

The Ministry of the True Shepherd Part 1

John 10:1-21

I. Jesus' illustration of the true shepherd John 10:1-6

A. Jesus illustrates that religion is not sufficient for salvation (1)

1 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

B. True sheep recognize Jesus' voice (2-5)

2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

II. Jesus is the door of salvation John 10:7-10

A. The work of the door (6,7,9)

6 Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them. 7 Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ... 10 I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

B. The work of thieves and robbers (8,10a)

8 All who *ever* came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them.... 10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

III. Jesus is the good shepherd John 10:11-21

A. A deceitful shepherd doesn't care for the sheep (12-13)

12 But a hireling, *he who is not the shepherd*, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. 13 The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep.

B. A good shepherd loves and knows his sheep 11, 14-18

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. ... 14 I am the good shepherd; and I know My *sheep*, and am known by My own. 15 As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. 16 And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd. 17 "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. 18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."

C. The good shepherd's identity will cause you to question your beliefs 19-21

19 Therefore there was a division again among the Jews because of these sayings. 20 And many of them said, "He has a demon and is mad. Why do you listen to Him?" 21 Others said, "These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

Conclusion

1. The true shepherd knows you. Do you know the true shepherd? (Jn.17:3)
2. The true shepherd is the door. Have you entered through the eternal door?
3. The true shepherd is a good shepherd because he gave up his life for us.