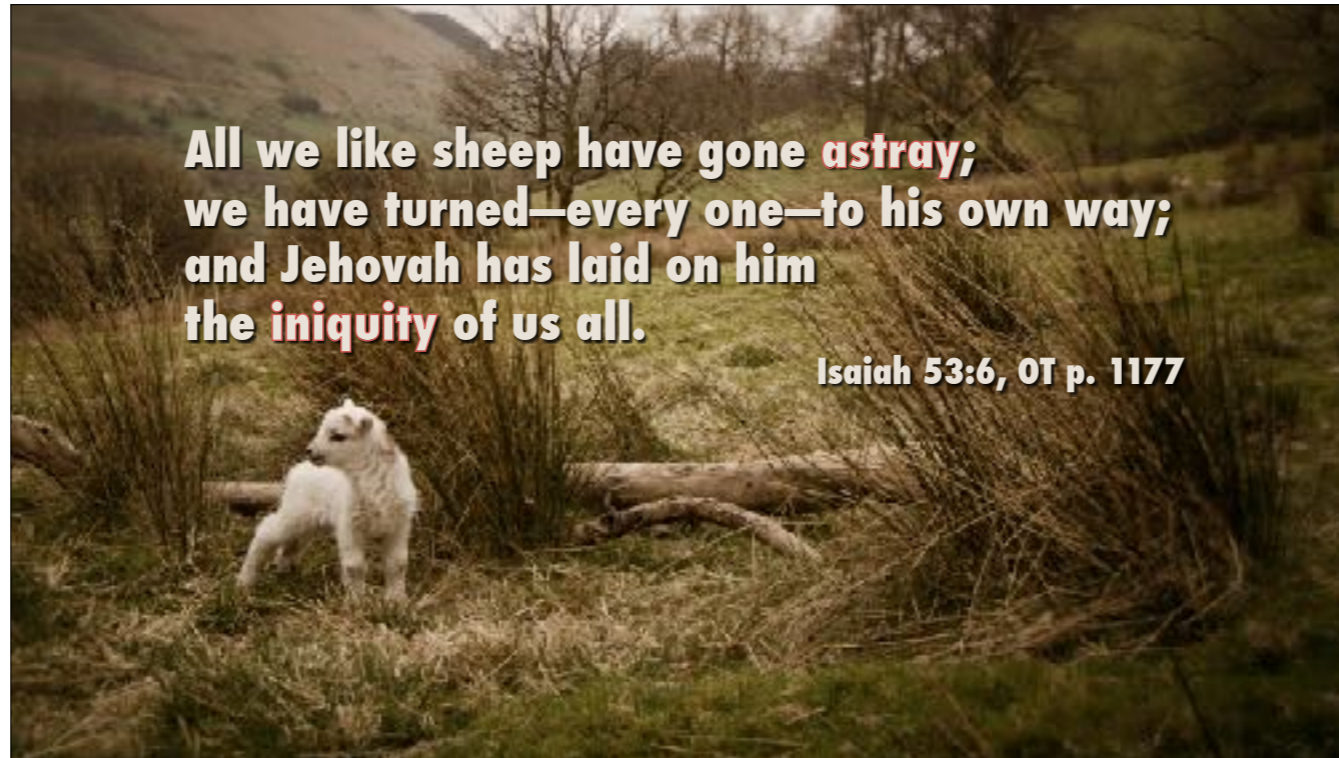
Isaiah 53:6, OT p. 1177



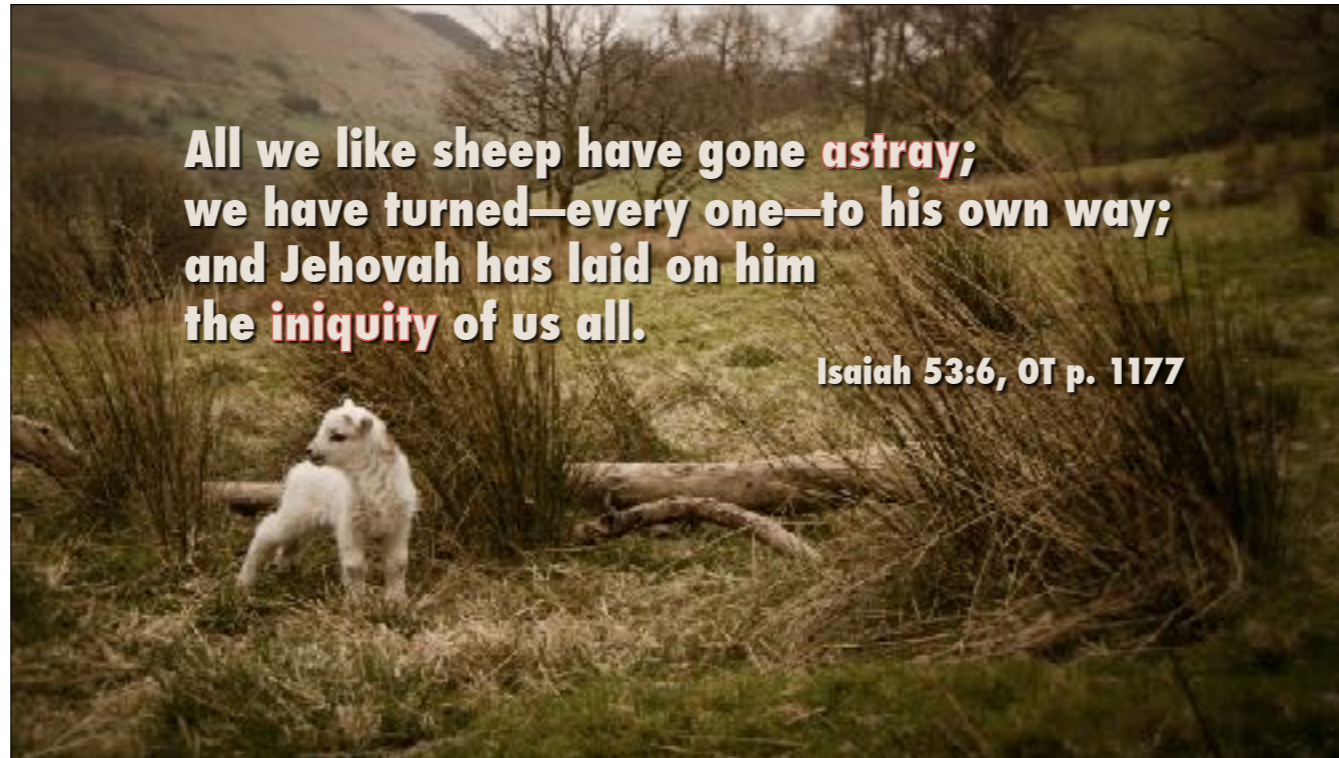
- Our God created us to be in a relationship with him. A part of his family.



