THE GOOD SHEPHERD

JOHN 10:11-21

OPEN YOUR BIBLES TO JOHN CHAPTER 10. JESUS IS UNLOADING SPIRITUAL TRUTHS TO THE PHARISEES AFTER HEALING A MAN BORN BLIND. THE PHARISEES ARE THE RELIGIOUS ELITE IN ISRAEL. THEY CLAIM TO BE THE ONES CLOSEST TO GOD YET, THEY CANNOT SEE THAT THE SON OF GOD STANDS BEFORE THEM. LAST WEEK, DJ DID A WONDERFUL JOB WALKING US THROUGH THE FIRST 11 VERSES. TO RECAP; WE HEAR JESUS EXPLAINING SALVATION WITH A METAPHOR. HE SAID IN VERSES 7- 9, "I AM THE GATE FOR THE SHEEP; WHOEVER ENTERS THROUGH ME WILL BE SAVED. THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO BE SAVED AND IT IS THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. JESUS ALSO USES THE METEPHOR OF THE SHEPHERD AND HIS SHEEP. THE SHEEP THAT BELONG TO THE SHEPHERD KNOW HIS VOICE AND FOLLOW HIM. THE SHEPHERD GOES OUT BEFORE THE SHEEP, PROTECTS, PROVIDES, AND CARES FOR THEM. HE KNOWS HIS SHEEP AND HIS SHEEP KNOW HIM. TODAY, WE WILL HEAR JESUS CONTINUE THIS METAPHOR IN GREATER DETAIL. TRULY, HE IS THE FAITHFUL SHEPHERD AND WE ARE HIS SHEEP. SOME PEOPLE GET OFFENDED AT BEING CALLED SHEEP. THE TRUTH IS, WE ARE HUMAN AND VERY SUSCEPTIBLE TO INFLUENCE. THE CULTURE AROUND US, FEAR, PRIDE, SELFISHNESS, AND PAIN CAN BE A GREAT INFLUENCE IN OUR THOUGHT LIFE AND DECISION MAKING. COMPARED TO A PERFECT, HOLY, IMMOVABLE GOD….WE ARE LIKE SHEEP, IN NEED OF A SHEPHERD.

John 10:11-21 New International Version

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. **12** The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. **13** The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— **15** just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. **16** I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. **17** The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. **18** No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

19 The Jews who heard these words were again divided. **20** Many of them said, "He is demon-possessed and raving mad. Why listen to him?"

21 But others said, "These are not the sayings of a man possessed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

LEAD US INTO ALL TRUTH TODAY LORD, BY THE POWER OF YOUR HOLY SPIRIT AND THE AUTHORITY OF YOUR WORD

John 10:11 New International Version

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

THIS IS THE FOURTH OUT OF SEVEN “I AM” STATEMENTS THAT JOHN RECORDS JESUS SAYING. SO FAR, WE HAVE HEARD JESUS SAY, “I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE” JOHN 6:35. “I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD” JOHN 8:12. “I AM THE GATE FOR THE SHEEP” JOHN 10:7

GOOD/KALOS/BEAUTIFUL, NOBLE, EXCELLENT

JESUS IS THE BEAUTIFUL, EXCELLENT, AND TRUSTWORTHY SHEPHERD. WE CAN FOLLOW HIM WITH CONFIDENCE. HE LITERALLY LAYED HIS LIFE DOWN FOR OUR PROTECTION.

LIFE/ PSYCHE / SOUL, HEART, MIND

FOR/ HUPER / IN PLACE OF, FOR THE SAKE OF

1 Peter 2:24-25 New International Version

24 “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” **25** For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

AS SINNERS WE ARE SOUL-SICK, CHRIST IS THE GOOD DOCTOR THAT HEALS US AND OVERSEES OUR CONTINUED SOUL HEALTH

John 10:12-13 New International Version

12 The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. **13** The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

JESUS CONTRASTS A SHEPHERD THAT LOVES AND ONE THAT IS JUST THERE FOR THE PAYCHECK. THE PHARISEES WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SHEPHERDS OF THE FLOCK OF ISRAEL, BUT THEY MADE THE LAW THEIR TRADITIONS THEIR GOD

SHEPHERDS IN ANCIENT ISRAEL WERE USUALLY NOT THE OWNERS OF THE FLOCK BUT WERE EXPECTED TO EXERCISE THE SAME CARE AND CONCERN THAT THE OWNERS WOULD.

