

The “God” Shepherd

John 10:19-39

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- **Who is Jesus?**
 - Matthew 7:28-- *“for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”*
- Jesus’ many miracles and teaching pointed to the conclusion that He was the Messiah, the Son of God.
 - Jesus as the **“Bread of Life”**—John 6:51
 - John 6:51-- *“which came down from heaven. If anyone eats 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.”*
 - Jesus as the **“Light of the World”**—John 8:12
 - 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.”*
 - Jesus as the **“I AM”**—John 8:58
 - 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.”*
 - Jesus as the **“Great Shepherd”**—John 10
 - The **“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 40:11-- *“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.”*
 - The **“Gate”** Shepherd
 - John 10:10-- *“The thief does not come except to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come that they might have life and that they might have it ore abundantly.”*
 - The **“Good”** Shepherd
 - Isaiah 53:5-6-- *“wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”*
 - 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.”*

The “God” Shepherd!

A. The Division and Confrontation—10:19-24

1. **Division over Religious Leader’s assessment of Jesus**—10:19-21
 - John 10:19-21-- *“Therefore there was a division 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!’ Others said, ‘These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?’”*
 - Matthew 12:24-- *“This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons!”*
2. **Confrontation: “If you are the Christ, tell us plainly!”**—10:22-24
 - John 10:22-24-- *“Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon’s porch. Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him. ‘How long do you keep us in doubt? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.’”*
 - a. Setting: Feast of Dedication
 - b. Why did Jesus not tell them plainly that He was the Messiah?
 - John 4:25-26-- *“I know that Messiah is coming’ (who is called the Christ). ‘When He comes, He will tell us all things.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I who speak to you am He.’”*
 - 1) Jews looking for a political savior, not a personal savior.
 - 2) Disingenuous request—looking for a reason to arrest.

B. The Claim—10:25-30

1. **You have been given plenty of information to form the right conclusion concerning Who I am.**
 - John 10:25-- *"Jesus answered them, 'I told you and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me'"*
 - a. **The answer to honest doubt: John the Baptist. Luke 7**
 - Luke 7:19-- *"And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to Jesus, saying, 'Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?'"*
 - Luke 7:21-23-- *"And that ever hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight. Jesus answered and said to them, 'Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.'"*
 - b. **Dishonest doubt—refusal to believe**
 - Luke 22:66-67-- *"As soon as it was day, the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes came together and led Him into their council, saying, 'If you are the Christ, tell us!' But He said to them, 'If I tell you, you will by no means believe.'"*
2. **You have failed to believe, proving that you are not one of my sheep—John 10:26-29**
 - John 10:26-29-- *"But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand."*
 - a. **Jesus' sheep given to Him by the Father—John 6:37**
 - John 6:37-- *"All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out."*
 - Ephesians 1:4-- *"God chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of his will."*
 - b. **Jesus' sheep...**
 - 1) **Hear His voice; He knows them and they follow Him.**
 - 2) **Jesus gives them eternal life.**
 - 3) **His sheep will never perish, but are kept secure in Christ's hands which are in the Father's hands.**
 - John 3:16-- *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*
 - Romans 8:37-39-- *"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*
 - John 10:29-- *"Father who has given them to Me is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand."*
 - Colossians 3:3-- *"...life is hidden with Christ in God."*
3. **"I and the Father are one" I am the "God" Shepherd!—John 10:30**
 - a. **Not the same person or on the same page**
 - John 6:39-40-- *"This is the will of Him who sent Me that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."*
 - b. **But one in essence, in substance: Jesus claim to be GOD!**

C. The Charge—10:31-33 Blasphemy!!

- John 10:31-- *"Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him."*
- John 10:32-- *"Jesus answered them, 'Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?'"*
 - John 5:17-- *"My Father has been working until now, and I have been working!"*
 - John 5:18-- *"sought all the more to kill Him, because he not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God."*

- John 5:19-- *"Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner."*
- John 10:33-- *"The Jews answered Him, saying, 'For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.'"*

D. The Challenge—10:34-39

1. **Be consistent in applying the tag, "Blasphemer"—10:34-36**
 - John 10:34-36-- *"Jesus answered them, 'Is it not written in your law, 'I said, 'You are gods'?' If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scriptures cannot be broken), do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming' because I said, 'I am the Son of God.'"*
 - a. **Argues from Scripture—Psalm 82:6**
 - Matthew 5:17-- *"Do not think I came to destroy the Law and the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill it."*
 - Psalm 82:6-- *"You are gods, and all of you are children of the Most High"*
 - b. **Argues from "lesser to greater"**
2. **Be objective in following evidence to conclusion—10:37-39**
 - John 10:37-39-- *"If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me and I in him.' Therefore they sought again to seize Him, but He escaped out of their hand."*
 - John 5:36-- *"But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given me to finish—the very works that I do—bear witness of me, that the Father has sent me."*
 - Matthew 7:16a-- *"You will know them by their fruits."*