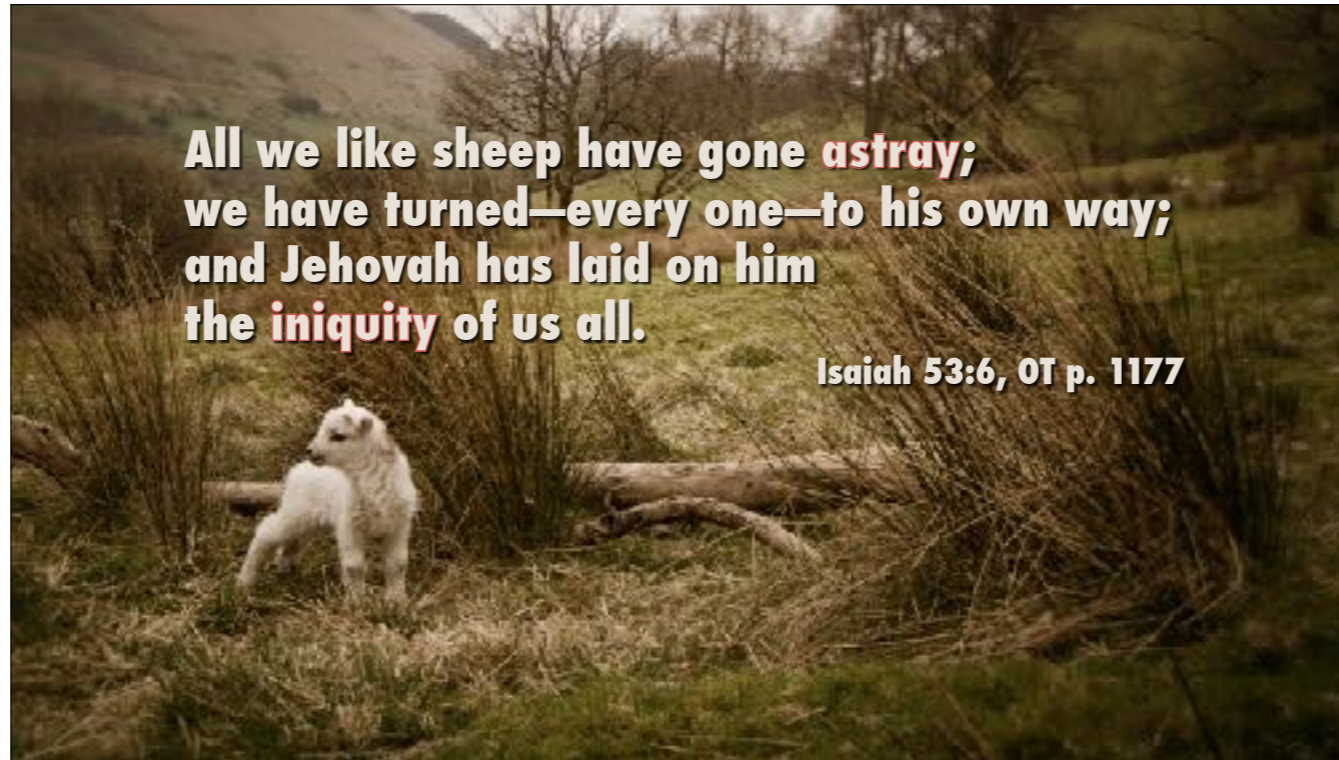
- Isaiah 53:6: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way;
- Astray... wander away (sounds innocent enough)
 - Greener grass, clearer water, different,
 - Not paying attention, look up and don't know where we are
 - MY OWN WAY
 - Dangers everywhere... wolves, rushing waters, poisonous plants



- and Jehovah has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
 - Iniquity!
 - This going astray is serious! Deadly...
 - (CWSB Dictionary) This word indicates sin that is particularly evil, since it strongly conveys the idea of twisting or perverting deliberately.



- 4: griefs and sorrows
- 5: transgressions and iniquities
- 10: guilt
- 11: iniquities
- 12: sin and transgressors



**All we like sheep have gone *astray*;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and Jehovah has laid on him
the *iniquity* of us all.**

Isaiah 53:6, OT p. 1177

- Spiritually we are lost ... and how are we to find our way back?



- What will a good shepherd do when one of his sheep wanders away?
 - Does he care? Just one sheep after all.
 - Luke 15:3-5 (ESV) 3 So he told them this parable: 4 “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? 5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.



- But we are spiritually lost... we must be found spiritually too.
 - Our Shepherd has to seek us ... but it's not easy
- Is. 52:13: "my servant"
 - 3: despised and rejected; man of sorrows; acquainted with grief; esteemed him not
 - 4: stricken, smitten by God, afflicted
 - 7: oppressed, afflicted



- To save us, this shepherd must sacrifice himself to save us
 - 4: borne our griefs; carried our sorrows
 - 5: pierced for transgressions; crushed for our iniquities; chastisement; wounds
 - 6: Jehovah laid on him the iniquity of us all
 - 8: cut off from the land of the living; grave with the wicked



- 10: his soul makes an offering for guilt
- 11: bear their iniquities
- 12: poured out his soul to death; bore the sin of many; intercession for transgressors



- Clearly his sacrifice is not because of how good we are...
 - but because of how lost we are
 - don't recognize our own danger
 - but because he cares for us.
- He saves us to help us
 - 5: peace, healed
 - 11: accounted righteous



- Philip: a very sincere follower of Jesus
- Ethiopian: Jerusalem to worship, reading Isaiah; returning to Ethiopia



- Acts 8:30-34 (ESV) 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. 33 In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” 34 And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”



- Acts 8:35 (ESV) 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.