THE WOLF SYMBOLIZES THE MANY WAYS WE CAN BE ATTACKED BY SATAN, THE WORLD, TRADGEDY, TRIALS, AND OUR OWN SIN NATURE. WE WILL BE ATTACKED. JESUS NEVER RUNS AWAY. HE IS WITH US ALWAYS

THE MOST VULNERABLE SHEEP ARE THE ONES WHO WANDER AWAY FROM THE FLOCK AND THE SHEPHERD

DON'T BE A FLOCK HOPPER, GET CONNECTED AND ROOTED IN THE HOUSE OF GOD. FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER KEEP US SAFE

John 10:14-15 New International Version

14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—
15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

KNOW / GINOSKO / TO KNOW INTIMATELY

JUST AS THE FATHER AND THE SON KNOW EACH OTHER INTIMATELY, WE SHARE IN THAT INTIMATE LOVE

THE MORE WE DIE TO "SELF" AND LIVE FOR GOD AND WITH GOD, THE MORE WE GET TO ENJOY THE FULLNESS OF THIS INTIMATE LOVE

John 10:16 New International Version

16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

HE'S TALKING ABOUT US CHURCH. JEW AND GENTILE, ONE CHURCH, ONE FLOCK, SERVING ONE GOD TOGETHER

Galatians 3:26-29 New International Version

26 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, **27** for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. **28** There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. **29** If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

JESUS "MUST" BRING US IN. NOT MAYBE OR MIGHT BRING US IN

THEY TOO WILL LISTEN TO MY VOICE…..GUARENTEED!!

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 New International Version

13 But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. **14** He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

THIS IS WHY WE EVANGELIZE "OUR" GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST

John 10:17-18 New International Version

17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. **18** No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

JESUS’ SELFLESSNESS AND WILLINGNESS TO BEAR THE SIN OF THE WORLD DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE WAS PERFECT AND PURE, IS THE REASON THE FATHER LOVES HIM ALL THE MORE

ABSOLUTELY NO ONE CAN “TAKE” THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST. HE WAS IN FULL CONTROL AT ALL TIMES, INCLUDING THE EVENTS CONCERNING HIS CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION

AUTHORITY / EXOUSIA / POWER, DOMINION

JESUS IS EQUAL IN POWER WITH THE FATHER JUST AS THE HOLY SPIRIT IS EQUAL IN POWER WITH THE FATHER AND THE SON. ONE GOD, THREE PERSONS; THE GODHEAD IS FULLY UNIFIED AND FULLY SELF SUSTAINING

John 10:19-21 New International Version

19 The Jews who heard these words were again divided. **20** Many of them said, “He is demon-possessed and raving mad. Why listen to him?”

21 But others said, “These are not the sayings of a man possessed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

THERE WILL ALWAYS BE DIVISION WHEN IT COMES TO JESUS CHRIST

BEING NEUTRAL ABOUT HIM IS NOT AN OPTION

Matthew 12:30 New International Version

30 “Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

Warren Wiersbe comments on the blasphemous, absurd accusations hurled at Jesus that "People will do almost anything to avoid facing the truth!" Since Jesus Christ is "the Door," we would expect a division, because a door shuts some people in and others out! He is the Good Shepherd, and the shepherd must separate the sheep from the goats. It is impossible to be neutral about Jesus Christ; for, what we believe about Him is a matter of life or death

SO WHERE ARE YOU AT TODAY?

ARE YOU ASTRAY OR LOST? THE GOOD SHEPHERD HAS COME TO FIND YOU TODAY AND BRING YOU HOME

YOU CAN TRUST HIM FOR HE IS FAITHFUL AND TRUE

END