



The sheep needs to be protected from his enemies.

There are two enemies of the sheep.

1. Wolf. The wolf was the greatest enemy of the sheep in the days of Jesus. The wolf would chase the sheep. The sheep were afraid. They would run. Soon the sheep would tire. When the wolf saw this happen, he would corner one sheep or lamb. The wolf would begin to bite the frightened sheep. He would tear his skin. Finally the wolf would kill and eat the sheep.

The shepherd protected the sheep from the wolves. Jesus said that a poor shepherd would -

leave the sheep and run when he saw the wolf coming. Then the wolf would tear and scatter the sheep. (Read John 10:12)

But Jesus is the good shepherd who cares for each one of His sheep.

2. Robbers. The second enemy of the sheep is the robber. These men try to sneak into the flock of sheep. Then they lead the sheep away. They killed the sheep for meat. Sometimes they sold it for money.

TURN CARD OVER

When the children of Israel were travelling from Egypt to the land of Israel, God gave them a law about this.

If a man shall steal a sheep,
he shall return 4 sheep for
the one he stole.

(Read Exodus 22:1)

Sometimes the thief would sneak into the sheepfold and try to lead the sheep away. The thief does not love the sheep. He will kill it or sell it.

Jesus said that there were some people like these robbers. They try to lead God's people away from Him. Don't let anyone lead you away from Jesus. Such people do not really love you. Jesus loves you.