

John Chapter 10

Metaphor of sheep. Used many times. Speaking to Pharisees here.

Starts by talking about false shepherds. Pharisees were the shepherds (the pastors). They felt they had the authority and He didn't.

He uses examples that the people would know. Knew about livestock. Knew how shepherds lived.

Starts with amen, amen or most assuredly. There is only one way into the sheepfold. The thieves or false leaders come a different way; not through the door. Through an unlawful or deceitful way. The One with Authority comes in through the true door. He comes to do something good for the sheep. Feeds them, cares for them, helps them if they are injured. Sheep need man's care; we need the Creator.

He knows the sheep and they know Him. Hear His voice. He calls them by name because they are His. He "leads them out" , not drive or herd them out. They follow Him. Leads them to a pasture. They won't follow a stranger if they know Him. If you know Him, you flee from a stranger.

Pastors are the same. Sheep have to know them and they have to know their sheep. Congregation will know their voice and not follow a stranger.

V 6 : They didn't understand what he was talking about. Word does not penetrate them. Rigid. Don't get the parables and metaphors. Conceited about their own knowledge.

V7: Jesus is always ready to explain what His teachings mean.

Now explains that he is the Door and the Good Shepherd. He has the Authority. He is the only Way. Salvation is through the Door. He is the communication between God and the Church. The "Way" into the Kingdom.

Those who pretend to be shepherds are false; the sheep do not hear them. Pharisees were included in this. They tried to turn people away from Him. They didn't want to be disciples.

V9: enter by Me. Greek means "through Me." Door. Clear instruction of how to go into the sheepfold. We come through by faith and enter into communion with God. The New Covenant. Can go in and out - also into the world under His protection.

The false teachers come to destroy- they are wolves, enemies of the sheep. They kill and destroy spiritually. Satan . Christ brings abundant life. Our true purpose, the only way to God; the only way to salvation.

He comes to bring life to the sheep. Abundant life- more than we can expect. More than the Law of Moses would have promised. More than that which was forfeited by the sin and the fall. Eternal life.

Hireling- may pass as a shepherd. Doesn't really care about the sheep. Careless in their duties. Worry more about their safety than their duties.

The Good Shepherd knows His sheep and they know Him. He knew and loved them before they knew Him.

Other sheep- Gentiles. Plan of salvation. They will hear His voice and there will be one flock.

The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. He does it voluntarily and has the power to take it up again. He is the *Offerer* and the *Offering*. High Priest and Victim. Plan of salvation was made before the creation. Mediator between us and the Father. No one could have taken His life against His will.

V 19-20: There is division again. Some ridiculed Him and those that listened to Him. He has a demon. Insane talk. This is a temptation that is very common.

V 21: Some go against the establishment. These are not the words of a demon. Then the miracles. Can demons cure blindness. Why would they do miracles that helped people?