The Good Shepherd



John 10:1-18, NT p. 178

- 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

The Good Shepherd

Calls his sheep by name and leads them out



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- Follow Him
 - vs. wandering in going own way

The Good Shepherd

If anyone enters by me, he will be saved



John 10:1-18, NT p. 178

- 7 So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep
- 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

The Good Shepherd

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.



John 10:1-18, NT p. 178

- 10b: I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

The Good Shepherd

The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.



John 10:1-18, NT p. 178

- 11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

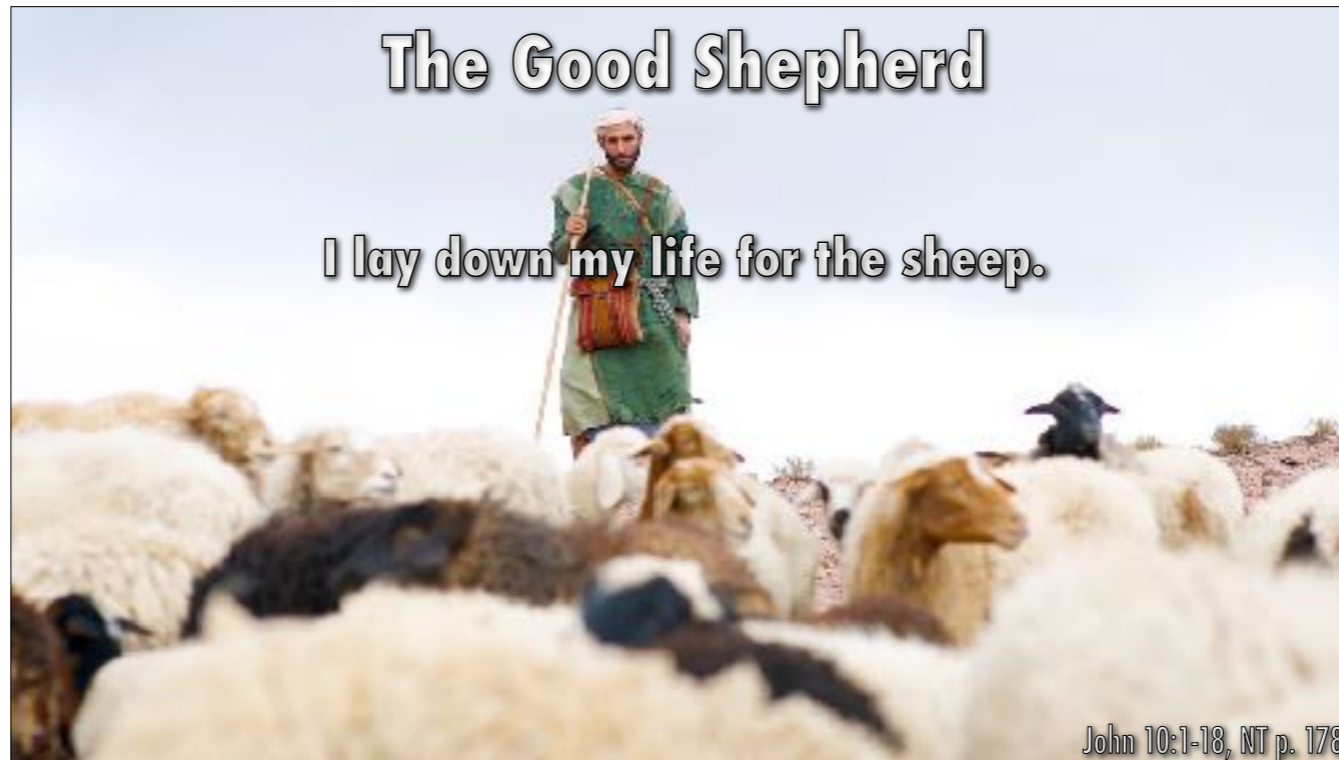
The Good Shepherd

I know my own and my own know me.



