

John Chapter 10 “The Good Shepherd”

I. The Good Shepherd Calls the Sheep by Name (Verses 1-6)

1. Make sure you are following the shepherd and not a stranger!

- a) Those who have been born again and placed into the fold of God will follow the Good Shepherd.
- b) Do you know the voice of Jesus?
 - ◆ This is all about a relationship. Speaking to God in prayer, and letting Him speak to you through His word.
 - ◆ When no one else is around do you know Him?

II. The Good Shepherd Cares for the Sheep (Verses 7-21)

1. He is the door (7-10)

- a) The only door to the good life (9, 10)
 - ◆ True fulfillment in life comes not from more material possessions but from the green pastures of our Lord
 - ✎ *Psalms 23:2 “He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.”*
 - ✎ *Matthew 11:28 “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”*
- b) The only door to eternal life
 - ◆ Jesus is the only one who can save us. He is the only door to Heaven
 - ✎ *Acts 4:12 “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”*
 - ✎ *John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”*

2. He has come to give life (10)

- a) But Satan & the false shepherds can only bring destruction
 - (i) Some tourists were making their way through the Holy Land. They came with their tour guide to a crowded intersection, crowded mostly with sheep. Three shepherds were taking a break at an intersection in the market place and all of their sheep were intermingled in the center of the square. The tour guide said, “Shepherds always lead their sheep. Watch.” As the shepherds said their good-byes they headed out in three different directions, each calling out to their sheep as they went. The tourists were amazed as they watched all of the sheep separate and follow their particular shepherd. They knew their shepherd’s voice. Later in the tour, the group stopped for a break. A couple looked out the bus window to see a man walking behind a sheep beating them with a stick to drive the sheep where he wanted it to go. The couple ran to the tour guide, “I thought you said that shepherds always lead their sheep. Look at that man.” The guide looked and took a minute to assess the situation. “The man with the stick is not a shepherd,” the guide replied. “He’s a butcher.” Shepherds lead their sheep. Butchers drive them.

3. He lays His life down for the sheep (11-21)

- a) He will not flee when danger comes like a hireling (12-13)
 - ◆ This is how you know a good pastor—does he care about himself or his people more?
 - (i) Run faster than you
- b) He laid His life down willingly. (15-18)
 - ✎ *John 19:10-11 “Then Pilate said to Him, “Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?” 11 Jesus answered, “You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above...”*

✎ *John 15:13-14* "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. 14 You are My friends if you do whatever I command you."

c) He is able to raise Himself from the dead (18)

✎ *John 2:19-21* "Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20 Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" 21 But He was speaking of the temple of His body."

III. The Good Shepherd Keeps the Sheep (Verses 22-29)

1. God's true sheep have eternal life

a) The Father and the Son are both there to make sure we don't fall away. We are in good hands!

✎ *Matthew 18:12-14* "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? 13 And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray. 14 Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish."

IV. The Good Shepherd Claims to be God (Verses 30-42)

1. He is one with the Father (30-33)

a) One God three persons

b) The Jews understood better than the modern day cultists—Jesus was claiming to be God

◆ That's why they were going to kill him with stones.

✎ *John 5:18* "Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God."

✎ *John 8:57-59* "Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." 59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by."

2. He used the Word to correct their ignorance (34-39)

a) The judges of Psalm 82 were called "gods" because in their office they determined the fate of other men. Also, in Exodus 21:6 and 22:8-9, God calls earthly judges "gods."

b) If they called sinful judges "gods" why were they so upset that Jesus, who really is God, has called Himself the Son of God.

3. Many believed in Him and became His sheep. (40-42)