The Good Shepherd Rev. Dr. Eric Kennaugh Immanuel, Batavia

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. John 10:11

In Jesus' day everyone knew the principle. In the noble profession of shepherding the shepherd is to stand between his sheep and any predator. He should fight to the death to defend his flock. Everyone also knew that this was foolish. They are only sheep. Noble as it may seem, the value of a sheep was not worth that of a human life. It is interesting that God never saw this as a foolish principle. He sent Jesus, our Good Shepherd, who never backed down from the predators of our world. He could have said that the value of the life of mere human beings was not worth the life of God. Instead, He demonstrated that the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, as He laid down His life for us, His sheep. Thank goodness that God is not as pragmatic as we are.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, my Good Shepherd, thank You for laying down Your life to defend me from sin, death, and the power of the devil. Help me to show my gratitude by following wherever You lead. Amen.