John 10:1-18, NT p. 178

- 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me



- 15: I lay down my life for the sheep.
- Is. 53: 12: because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.
- Is. 53: 11: make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

The Good Shepherd

I lay down my life that I may take it up again.



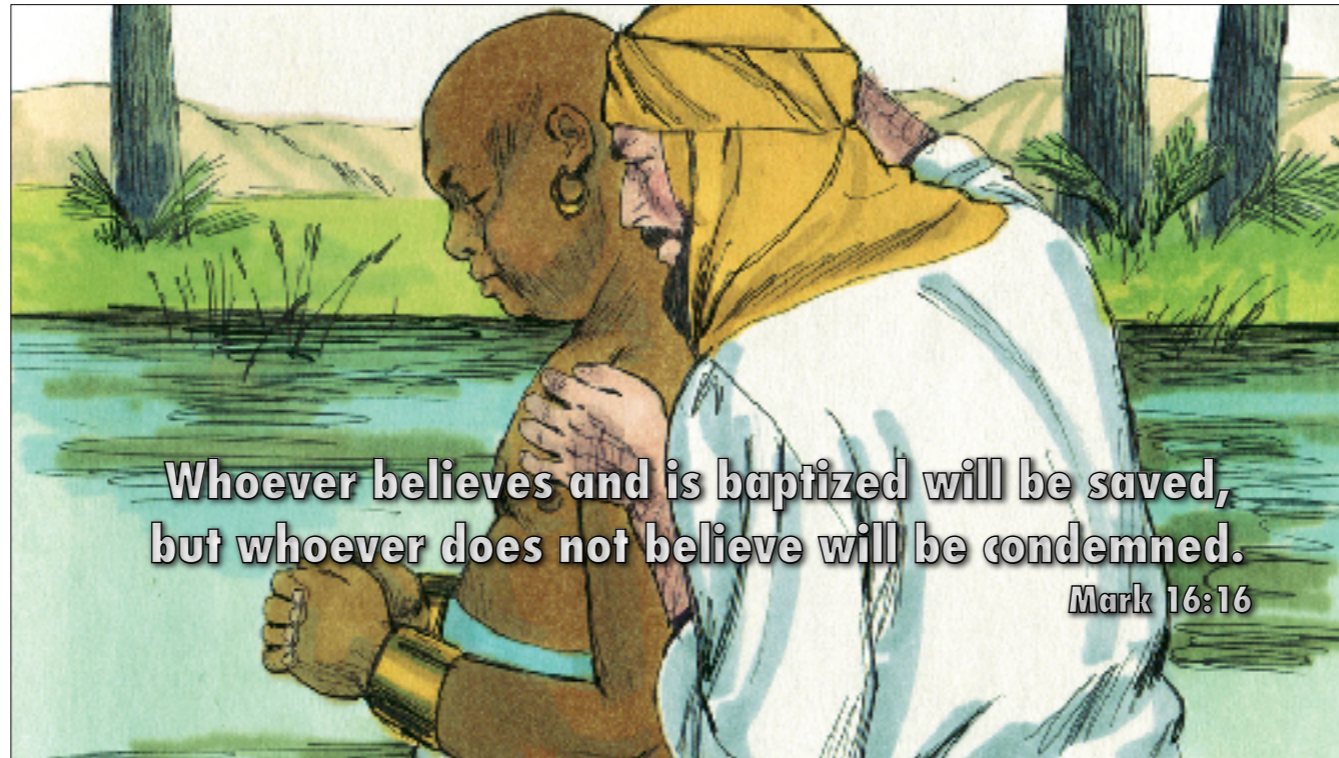
- 17-18: I lay down my life that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.



