

7) Revelation 7:17

¹⁷For **the Lamb** at the center of the throne **will be their shepherd**; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

a) **The Lamb is "at the center of the throne"—isn't that Ha-Shem's (or the "Father's") "place."?**

b) Ezekiel 1:22-27

²²Spread out above the heads of the living creatures was what looked something like a vault, sparkling like crystal, and awesome ... ²⁴When the creatures moved, I heard the sound of their wings, like the roar of rushing waters, like the voice of the Almighty, like the tumult of an army. When they stood still, they lowered their wings. ²⁵Then there came a voice from above the vault over their heads as they stood with lowered wings.

²⁶Above the vault over their heads was what looked like a throne of lapis lazuli, and **high above on the throne was a figure like that of a man**. ²⁷I saw that from what appeared to be his waist up he looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire, and that from there down he looked like fire; and brilliant light surrounded him.

1] In mystical literature, this "man" is identified as *Metatron*, the "angel of God's *presence* (or *face*)" for "God's name is in him."

2] Exodus 23:20-21

²⁰"See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. ²¹Pay attention to him and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, since **my Name is in him**.

b. Exodus Rabbah XXXIV:3

The Holy One, blessed be He, said to Israel: '**You are My sheep** and I am the Shepherd,' as it says, *And ye My sheep, the sheep of My pasture, are men, and I am your God* (Ezek. XXXIV, 31); 'and I am the Shepherd,' for it says, *Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel* (Ps. LXXX, 2). Make ye a lodge for the shepherd that he may come and feed you; this is why it is said, '*And let them make Me a sanctuary that I may dwell in their midst*.' **You are a vineyard**, as it says, *For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel* (Isa. V, 7), and **I am the Keeper**, for it says, *Behold, He that keepeth Israel doth neither slumber nor sleep* (Ps. CXXI, 4). Make ye a booth for the keeper that he should look after you. **You are children and I am your Fa-**

ther,¹ as it says, *Ye are the children of the Lord your God* (Deut. XIV, 1), and I am your father, for it says, *For I am become a father to Israel* (Jer. XXXI, 8). It is an honour for children to be with their father and for the father to be with his children, as it says, *Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers* (Prov. XVII, 6). Make ye, therefore, a house for the father that he may come and dwell with his children, hence does it say, '*And let them make Me a sanctuary*.'

3. *The Jewish nation was founded amidst sheep because our unquestioning obedience to G-d is the foundation of our Jewishness. Of course, we are not only G-d's sheep—we are also His children, His bride, His sister, and His vineyard.*

a. Deuteronomy 5:32-33 (Cf. Deu 8:6; 10:12; 11:22; 30:16)

³²So be careful to do what the LORD your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left. ³³**Walk in obedience to all that the LORD your God has commanded you**, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.

b. Joshua 22:4-6

⁴Now that the LORD your God has given them rest as he promised, return to your homes in the land that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other side of the Jordan. ⁵But be very careful to keep the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you: to love the LORD your God, **to walk in obedience to him**, to keep his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul." ⁶Then Joshua blessed them and sent them away, and they went to their homes.

c. 1Kings 2:1-3

¹When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son. ²"I am about to go the way of all the earth," he said. "So be strong, act like a man, ³and observe what the LORD your God requires: **Walk in obedience to him**, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and regulations, as written in the Law of Moses. Do this so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go ...

d. Psalms 128:1

¹A song of ascents. Blessed are all who fear the LORD, **who walk in obedience** to him.

e. Luke 23:54-56

⁵⁴It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin. ⁵⁵The women who had come with Yeshua from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it.