

## GOOD SHEPHEARD

### John 10.1

Chapters 7-10 take place in 2 days. The last day of the feast, the day after the feast, Jesus is brought a woman caught in adultery. Jesus has a heated debate with the leaders. Jesus says, "Before Abraham was I Am." They want to stone Jesus

Jesus leaves (chapter 9), and as He is going, there is a blind man whom Jesus heals on the Sabbath. The religious leaders want to know how Jesus did this, and they cast the man out of the Synagogue

This is important to understand Chapter 10

Because when they cast out the blind man, Jesus finds him. **John 9:35** Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" **36** He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" **37** And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you."

**38** Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

- This is important because Jesus, in chapter 10, would explain what happened to the blind man spiritually
- The blind man who now sees is found by the good shepherd. He heard his voice, and he was now brought to the sheepfold of Jesus, the good shepherd
- The analogy would be the sheepfolds, shepherds, and sheep
- 2 kinds of sheepfolds, one in the town and one in the fields of the wilderness
- Verses 1-5 speak of the first kind of sheepfold in the city
- Verses 7-10 speak of the second kind of sheepfold in the fields, hills, or wilderness

**John 10:1** "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.

- This is the community sheepfold; the analogy of this sheepfold is the law. **Galatians 3:24** Therefore the law was our [g]tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. **25** But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.
- We must remember that Jesus is describing what happened to the blind man to the leaders
- He who enters must do so through the front door: Jesus came through the front door of the law, and the prophets. Keeping the law, Hebrews 4 "without sin" and fulfilling over 400 Messianic prophecies....
- He who enters by the front door is the shepherd. He is saying I am the shepherd, and the doorkeeper opens the door
  - He calls his own sheep, the sheep hear His voice, they know his voice
  - In this sheepfold, many shepherd would leave their herds of sheep there overnight
  - In the morning, the shepherds would come, and the doorkeeper knew them and opened the door
  - The shepherd would call their sheep with a specific call, but not only the specific call, but they knew his voice, and they would come to him
  - This is what happened to the blind man: he heard the voice of the shepherd
  - It shows that the law was the sheepfold keeping the sheep, and now the shepherd has come, Jesus

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- The whole purpose of the law was to keep the Jewish people and the world for the coming of Jesus
- They should have recognized Jesus, like the wise men.
- This is why Jesus calls them blind in the last chapter
- His sheep know His voice
  - How do they know the shepherd's voice? They have been close to Him, led by Him, **corrected** by Him; they have been with the shepherd
  - Do we know His voice?

7 Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

- This is the sheepfold in the fields: an enclosure with rocks and sticks
- This would be where the shepherd would take their sheep when they couldn't make it back to the city
- This sheepfold was only for one herd and one shepherd
- It didn't have a door, so the shepherd would sleep in the entrance; he became the door
- This is Jesus saying if anyone wants to be part of my sheepfold, he needs to come through me. I AM the door (the I AM statement of Jesus)
- Why? Because there is only one way, one door, one truth, one mediator, one lamb of God, one name given to man by which man can be saved
  - Pull said **Galatians 1:8** But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.....
  - If we hear His voice, if we come through the door, we will be saved
  - We need a shepherd

10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. 11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

- We hear that God has plans and purposes for us. He does!
- Here we see that the thief (the devil) has a plan too
- God's plan is life and life more abundantly
- The devil's plan is to steal, kill, and destroy
- How did Jesus make this possible by laying down His life for us?

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. 15 As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep

- Not only do the sheep know the shepherd, but the shepherd knows the sheep.
- He is the good shepherd

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- He is the good shepherd because He laid down His life for us

**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.

- The church, Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends
- The law is no more, **Hebrews 8:13**. In that He says, “A new *covenant*,” He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.
- The new covenant is by grace, through faith
- Now there is repentance, obedience, submission, and faith, love God and love your neighbor...

**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.”

- What makes Jesus the shepherd is that he lays down His life for the sheep
- What makes Him the Good Shepherd is that he rose again
- If he died and didn't rise again, well, He couldn't be with us
- He died, rose again, and is with us through the Holy Spirit

**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?”

Just like then, there is now a great division about Jesus

Do we know His voice

We need to know His voice

Spend time with Him,.....