

The I Am Statements- Jesus Testimony Pt 4

John 10:11

- Jesus has declared Himself as “**The Door**” and that any who has tried to claim that they are the correct entrance into a right relationship with God are imposters, nothing more than thieves and robbers, who have come to deceive and harm those who will follow them. But according to **V9** those who come through the opening that Jesus provides will be saved, and have their daily needs in this life, and eternal destination in the life to come secured.

V11-21

- **V11** is the fourth of our Lord’s I Am Statements, as He declares Himself as “**The Good Shepherd**” Who gives His life for the sheep. The Greek word for “**Good**” means intrinsically good, beautiful, and fair, it describes that which is ideal, the model from which all others may safely imitate. So to call Himself good is the same as calling Him God > **Mk 10:17-18**- there is only One that is good, and that is God, Jesus here is calling Himself God.
- This is why “**The I Am Statements**” are so important, because no other sacrifice that man could make would be acceptable to God, only The Blood of Him Who was perfect could take away the stain of mankind’s sin. Which brings us to the point of Him also calling Himself “The Good Shepherd”, ordinarily the sheep were called upon to lay down their lives for the shepherd, but our Lord Jesus reversed it and laid down His life for the flock.
- Five times in this sermon Jesus mentions His sacrificial death, but not as a martyr, killed by men, He died as a substitute willing to lay down His life for us. There were shepherds willing to put themselves in harm’s way but it would be rare to find any who would risk bodily injury or death for their sheep, and that is why Jesus brings up the hireling in these next verses.
- **V12-13** saying of them that they do not have the same commitment as the True Shepherd, Jesus cares, feeds, protects, and dies for His sheep, the hireling is interested only in making money off the sheep, and in self preservation by using the sheep for their benefit. If a wolf attacks he runs away, and his selfishness causes the flock to be scattered.
- We see this today, how many are willing to stand in the pulpit and call out false teaching, or social and national error, in this day and age of cancel culture people are willing to put up with anything, looking for the path that protects them from being called judgmental all for the sake of peace and quietness, but we know that is a false peace, not a Godly peace.
- **V14** this is so key for us as believers, because it shows us that our salvation is personal > **Jer 23:23**- “God is A God that is near and not afar off” He know us, the word for “**know**” means much more than intellectual awareness, it speaks of an intimate relationship between God and His people. This goes back to the beginning of the chapter when Jesus said in **V3** that He knows the sheep names, we saw this in **Jn 1:42** where He knew Simon’s name.

- **Lk 19:1-5** Jesus in passing by called Zaccheus by name when all he wanted was to get a look at Jesus but Jesus already knew who he was. If you have ever had your identity lost or tried to deal with people who was supposed to know who you are as you've been paying them it seems for decades but they only know you by account number 110001, and its like that sadly in many churches who call their members units, and only know them by that tithing number, which often determines if they can get a sit down with the pastor or not.
- Not only does He know our names but also our natures, look at the apostles and how different they were and yet the Lord called them unto Himself > Peter was impulsive and outspoken, Thomas was hesitant and doubting and Andrew was a people person who was always bringing somebody to Jesus, He knew each of them personally and knew how to deal with them individually, and it's the same for you and I, He knows our names, and our natures, and because of that He also knows our needs.
- **Philip 4:19** tell us that our God will supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. **Psalm 23:1-6** tell us how The Good Shepherd takes care of us and **V1**, and **V6** says we shall not want all the days of our lives, because when you connect all the verses together the Lord is taking care of all our needs, knowing all our names, and our natures.
- **V15-16** just as the Shepherd knows the sheep the sheep get the opportunity to know the Shepherd, and to illustrate that truth He compares our relationship with Him to that of His relationship with God the Father Wow! God The Father loves God The Son and God The Son loves God The Father, so much so that there isn't anything that they wouldn't do for each other, and it's the same for us and Jesus, He demonstrated this truth by dying on the cross.
- That other flock is us the gentiles, at this time Israel only thought that the Messiah was coming to redeem them, but Jesus reminds them that He has come to redeem all those who surrender to Him both Jew and Gentile.
- **V17-18** we see Jesus wasn't a martyr but a willing substitute for us, because from a human point of view it looked like Jesus was executed, but from the divine point of view, He laid down His life willingly, and His **voluntary death** was followed by His **victorious resurrection**. **V19** how did the people respond to His sermon? Many disagreed, some calling Him demon possessed, crazy, questioning why anyone would listen to Him.
- I don't feel so bad, if Jesus was received like this why would we expect anything different if we are teaching what He has said also? But this goes back to "**The I Am Statements**" as being "The Door" we should expect division, as a door shuts some people in and others out, and in being "**The Good Shepherd**" The Shepherd must separate the sheep from the goats. These two "**I Am Statements**" show it is impossible to be neutral about Jesus Christ, for He is "**The Door**" and He is "**The Good Shepherd**" so the only entrance to heaven goes through Him Amen!