

"Who is Jesus?": The Door John 10:1-10

John 10:1 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber.

John 10:2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

John 10:3 To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

John 10:4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

John 10:5 A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

John 10:6 This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

John 10:7 ¶ So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.

John 10:8 All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.

John 10:9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Introduction:

- Connect with conclusion of Chp.9
 - "Truly, Truly" connects v.1 with chp. 9
 - Judgment (separation or sifting)
 - 1 John 1:8
 - The Pharisees view of salvation
- The continuing teaching on judgment purpose of Christ. The setting apart of the sheep with the focus first of all on the great shepherd.
- READ THE TEXT

- Closest we get to a parable in John. John writes more in pictures than puzzles, as Vern Poythress puts it in his book on Revelation (*The Returning King*).
- We tend to want to solve the puzzle rather than see the picture.
 - SEE... Don't try to make it all FIT together.
 - A PICTURE used from this time of year (winter) heading toward the Feast of Dedication (Hanakkuh), after the Feast of Booths
 - This is an image (sheep / shepherd) used throughout the OT that the Jews would have understood.
- In order for the people to understand the text, they need to know the context and what the Jews would have understood about this imagery.
 - **Numbers 27:16-20**, "16 "Let the Lord, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the congregation 17 who shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, that the congregation of the Lord may not be as sheep that have no shepherd." 18 So the Lord said to Moses, "Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him. 19 Make him stand before Eleazar the priest and all the congregation, and you shall commission him in their sight. 20 You shall invest him with some of your authority, that all the congregation of the people of Israel may obey."
 - **John 9:28-29** (Moses → Joshua "yeshua")
- Stay basic here: (not meant to be cohesive, rather to show the same point from different perspectives)
- REMEMBER: He spoke in **John 9:40-41** about coming for judgment – separating the real from the false, the sheep from the goats, the wheat from the tares. He does so here with both the leaders (true and false) and the sheep.

THE ENTRY IS CHRIST (vv.1-6)

- A) Entering The Sheepfold (v.1)
 - a. Jewish audience
 - b. Thieves
 - c. Robbers
 - d. Context suggests Pharisees
 - e. Extends to false shepherds
 - f. V.1 is used for identification purposes

- B) The Shepherd enters by the Door (v.2)
 - a. Jesus is the Shepherd
 - b. Delivers the Truth...is the Truth
 - c. Doing the Will of God

- C) The Sheep Know the Shepherd (vv.3-6)
 - a. Because the Shepherd Knows the Sheep (v.3)
 - i. Individually
 - ii. By name. Connection with other passages and the idea of individual substitutionary atonement
 - iii. Not everyone is a sheep
 - b. The Shepherd knows His own and He dies for them to make them His possession (v.4)
 - i. We do not know who all the sheep are, that's why we are warned against false teachers and called to separate from habitually sinful people who claim to be Christians (we must assess fruit, whereas Christ knows perfectly)
 - ii. **Romans 8:30**, "And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified."
 - iii. His Sheep reject false shepherds (v.5)
 - iv. Jesus models persistence and proclamation in **verse 6**. We proclaim to sheep and non-sheep alike! They could not understand because they weren't his sheep, yet he tells them anyway and with explanation.

- v. **Spurgeon**, "If sinners will be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies. And if they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees, imploring them to stay. If hell must be filled, at least let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go there unwarned and unprayed for."

D) APPLICATION:

- a. Do you believe Christ is the Only Way to Salvation?
- b. Do you hear His voice and understand? If so, you are one of His sheep.

THE DOOR OPENS TO REAL LIFE (vv.7-10)

- Almost like a "RESET" on the PICTURE. Now describes Himself as the Door.

- A) Christ is the Only Door (v.7)
 - a. Door
 - b. Of the Sheep

- B) There are many Voices / Thieves (v.8)
 - a. The Real Sheep do not Listen
 - b. Those who follow other voices are not sheep
 - c. 1 John 2:19

- C) Christ is the Only Door for all mankind (v.9)
 - a. Third "I AM" statement
 - b. Anyone (**John 14:6**, "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.")
 - c. Enters by me (Jesus...the Cross)
 - i. **Hebrews 3:16-19**, "16 For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? 17 And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose

bodies fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? 19 So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.”

- ii. **Hebrews 4:14-16**, “14 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”
- iii. **Hebrews 10:11-14,19-23**, “11 And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, 13 waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. 14 For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.... 19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but

encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

- d. Will be saved
- e. Will go in
- f. Will find pasture (abundant life)
 - i. Be Safe
 - ii. Be Fed
 - iii. 2 Peter 1:10-11

D) The Thief (False teachers / Satan) has a purpose (**v.10**)

- a. Steal (rob, take away)
- b. Kill (butcher, murder)
- c. Destroy (bring to an end, ruin)

E) In Christ is Life (**v.10b**)

- a. Eternal Life
- b. Abundantly
 - i. Full & Excessive
 - ii. He is all-satisfying (because, as the door and as the shepherd, He is all-satisfying)

F) **APPLICATION:**

- a. Do you see that Christ is the only WAY to God for all mankind (not just one of many)?
- b. Do you have life abundantly?
 - i. Christian are you living a joy-filled life in the One whose voice you know and follow? If not, go back to the cross and see your Shepherd, your Door, and find your joy in Him!
 - ii. Unbeliever, are you hearing His voice calling this morning above all the others and are you starting to recognize him?