The full verse in the King James version of the Bible from which the title of this paper is taken is: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." The passage might be interpreted and enlarged upon in more contemporary idiom something like this: "All of us are baffled in these troubled times and we don’t know which way to turn. Each one is doing his own thing; but that is not really as satisfying as being committed to a common goal or belonging to a stable community. Surely somewhere there is a good leader who knows the answer, but our actual leaders are bad and are responsible for all our ills and ailments."

The Biblical image of sheep which have gone astray instead of following their shepherd is not very complimentary to man. The sheep is not generally thought of as intelligent like the fox or wise like the owl or strong like the lion, but rather as a mindless animal, requiring someone to think for him and protect him. To the extent that "all we like sheep have gone astray," we do indeed long for a shepherd who will guide us into green and safe pastures. The trouble with this simile, when applied to human beings, is that the shepherd is another sheep. He may be dressed up in a long cloak and accompanied by a tall staff with a crook on the end of it or by other formidable symbols of high office. But underneath the cloak is one of the sheep, and not, alas, a member of a more intelligent and more far-seeing species. But the wish, and sometimes the need, for a leader is so strong that it is almost always possible for one of the sheep to play the role of shepherd of the flock.

"Leader" is a word which implies a relationship like father, son; mother, daughter, as opposed to words like "man" or "girl", which can stand more independently. Just as the word "son" does not have any sense without a parental word like "father" or "mother" implied in it, so the word "leader" does not have any sense without a word like "follower" implied in it. The interrelationships of followers and leaders are among the most significant of human relationships. In fact most