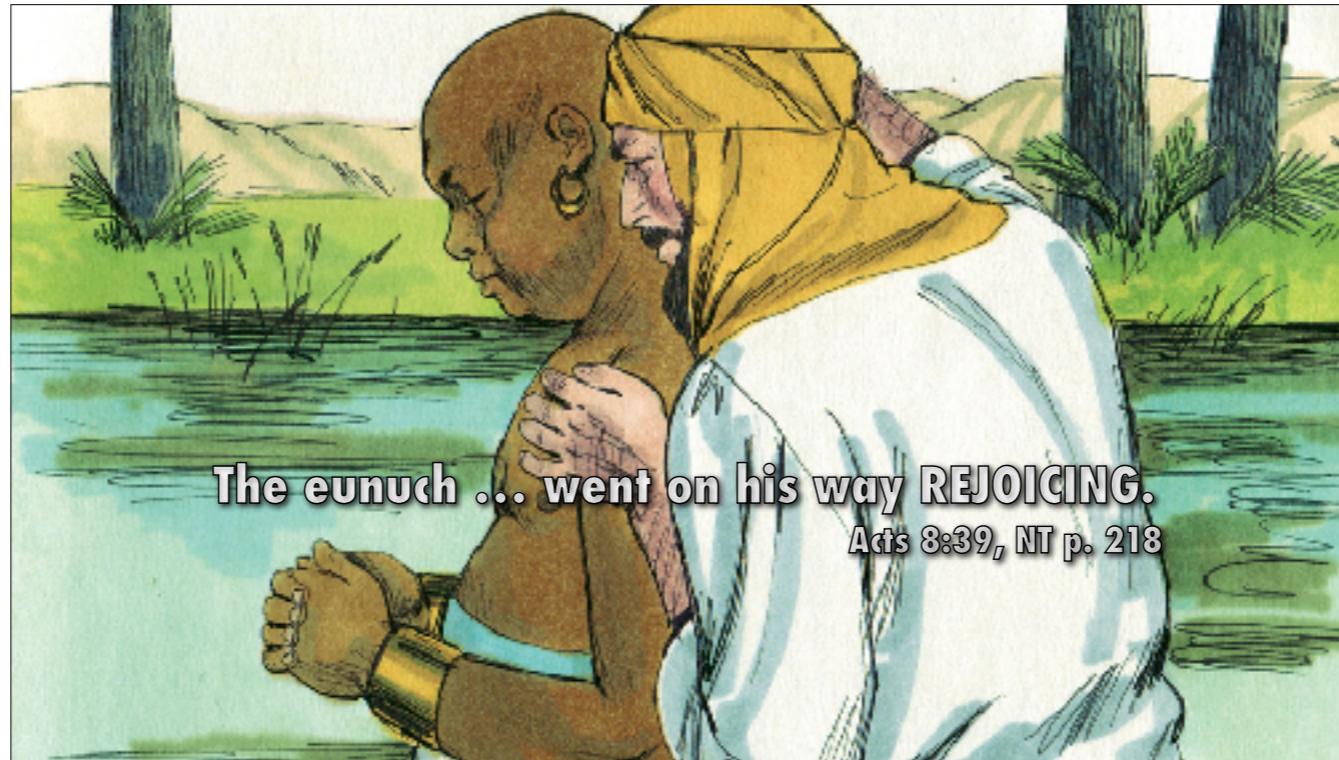
- We don't know how long the ride was... maybe hours.
- The Ethiopian didn't know "**everything**" about Bible, Jesus
- But he knew enough to be saved!



- 6 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.



- Mark 16:16 (ESV) Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.



- Acts 8:39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

You can leave today rejoicing also.

Believe that Jesus is the Savior, the Son of God, the Good Shepherd: gave his life to save you from your sin.

Raised from the dead to give you hope.

Change from following your own ways, and follow the Shepherd of your soul.

Be baptized to wash away sins

Follow Him!

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Astray!

Isaiah 53; Acts 8:26-40; John 10:1-18

Synopsis: Our God describes us as sheep that have gone astray. Over 500 years before Jesus, God prophesied that his servant would come to save his sheep from their sins, the Ethiopian asked about this passage and Philip told him about Jesus (who is the good shepherd). Believing, the Ethiopian was baptized and saved and went home rejoicing.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”