

DO YOU SEE? CAN YOU HEAR? DO YOU BELIEVE?

PART 3 - JOHN 10:22-30

cometothewell.cc



Do You See, Can You Hear, Do you Believe? Part 3

Scripture Reading

John 10:22-30 (NKJV)

22 Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. 23 And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch. 24 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."

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. 26 But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. 27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 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. 30 I and My Father are one."

Introduction

If John Chapter 9 gave us a lesson on what it means to truly "see" John Chapter 10 is speaking quite clearly to how we hear God. What we must understand is that Christianity is not merely believing ideas about Jesus. It is recognizing **His voice**.

We are 2 weeks away from the start of Holy Week and 2 Chapters away from studying Jesus' Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem in John 12. Could there be a more critical time to be talking about preparing to receive Jesus once again? We are living in days that Jesus Himself prophesied, and perhaps it is a greater challenge to hear Jesus

when we have so many other voices competing for the attention of our minds and the affections of our heart. No matter how loud these voices get, our recognition of the true Word of God must become even sharper. We will continue to maintain, that "if it doesn't LOOK like Jesus of the Bible, and it doesn't SOUND like Jesus of the Bible, then IT ISN't Jesus of the Bible!

Accept No Imitations

1. Verses 1-6

- Jesus begins by drawing a clear line in the sand by setting a clear distinction between Him and a **pretender** who would not enter in by the door, but instead climb the wall or enter some other way and appear among them trying to behave as if they had always been there.

John 10:1-6 (NKJV)

1 "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. 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. **3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.** 4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." 6 Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them.

- The Lord will never try to sneak His way into your soul. He presents Himself at the door clearly and when He calls, and if you are His, there is an inward recognition and acknowledgement that He is speaking to you.
- There is something about His voice, that you somehow recognize as Truth, as Love, as if He has known you beforehand.
- Jesus then emphasizes another important distinction between Him and the **hirelings!**
 - A hireling is someone who was hired to do the job but doesn't want to accept any responsibility when danger approaches
 - A hireling is only there to try and earn a living. They don't care about the sheep because they don't own the sheep. They are not vested in the well-being of the sheep; they only care about their own well-being.
 - So at the first sign of trouble, danger, risk to the flock, they hightail it out of there out of self-preservation.
 - Hirelings are easily taken away to another flock if there's less risk and no doubt, if the pay is better

2. Verses 11-14

John 10:11-14 (NKJV)

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. 12 But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. 13 The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.

- Jesus said He would be willing to lay His life down for the sheep—and while He said it, many of His listeners didn't realize that Jesus was getting ready to do just that.
- Jesus doesn't clock in and clock out. He's locked in 24/7, 365 days of the year—no vacations and no sick days!
 - Overtime, early time, after hours, before hours, curricular, extra curricular, pre-credit and extra credit!

- He's all the way in!

3. Verses 17-21

Here is the contention with the Pharisees and other faiths outside of Christianity (even until this very day)

John 10:17-21 (NKJV)

17 "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. 18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."

19 Therefore there was a division again among the Jews because of these sayings. 20 And many of them said, "He has a demon and is mad. Why do you listen to Him?"

21 Others said, "These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

The fact that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God the Father became the distinctive difference between those who could hear the Word of God for their lives" and those who would rather hear a religious standard over the actual Word of God Himself.

Nothing is more frightful than to realize that you have heard the Word of God and you rejected it and turned away from Him.

Hear the Signs Speak for Themselves

The greatest proofs of Who Jesus Is are the miracles He did. For He said, "The works that I do in My Father's Name, they bear witness of Me."

John 10:25-30 (NKJV)

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. 26 But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. **27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 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. 30 I and My Father are one.**"

Jesus continues to make the case of His divine origin from the Father. He does not mince words but rather brings clarity to Who He Is and why He came. And He also declares who's are NOT His and states it's because they do NOT believe. And verse 30 where He clearly says "I and My Father are one" was so direct and clear that in verse 31, the Jews took up stones to stone Him.

The Jews could not settle their hearts to believe Him because of the miracles that He did and Who Jesus said He Is. Saying He was the Son of God meant, Jesus was evil, but yet Jesus is doing righteous, miraculous works. Which is it?

There were others who also weighed in on who they believed Jesus Is.

- The faithful followers of John the Baptist
- They remember the pivotal words that John the Baptist spoke of Jesus in John 1:29 'The next day John saw

Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' 31 I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water."

- 32 And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. 33 I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

This is what the disciples of John now said of Jesus and John,
John 10:41-42 (NKJV)

41 Then many came to Him and said, "John performed no sign, but all the things that John spoke about this Man were true." 42 And many believed in Him there.

The signs that Jesus did spoke so loudly, that they could not deny that He is the Christ!

Can You Hear the Shepherd's Voice?

Perhaps the most interesting thing about this chapter, is that from the start to the finish of this chapter, Jesus exposes a fundamental truth. If you listen and watch someone long enough, 'the signs will speak for themselves.' None of us are immune from that truth. Our speech and our actions reveal the intent of our hearts. And when it comes to the care of His sheep, Jesus wants to be known.

For many believers, their biggest comfort is that God knows them. However, the greatest priority for us who call ourselves believers is whether or not we truly know Him.

Be careful and leery of movements that claim to be for God, yet they turn away from the teachings of Jesus—Whom God sent. If those movements do not embrace the Words, teachings and ways of Jesus, then they are not sent by God. And if they are not sent by God, who are they sent by? And for what purpose?

Matthew 24:5-6 (NKJV)

5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. 6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

John 14:1-6 (NKJV)

The Way, the Truth, and the Life

1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know."

5 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?"

6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

- **John 8 asked:** Do you believe the truth?
- **John 9 asked:** Do you see the truth?
- **John 10 asks:** Do you hear the Shepherd?