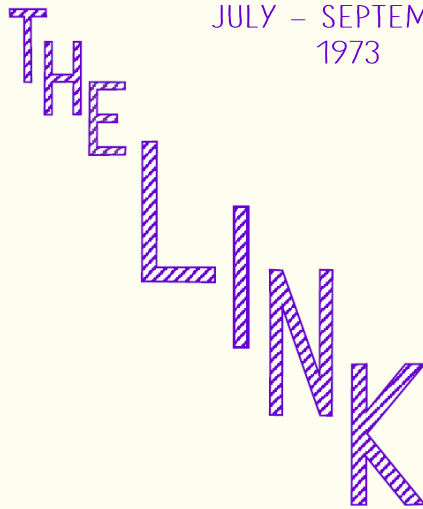


# EXCERPTS FROM

JULY – SEPTEMBER  
1973



THE  
LINK

The Quarterly News Letter of  
NORTH ROAD CHAPEL  
(EVANGELICAL)

**Internet Edition**

One of the most descriptive figures of man used in the Bible is that of a sheep. We find it in both the Old Testament and in the New. There is a peculiar appropriateness to this figure in that a sheep differs from most, if not all other animals, for when a sheep wanders it has no homing instinct or ability to retrace its steps, once out of sight of the flock it just wanders on, and will stray often times into the most dangerous of places and will never return of itself, but has to be recovered by another.

Now a lost sheep will never be sought out, located and rescued by any other than a shepherd - one who knows their habits, who is acquainted with the likely haunts, one who is patient, yet persevering, who searches and searches, intent upon one this - RECOVERY. How apt is the Word of God when it says "All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way" - This is man away from God, wandering in sin, straying into the most dangerous of situations, drifting farther and farther away. But following the tracks of the lost sheep can be traced the footsteps of the GOOD SHEPHERD, calling, listening, searching, 'UNTIL HE FIND IT'. What rescues have been effected - from the blood-thirsty tribes of Africa and

South America; from the ranks of godless communism, from the thralldom of heathenism and superstition, from the hovels of the world's great cities, from the foul moral pollution of Western civilisation - yes into the very dens of iniquity and degradation has redeeming love stretched forth its might hand and rescued the fallen.

The Good Shepherd knows the devious paths of His creatures, He knows where the bleeding and exhausted sons of Adam lie. None but He is acquainted with all our ways, none but He could lay down His life for the sheep. This He did on Calvary's cross and now in the power of endless resurrection life He gives unto us, the lost sheep of this fallen world - ETERNAL LIFE. Have we forgotten the day of all days in our life? - The moment when the everlasting arms reached down and rescued us in our misery and sin, that moment of such rejoicing when He laid us on His shoulders - yes - His shoulders, the strongest part of the body, where men place heavy burdens, the place of strength. Here we are carried across the wilderness.

How often have we trembled as we have approached dark clouds, eerie shadows, or faced Jordan's swelling? Ever let us remember beloved that He is

beneath us, we are bound to His shoulders with eternal cords, and through the perplexing situation, the opposing stream, the adverse current, the cold river and the swelling flood, He will carry us one by one safely into the Father's house.

Never let us forget that we are kept by the power of God. They shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of My hand.

God's people are for ever secure. Take away eternal security from God's people and we have removed one of the brightest jewels from the Word of God.

Dear child of God, Christ is in us - the very hope of glory, it is impossible that we perish, our life is hid with Christ in God. - NEVER PERISH the Scriptures say, do not therefore let us ever dishonour Him by doubting His Word.

We frequently lament the weakness of our faith, the coldness of our love, the earthiness of our spirits, the deadness of our prayers, and the formality of our worship. Let us dwell more upon His grace, which never fails, His love which never varies, His faithfulness that has never changed, His power to keep which will

never be diminished. When these thoughts fill the mind, the heart will cry out in exaltation - Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me, Bless His holy name. Bless the Lord O my soul and forget not all His benefits, who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases, who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies.

Throughout the study of the Shepherd and the sheep in scripture there is one truth which stands out, and that is: individuality - One sheep that is lost, one sheep that the Shepherd seeks and saves, one sheep on His shoulders, one sheep He rejoices over. Brethren and sisters, let us learn of our own individual security, the whole flock is not more loved, cared for, watched over, or more secure than the one sheep on the shoulders of the Shepherd. The weakest and feeblest lamb is the object of His tenderest compassion. He shall gather the lambs with His arms, and carry them in His bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young. "I know My sheep", says the Saviour, "and am known of Mine".

Again we send our love to those who cannot join with us in corporate

worship and service, may you know His grace and peace and God grant that we all may be able to live lives at the level which David was living when he wrote:

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth 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 thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever." (Ps. 23).

Surely this is the language of one who is at rest, whose spirit is tranquil, whose heart knows real peace.

W.H.M.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

The Annual Convention was again a very happy occasion when quite a number of people visited us for the first time and God's servant, Mr. Geoffrey King, brought us such fresh and practical thoughts from the familiar Emmaus Road story.

At the time of writing this, we have held three "Drive-In" Church services, although to date the weather has not been very inviting a very encouraging start has been made, with quite a number of people who were contacted last year back with us again. How we long and pray to see men and women wrought upon by the Holy Ghost. Do stand by us in real intercessory prayer, brethren and sisters, as we go forth in this God-appointed way.