

John 10:1-21 **The Shepherd – The Door of the Sheep – The Good Shepherd**

The Shepherd – or a Thief and a robber

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. 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." 6 Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them.

I Am the Door of the Sheep

7 Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

I Am The Good Shepherd

11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. 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. 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.

Other 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.

Power to Lay My Life Down – Power to Take It Again

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."

Division among the Jews

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?" NKJV

Facts Revealed:

The Shepherd – or a Thief and a robber

- ✚ Comparing the true Messiah by contrast with the false messiah, Jesus used the illustration of the shepherd leading his sheep. [John 10:1-6]
- ✧ The Shepherd calls his own sheep by name, and brings them out going before them.
- ✧ His own sheep follow him because they know his voice.
- ✧ This reveals that there are sheep that are not the Shepherd's own, who do not follow the Shepherd because they do not know His voice.

- ✧ Their shepherds are thieves and robbers, dangerous to follow.
- ✧ The factor identifying the Lord's sheep is the fact that **they know and follow the Shepherd Jesus.**

I Am the Door of the Sheep – Providing Life Abundantly

- ✧ Jesus is the door providing the only way of safety and Salvation. [John 10:7-10]
- ✧ The false leaders of Israel who came before Jesus with their oral law and traditions of men are thieves and robbers who do not provide security or salvation, but instead they come to steal, kill, and to destroy.
- ✧ Jesus came that the sheep may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

I Am The Good Shepherd

- ✧ Jesus is the Good Shepherd Who gives His Life for His Sheep. [John 10:11-15]
- ✧ The hireling (traditional religious leader) has no heart for the sheep and flees at the first sign of danger leaving them easy prey for the enemy (Satan), he is only there for what he can get for himself in personal gain.
- ✧ Jesus the Good Shepherd knows His Own Sheep and is known by them.
- ✧ The Father knows His Son Jesus, and Jesus knows the Father personally, and will lay down his life for the sheep He has come to save.

Other Sheep

- ✧ 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. [John 10:16, 17:20]
- ✧ There are other sheep (Gentile believers), who Jesus will bring together with the believers among the Jews, and will make them all one flock.
- ✧ They all together will hear His voice and be united as believers under Jesus the Good Shepherd.

Power to Lay My Life Down – Power to Take It Again

- ✧ Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. 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." [John 10:17-18]
- ✧ The Father loves Jesus because Jesus obeys the Father even to the point of laying down His life for the sheep (Saints).
- ✧ Jesus, being God the Word, has power to lay down His life and to take it up again.
- ✧ This is the commandment from the Father from the beginning. [John 17:5, 24, Ephesians 1:3-4, 1 Peter 1:17-20]

Division among the Jews

- ✧ Therefore there was a division again among the Jews because of these sayings. And many of them said, "He has a demon and is mad. Why do you listen to Him?" [John 10:19-20]
- ✧ Others said, "These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?" [John 10:21, 9:16]
- ✧ So there was a division among the Pharisees (Jews).
- ✧ Some looked at the evidence based on their own commandments, while others were of the opinion that only God is able to do the miracle they saw. Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea were two of them. [John 3:1-2, 10:19-21, 19:38-39]
- ✧ Nicodemus along with Joseph of Arimathea were Pharisees and members of the Counsel. [John 3:1, 7:45-52, 19:38-42, Matthew 27:57, Mark 15:43, Luke 23:50-51]
- ✧ Both of them as well as many other Rulers of the Jews had considered the evidence and were secretly believers in Jesus, but kept it secret because of their fear of the Pharisees and Jews in opposition to Jesus. [John 9:22, 12:42-43, 19:38-39]