

John 10: The Good Shepherd

Lesson Theme: Only One Way

John 14:6—

Jesus said to him, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

John 10:1-21: The Shepherd of the Sheep

1. Only Jesus carried out the will of the Father perfectly at the cross to gather His sheep to Himself. He is the True Shepherd. (John 10:1-6)

Isaiah 53:11-12—

He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied.
By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many,
For He shall bear their iniquities.
Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great,
And He shall divide the spoil with the strong,
Because He poured out His soul unto death,
And He was numbered with the transgressors,
And He bore the sin of many,
And made intercession for the transgressors.

2. Jesus assures salvation, peace and pasture for His own, even in the midst of Satan's attempts to steal, kill, and destroy. (John 10:7-11)

Psalm 23:4-5—

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup runs over.

3. The hireling works only for money. He does not care about the sheep. (John 10:12-13)

2 Peter 2:1-3—

But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber.

4. The Good Shepherd knows His own sheep, and the sheep know their Shepherd. (John 10:14-15)

2 Timothy 2:19—

Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

5. Jesus came not only to be the Savior of Israel, but also the Savior of the World. He was given full authority from the Father to do so. (John 10:16-18).

Isaiah 49:6—

"Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant
To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel;
I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

6. The Jews continued to be divided about who Jesus was. Truth will always lead to division because people need to make a personal choice to believe. (John 10:19-21)

John 10:22-42: My Sheep Hear My Voice

7. The Jews struggled to understand faith. Faith means believing the physical sight will come in God's time. (John 10:22-25)

Hebrews 11:1—

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

8. Jesus' own will hear His voice and follow Him, and they can never be snatched out of His hand. (John 10:26-30)

Romans 8:29-30—

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

9. The Jews couldn't comprehend that God would come as Man. (John 10:31-33)

10. Jesus reasoned with them from their Scriptures that this was indeed what God had planned all along. (John 10:34-36); *Psalm 82*

11. Jesus pointed to the fact that His good works would show that He is indeed fully God and fully Man. The nation of Israel will not come to understand this until His return to the earth physically at the end of the 7-year tribulation period. (John 10:37-39).

Revelation 19:11-13—

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

Zechariah 12:10—

"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn."

12. Jesus retreated again to the place where John baptized, where people believed in Him. This is a witness of the truth that He is indeed fully Man because of His need to be emotionally and spiritually refreshed after being rejected by His own, once again. In Jesus' humanity, He focused not on the rejection He was experiencing at that time, **but the hope of His glorious kingdom to come** (John 10:40-42).

Conclusions:

- Jesus, the Word of God, is the only way. His Word is true. People have the choice to accept Him as Savior or reject Him. Either way, God's truth will prevail. Just give it enough time. *Proverbs 12:19*
- People do not realize they are under the care of a bad shepherd if they are not in Christ. They are deceived to think it's as good as it gets. We need to extend mercy by God's grace and point them to Jesus, the True Shepherd.
- No matter what Satan tries to do to steal, kill, and destroy, he can never snatch us out of the hands of Jesus and our Father in heaven. We can rest in this truth always and have peace and joy, even in the midst of suffering for the kingdom of God.