

The Genuine Shepherd!

John 10:1-6

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- Security measures today to prove one's identity
- False Messiahs in Jesus' day
 - Acts 5:35-37--*"Men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do regarding these men. For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing. After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed."*
- Jesus' Claims
 - To the Samaritans—living water and Messiah
 - John 4:14-- *"but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become the fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."*
 - John 4:26-- *"I know that Messiah is coming (who is called the Christ). When he comes, He will tell us all things."*
 - To the Jews
 - "Bread of life"
 - John 6:51-- *"which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world."*
 - John 6:47-- *"Most assuredly I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life."*
 - "Light of the World"
 - John 8:12-- *"I am the light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."*
 - "I AM"
 - John 8:23-24--*"You are from beneath; I am from above, You are of this world; I am not of this world. Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I AM, you will die in your sins."*
 - John 8:58-- *"Most assuredly I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM!"*
- Jew's inability to view Jesus as the Messiah
- New claim: The Great Shepherd—John 10
 - The "Genuine" Shepherd—John 10:1-6
 - The "Gate" Shepherd—John 10:7-10
 - The "Good" Shepherd—John 10:11-18
 - The "God-like" Shepherd—John 10:25-29

The Genuine Shepherd!

- John 10:1-6-- *"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. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will not follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of a stranger. Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them."*

A. Illustration misunderstood by the Jews—10:6

1. Natural Illustration from agrarian life
2. Spiritual Illustration—relationship between God and Israel
 - Psalm 80:1-- *"Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph out like a flock; you who sit enthroned between the Cherubim."*
 - Psalm 95:7-- *"For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under his care."*
 - Psalm 100:3-- *"Know that the LORD is God. It is He who has made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of his pasture."*
 - Ezekiel 34:12-15-- *"As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. I will*

bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements of the land. I will tend them in good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. I will search for the lost and bring back the strays, I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.”

- Psalm 23:1-- *“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.”*

3. Lest we misunderstand-- Setting the morning scene

B. Three Telltale Signs of Genuine Shepherd

1. Jesus enters by means of the door—John 10:1-2

- John 10:1-2-- *“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. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.”*
- a. Identification of the “thieves and robbers”
- 1) Pharisees in Jesus’ day.
 - John 9:22-- *“the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed that He was the Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue”*
 - Matthew 23:13-14-- *“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites. For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men, for you neither go in yourselves; nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widow houses and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation.”*
 - 2) False shepherds in Israel’s.
 - Jeremiah 10:21--*“For the shepherds have become dull-hearted, and have not sought the LORD; Therefore they shall not prosper and all their flocks shall be scattered.”*
 - Jeremiah 23:1-2-- *“Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture!’ says the LORD. Thus says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people; ‘You have scattered my flocks, driven them away and have not attended to them. Behold I will attend to you for the evil of your doings.’ says the LORD.”*
 - 3) Jesus viewed Israel as “sheep without a shepherd”
 - Mark 6:34-- *“Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd.”*
 - Jeremiah 50:6-- *“My people have been lost sheep. Their shepherds have led them astray. They have turned them away on the mountains. They have gone from mountains to hill; they have forgotten their resting place.”*
- b. Identification of the “door”—Fulfilled prophesy
- 1) Examples of OT prophesies fulfilled at first coming
 - Isaiah 35:5-6--*“the eyes of the blind will be opened. And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer. And the tongue of the dumb will leap for joy.”*
 - 2) Probability of one man fulfilling 8 prophesies: 1 in 10 to the 17th power
 - 3) The prophecy of Genuine Shepherd
 - Ezekiel 34:23-- *“I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them—My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd.”*
 - Isaiah 40:10-11-- *“Behold the Lord God shall come with a strong hand, and his arm shall rule for Him; behold His reward is with Him, and His work before Him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those with young.”*

2. The “doorkeeper” opens the door for him—John 10:3

- a. The “doorkeeper” prepares the way for the Messiah
- Isaiah 40:3-- *“voice crying in the wilderness; Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”*
 - Malachi 3:1--*“Behold I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to the temple, even the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming.’ says the LORD of host.”*

- b. John the Baptist was the “doorkeeper”
- Luke 3:16--*“I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming whose sandal straps I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”*
 - John 1:26-27--*“I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal straps I am not worthy to loose.”*
 - John 1:29-30--*“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for he was before me.’”*

3. **His sheep hear his voice and follow Him—John 10:3-5**

- John 10:3-5--*“To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name, and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of a stranger.”*
- a. Sheep recognize the voice of the shepherd.
- b. Jesus issues the call for his sheep to congregate.
- Matthew 11:28-30--*“Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”*
- c. He calls his own by name—individually
- Revelation 13:8--*“written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”*
 - John 6:37--*“All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.”*
- d. He leads His sheep, does not drive them—v. 4
- e. His sheep will not follow a stranger—v. 5
- 1 John 2:19--*“They went out from us”, John writes, “but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.”*
- f. He calls other sheep (Gentile sheep) to be part of His one fold (the church).
- John 10:16--*“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.”*