

I AM: Who is Jesus & Why Does it Matter?

Door of The Sheep

John 10:7-10

“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep...” **Matthew 10:16a**

“We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.” **Psalm 100:3b**

- **Sheep are Dumb**
- **Sheep are Directionless**
- **Sheep are Defenseless**

“So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” **John 10:7-10**

Main Idea: Jesus is the Door of the Sheep

I. **Who is Jesus?** - “So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.” **John 10:7**

- **Jesus is the Salvation of His Sheep**

“Christ likens the Church to a sheepfold in which God assembles his people, and compares himself to the door since he is the only entrance to the church.” **John Calvin**

“He Himself is the door. We have come to know it; let us enter, or rejoice that we are already within.” **St. Augustine of Hippo**

- **Jesus is the Security of His Sheep**

“The True Shepherd came to save the sheep, but the false shepherds take advantage of the sheep and exploit them.” **Warren Wiersbe**

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” **Acts 4:12**

Main Idea: Jesus is the Door of the Sheep

II. **Why Does it Matter?** “All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” **John 10:8-10**

- **Thieves:** The Pharisees, Sadducees and Teachers of the Law cared not care about the sheep, but about their own power and position.
- **Robbers:** The Zealots were Jewish dissidents committed to the overthrow of Roman occupation in Israel, carrying assassinations on Roman officers & their Jewish sympathizers. Always recruiting, too.
- **Commonality:** These thieves & robbers were not atheist. They were religious, well-educated & very persuasive.

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits...Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.” **Matthew 7:15-16a, 20**

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.” **Galatians 5:22-23**

But Jesus Says: “...the sheep did not listen to them.” **John 10:8b**

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me.” **John 10:14**

Main Idea: Jesus is the Door of the Sheep

As sheep, we are dumb/directionless/defenseless. Jesus’ presentation of himself as the “Door of the Sheep” further illustrates how he lays down his life for the security and salvation of the sheep. We have no hope on our own, so we depend on Jesus!

“But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” **Romans 5:8**

Are you a sheep in Jesus’ sheepfold? If not, He is the Door! If so, do not be led astray by other shepherds, even if they sound good. Only trust those who bear good fruit, and always submit to Jesus!

Enter Through the Door of the Sheep and Trust the Door of the Sheep

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities

- *Exploring the Gospel of John* – John Phillips (1989)
- *John: That you May Believe* – Kent Hughes (1999)
- *The Bible Exposition Commentary* – Warren Wiersbe (1996)
- *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* – Craig Keener (1993)
- *The Gospel of John (Vol 2)* – William Barclay (1975)
- *Faithlife Study Bible* – J.D. Barry (2016)
- *John* – B. B. Barton (1993)
- *The Message of John: Here is Your King!* – B. Milne (1993)
- *John* – K. O. Gangel (2000)
- *The New American Commentary: John* – Gerald L. Borchert (1996)
- *Word Pictures in the New Testament* – A.T. Robertson (1933)
- *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Gospel according to St. John* – A.H. McNeile (1929)
- *The Gospel According to John* – D.A. Carson (1991)
- *The Light of the World: A Sermon* – Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1916)

