Series: The Shadow of Death

Title: I Will Fear No Evil

Text Psalm 23:4a

June 14, 2020

 [4] Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

 I will fear no evil,

 for you are with me; (ESV)

Organizational Sentence:

4 observations about God and evil.

Outline:

1. The walk goes *through* the valley.
	1. The valley is not the destination.
	2. The valley is the route to the destination.
	3. The valley is a scary place to be a sheep.
	4. The shepherd has determined the other side is worth the journey.
	5. The shepherd knows he can get his sheep through the valley safely.
	6. The sheep don’t know most of that.
2. Death is merely a shadow.
	1. This is a term for deep darkness.
	2. This term has the word death built into it.
	3. So it is as dark as death or deathly dark.
	4. Throughout Psalms it is translated the shadow of death.
	5. In a valley, the high walls create shadows in which predators could hide.
	6. Jesus’ tale of the good Samaritan
3. Evil is real.
	1. Disasters
	2. Diseases
	3. Demons
	4. Deviants
4. The shepherd’s presence prevents fear.
	1. He controls disasters.
	2. He cures disease.
	3. He condemns demons.
	4. He changes or condemns deviants.

Bottom Line:

God is with us through our present fears – both perceived and real – to bring us safely to the other side.