

John 10

John 10.1-6

V1 – We need to understand the idea of the shepherd

-Bad shepherd – **Read Jeremiah 23:1-4**

Read 1 Peter 5:1-4 – For elders today – not absolute dictators – subject to the "Chief Shepherd" and answerable to Christ himself

-**Other connotations about shepherds?** *Psalms 23* – very comforting

See *Luke 15:1-7* - Parable of Good Shepherd

-The sheepfold – sort of like a corral today (not a barn)

-The sheep were placed in fold for the night

-**What were two ways of getting into the fold?** Climb over wall or come through the door (proper way)

-**Which way did Jesus use?** The door - he came according to all Old Testament prophecies

-**Where were robbers?** Pharisees – they stole God's people by misusing the Old Testament

V2 – Jesus was the true shepherd

V3 – Ancient shepherds named their sheep – they recognized the voice of their master

-Dogs today will do this, won't they?

V4 – Jesus leads his sheep – they are not "driven" or beaten, but follow Jesus

V5 – Sheep will not follow someone in shepherd's clothes; they have to recognize his voice

V6 – Really an allegory – a comparison with real life – not really a story

-**Did the Pharisees get to the point of these words?** No

John 9.7-18 – The application of the allegory

V7 – Jesus was both the door and the Good Shepherd

-He speaks of himself as the door

V8 – "All who came before me" = probably the Pharisees

V9 – #3 I AM (#1 bread of life – *John 6:35*, #2 light of world – *John 8:12*)

-**In what sense is Jesus the door?** He is the only way to salvation

-There are many modern movements to unite all churches, but it just cannot be done

-The way of salvation is only through Jesus and His commandments

-There is some evidence of ancient sheepfolds with openings for the door – the shepherd would sleep in the doorway

V10 – **What motive does the thief have?** Entirely selfish

-**How do we have "life abundantly?"** So many blessings from the Christian way of life

V 11 – #4 I AM statement – The good shepherd

- What is the basic character of the good shepherd?** He lays down his life for his sheep
- Old Testament reference: *1 Samuel 17:34-37* - David killed a lion, because he had to protect his sheep

V 12 – How **does a hired person act in danger?** Flees

- In a business, the hired man wants only to save his own job
- Who would be represented by the hireling?** The Pharisees, those who preyed on people and their money
- Also, we are to protect the flock from "wolves"
- There is such a thing as false teacher
- Some say, "I don't judge my Christian brother," but we are required to (*1 John 4.1-2*)

V 13 – When the going get rough, the hireling flees

V 14-15 – Jesus knows his sheep and vice versa, just as he knows the Father

V 15 – **Would he be called upon to die for his sheep?** Yes, he would lay down his life for his sheep

V 16 – **What reference here?** To the Gentiles (with Cornelius)

Read Ephesians 2:11-17

- He had already spoken to Samaritan woman at the well
- Notice the "one fold"

How many folds were there? Only one, either we are in Christ's fold or in Satan's fold

V 17 – Christ will take his life up again

V 18 – **Did Jesus suffer death under compulsion?** No, voluntarily

- What are the implications of this?** Jesus was all powerful, even though he was killed

John 10.19-21

V 19 – **Effect of these words?** The Jews were divided

V 20 – **Two alternatives?** He had a demon or he was insane

V 21 – **Objection?** How could he heal this blind man?

- Why did the discussion end here?** An undeniable argument (healing the blind)

John 10.22-30

V 22 – Feast of Dedication, commemorating the rededication of the temple after Antiochus

Epiphanies had offered a pig there

- Rededicated in 165 B.C. by Judas Maccabaeus

- Today called Hanukkah (in December)
- A candle is lit each day during the feast
- Very patriotic and cheerful; no mourning is allowed

V 23 – Season? Winter

-**Location?** Solomon's porch

Read Acts 3:11 – The lame man was healed near there

-A covered area (protection from the winter)

V 24 – Jews are upset that Jesus had kept them in suspense for so long

V 25 – Had Jesus already told them? *John 8:58* – the I AM

-The healing of the blind man should have answered their questions

V 26 – What kept them from becoming the sheep of Jesus? Did they have the choice to believe or not to believe? Yes, Jesus was trying here to persuade them

-Very important: The "sheep" are the ones who believe

-But these Jews could not turn loose their Pharisaical traditions

-They seem determined to hold onto the past here

-They had the opportunity to believe and could have become "sheep" (disciples) of Jesus, but they chose not to

-Point: sheep = those who choose to "believe"

V 27 – Character of the "sheep"? They hear Jesus and follow Jesus

-In other words, they do more than listen, but they also obey (follow)

V 28 – What is the reward of following Jesus? Eternal life

-Those who believe in "Once saved always saved" use this as their text

-**Who does "them" refer to in the last phrase?** His sheep

-**Who are his sheep?** Those who believe

Read Romans 8:35-39 – but we can separate ourselves from Christ

Read Revelation 3:4-5 – This indicates that some will have their names erased from the Book of Life

V 29 – It is not possible for Satan to seize us against our will

V 30 – A constantly recurring idea

John 10.31-42

V 31 – Not the first time; see *John 5:18, 8:20, 8:59, Leviticus 24:10ff* (blasphemy was punishable by death)

V 32 – Reply? For which miracle are you stoning me?

V 33 – No fear on part of Jesus; he quietly resumed his reasoning with them

- Their charge?** Jesus was claiming to be God
- They did not stop to consider that it might be true

V 34-35 – Interesting – Jesus directs them back to Scriptures

- Psalm 82:6* – refers to evil leaders as "gods" when acting with authority of God (persons of great dignity)

V 36 – Reasoning of Jesus: If evil magistrates on rare occasions were called "gods," then surely God's son can use the term also

V 37 – Jesus: Judge me by my works

- Same today: if person says he can fly, we can take five minutes – let him fly off the tallest building in town

V 38 – Jesus: If nothing else, believe based on miracles

V 39 – **Response of Jews?** They still tried to kill Him

V 40 – He left Jerusalem

- Maybe he needed the rest, and maybe he saw better opportunities in the area across Jordan

V 41 – Sad fact of human nature – some groups of people are more receptive to gospel than others

- Was John the Baptist performing miracles?** No
- His method?** Preaching
- Effectiveness?** Many believed, based solely on his preaching

V 42 – Many in Trans-Jordan believed in Jesus

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