



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

## JOHN 10:7-18

### LESSON: THE GOOD SHEPHERD — May 7, 2023

#### INTRODUCTION:

**10:1-6** John is the writer where he brings forth the Good Shepherd's love. We will see three points developed: 1) The Shepherd comes in by the door; 2) The Shepherd is the door; and 3) Jesus is the Shepherd of the sheep. There were those who pretend to be shepherds, but Jesus is the true Shepherd. Thieves and robbers attempt to enter the sheepfold by climbing over the wall. True leaders enter in by the door. **The Shepherd knows** His sheep by name and calls them by name. **The sheep hear** His voice, and therefore, the Shepherd is able to lead them out of the sheepfold. Knowing the Shepherd's voice means they won't follow a stranger. The Pharisees didn't understand this parable of the Shepherd and the sheep.

#### LESSON: I. THE ONLY DOOR JOHN 10:7-10

**10:7** Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. Jesus brings up the door again; the entrance way. "*Verily, verily*" meaning "*truly, truly*"; I tell you the truth which stresses a critical importance of what He was about to say. "*I am the Door of the sheep*"; the only Door. Therefore, if a man wishes to enter where God is, he must enter the Door of Christ. There is no other way in.

**10:8** All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. All others (scribes and Pharisees) who claimed to enter the fold other than the door before the coming of the only True shepherd (Jesus) were thieves and robbers. They claim to have the way to God:

- They claim to know the right way, and to have the newest ideas, and the latest truth and knowledge.
- They claim to have the right teaching, religion, works, maturity, philosophy, psychology, ideas, and concepts.
- They claim to be the door that opens into God's presence.

But Jesus says that they are thieves and robbers. "**Thief**" implies deception and trickery; "**Robber**" implies violence and destruction. They are out to steal the sheep, both their wool (possessions), and their lives (loyalty). However the proof that Jesus is the only Door, and all others are false doors is that the sheep did not hear the other voices. They only hear one voice, the Son of God Himself and no other. The real sheep know the Shepherd's voice and have the ability to discern it.

**10:9** I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

*Acts 4:12 says "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name, under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved".* There's only one way. Jesus tells us that He's the Door. When we enter in, we shall be saved. Because of Salvation, Jesus sustains all that go in and out the door to find assurance of provision.

- His pasture alone can satisfy the soul.
- His pasture alone can restore the soul.
- His pasture alone can give life and give it forever.
- His pasture alone can feed with knowledge and understanding.

**10:10** The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. Jesus now gives the position of the thief.

- The one who says there is another door is a thief and a robber.

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- The one who climbs over to get to the sheep another way is a thief.
- The one who tries to steal the soul of the sheep by leading them away from the restrictiveness of Christ is a thief.
  - He tries it by deception which leads to destruction, and the sheep will be destroyed.

The thief wants the sheep to never know the true Shepherd. The thieves and robbers refer to the Jewish leaders or false teachers who are trying to lead Israel while avoiding Jesus as the door. In reality we know, the thief to be the devil, the father of lies.

<b>Satan the thief:</b>	<b>Jesus, the Good Shepherd:</b>
Satan's mission is to steal, kill, and destroy.	Jesus' mission is to bring everlasting life to those who will accept it.
The thief takes away life	Jesus gives life and He gives life more abundantly.

*"Abundantly"* means plentiful and rich nourishment.

## II. THE ONLY SHEPHERD JOHN 10:11-15

**10:11** I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. The word *"good"* specifies that there are some bad and false shepherds. Jesus claimed to be the Good Shepherd!

1. He is called **"good"** because He risks and sacrifices His life for the sheep (Jh.10:11, 14).
2. He is called **"great"** because He arose from the dead and He perfects the sheep (Heb.13:20-21).
3. He is called the **"shepherd and bishop of our souls"** because He welcomes those who wandered off and went astray (1Pt.2:25).
4. He is called **"chief"** because He is to appear and return to earth with great glory, and reward to the faithful (1Pt.5:4).

A man outside of Jesus Christ only exists because he does not believe. The man in Christ Jesus has life more abundantly and will live eternally with Christ because he believes. It is for this reason that the Son was sent into the world, to show men what life is; the life He is willing to give for the sheep!

**10:12** But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. Unlike the Good Shepherd, the "hireling" is called a hired hand who does not own the sheep, and has no true love or concern for the welfare of the sheep. He is a unfaithful, irresponsible, and a false worker and abandons the sheep when they encounter trouble. His interest was not a calling, but...

- A job and profession
- a position and prestige
- money and comfort
- authority and esteem

He seeks to benefit self, and not the sheep. In the moment of danger, the hireling flees and runs away. This causes the sheep to be in danger and in error. They are exposed to the wolf; the enemy.

- Some of the sheep are ravaged and eaten, meaning destroyed. And they can't receive the true Shepherd's voice because of the lies fed to them has torn them down to be prey.
- The remaining sheep are scattered throughout the wilderness of the world, and lost to the Owner (God). It would take time to recover them if they are truly the Lord's sheep.

**10:13** The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. It will come out sooner or later what kind of shepherd is over the sheep. A leopard always has spots. When the sheep are not taken care of, the hireling's spots will show up because he is a hireling.

**10:14** I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. Jesus says it again that He is the Good Shepherd. The Truth of the Good Shepherd:

1. Jesus knows His sheep.
  - The sheep know Jesus.

There is an intimate knowledge and relationship between Jesus and His sheep. He keeps His mind on





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them, looking after them by His Spirit; caring for their needs through intercession and shepherding. The sheep in turn recognizes all that He does. And they thereby believe, trust, follow, and are fed by Him.

**10:15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.** Jesus gives us an illustration of Jesus and His Father's relationship. Truths of the Good Shepherd:

2. Jesus knows the Father.
  - o The Father knows Jesus.
3. Jesus will lay down His life for the sheep.

The Father knows and approves of everything Jesus is doing. When Jesus claims to know the Father, He does not mean that He knows God in the same sense as other men may know Him. Jesus knows the Father perfectly because they are one; there is no difference in them. They have the same nature and power and existence.

*The Father came down from glory wrapped Himself in flesh to die for the sins of man; to substitute His life for man's; to give man a new life.*

The emphasis is that the Good Shepherd, not a bad one, is willing to lay down His life for His sheep. Therefore,

- He would face the enemy of the sheep.
- He would not flee from His calling and purpose.
- He would stand and fight the enemy as the Good Shepherd was sent to do, and place Himself in front of the sheep, so the enemy could not get to the sheep. How awesome is that? That Christ would think our lives are worthy of this cost, so He lays down His life for the sheep!

## III. THE WHOLE FLOCK JOHN 10:16-18

**10:16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.** The "*other sheep*" was a reference to world-wide evangelism. "*I have*" means that He has others that have not yet come into the fold, but will be able to come in. Truth of the Good Shepherd:

4. Jesus enlarges the fold.

Other sheep are able to come in. He is now stating that His fold will include both Jews and Gentiles (Acts 10:28). A Gentile who follows Jesus is grafted into; adopted as sons into the faith of Jesus Christ. The future sheep were to become sheep of His by hearing His voice. There is to be one flock, not two. There will not be several shepherds—Only one true shepherd, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself over the church! The very fact that Jesus has the capacity to enlarge the fold is another truth of the Good Shepherd. He is the Good Shepherd in that He works and labors for both the Owner of the sheep and the sheep. He works to keep the sheep healthy so that they will reproduce and increase the flock. An enlarged and healthy flock, of course, means a pleased Owner (The Father)!

**10:17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.** Truth of the Good Shepherd:

5. Jesus is loved by the Father.
  - o The Father loves Him. Why? - Because of Jesus' sacrificial death and resurrection.
    - a. Jesus took the sin of man upon Himself to free man from sin.
    - b. Jesus arose from the dead to free man from death.

Jesus is willing to die because He knows He is able to take his life up again. Die and Get back up again!

**10:18 No man taketh 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 commandment have I received of my Father.** Truth of the Good Shepherd:

6. Jesus follows the Father's command.

His death was the supreme act of obedience. John 6:38 says, "*For I came down from heaven not to do*





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*mine own will. but the will of Him that sent me."* It was voluntary. He has that kind of power to willingly die. No man took His life. He sacrificed it Himself. But, He says, this command I received of my Father! But the power to take it was His and His alone. It was just in Him to consider what was at stake! This gives other meaning to the death of Jesus than just meeting man's need. It means that Jesus did not just die because of sin, but that He wished to glorify and honor God. This was the highest of callings. God had been terribly dishonored by the first man, Adam, and by all those who followed after him. Jesus Christ brought honor to God by showing that at least one man thought more of God's glory than of anything else. Jesus showed us that God's Will; God's command meant more than any personal desire or ambition which man might ever have. You can never receive honor if you don't show honor!

## SUMMARY:

Jesus expounds: I Am the Door for the sheep (10:7). Those who attempted to come or enter the fold other than the door, before the coming of the only true shepherd (Jesus) were thieves and robbers, and had no authority over the sheep, but the sheep did not hear them (10:8). Only entering into the Shepherd's door, the sheep are saved. Jesus is their entrance and authority when going into and coming out of the pasture (10:9). All those who enter another way, other than by the door, wish to prey upon the flock. There is a thief that steals, kills, and destroys, but Jesus enters in to give life (salvation) and comes to give life and life more abundantly (10:10). (10:7-10).

The mark of the Good Shepherd is that He gives His life for His sheep (10:11). But there is one called a hireling. He cares nothing for the sheep, in fact, he runs away when any danger comes about because he neither owns nor has authority over the sheep. Therefore, when he sees danger, he leaves the sheep to be caught by the wolf (the enemy) and the rest to scatter and be lost (10:12). This is what's expected by a hireling. He has no lasting ties to the sheep (10:13). The Lord Jesus knows whom He has chosen, and the sheep knows the Good Shepherd (10:14). Of course the Father and the Son know each other because they are One in nature, Spirit, and power. And Jesus adds, "*I lay down my life for the sheep.*" The sacrifice of the Good Shepherd goes even as far as death (10:15). (10:11-15).

Jesus also lets the Jewish leaders know that there are other sheep not in this particular fold; not of the Jewish Church or nation, but they are Gentiles. They will hear the voice of the Good Shepherd. They will come into the fold and be one flock because there will be one Shepherd (10:16). Therefore, the Father loves the Good Shepherd in that He not only laid down His life, but He had the power to take it up again (10:17). No other has this power. This was the commandment that Jesus received of the Father, and therefore He honored the Father (10:18). (10:16-18).

## APPLICATION:

Those leaders that follow Christ will hear His voice. As your relationship mature, you will hear and know Jesus' voice. There was only One who laid down His life for you, and there was only One who was resurrected. Therefore follow this Good Shepherd by reading His Word. His Way will lead to Salvation!