



February 18, 2024 – John 10:22-42

--- *The Great Divide: Believing Jesus!* ---

John 10:22–42 (ESV)

<sup>22</sup>At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

<sup>25</sup>Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name bear witness about me, <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep.

<sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. <sup>30</sup>I and the Father are one.”

<sup>31</sup>The Jews picked up stones again to stone him.

<sup>32</sup>Jesus answered them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?”

<sup>33</sup>The Jews answered him, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God.”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your Law, ‘I said, you are gods’? <sup>35</sup>If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken— <sup>36</sup>do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?”

<sup>37</sup>If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; <sup>38</sup>but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”

<sup>39</sup>Again they sought to arrest him, but he escaped from their hands. <sup>40</sup>He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained.

<sup>41</sup>And many came to him. And they said, “John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true.”

<sup>42</sup>And many believed in him there.

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**Unbelief surrounds Jesus!**

(10:22-24)

*Thieves, robbers, hirelings, strangers...steal, kill, & destroy*

**The great divide: believing Jesus!**

(10:25-26)

John 20:30–31

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written **so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ**, the Son of God, and that **by believing** you may have life in his name.

**Identifying marks of believing:**

(10:27)

1. *hearing Him*

2. *following Him*

3. *(and also worshipping Him, see John 9:38)*

**Our Shepherd cares for His sheep:**

(10:28-30)

1. *Jesus knows them!*

2. *Gives eternal life and will never perish!*

3. *His sheep are a gift from His Father!*

4. *Safe and secure in the Shepherd’s and Father’s hands!*

**The confusing, tragic path of unbelief:**

(10:31-42)

**Don’t understanding the Scripture!**

John 5:39–40, You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, <sup>40</sup>yet **you refuse** to come to me that you may have life.

**Hostility!**

Trying to arrest Him and stone Him!

*Application questions on the back →*

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**SUNDAY after church...**

Think through your morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give!  
2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received! 3) List songs or lyrics that touched your heart.

**MONDAY**

**READ:** See the John 10:22-24. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Read these verses in light of 10:1-21 and the thieves, robbers, hirelings, strangers, and wolves who seek to steal, kill, and destroy. They encircled Jesus. Write out why the Jewish leaders were actually driven to murder in their hatred of Him. Why such a fuss over traveling preacher? What cord does He touch in their hearts?

**PRAY:** Pray over your applications.

**TUESDAY**

**READ:** John 10:25-26. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** In your own words, how does “believing in Jesus” cause or expose a great divide in our world. What insight does this give you in our world’s conflicts? **PRAY:** Pray over your applications.

**WEDNESDAY**

**READ:** See John 10:27. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** From looking at this simple statement, which affirms the previous section of 10:1-21, in what way are these identifying marks of a believer? What do these words mean in the ongoing, daily life of a believer? How about your life? **PRAY:** Pray over these lessons!

**THURSDAY**

**READ:** John 10:28-30. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Write out the Shepherd’s care for His sheep. List an application or blessing for each. **PRAY:** Pray over your applications!

**FRIDAY**

**READ:** See John 10:31-42. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Track through these verses and see how their blindness and hostility drove them to misunderstand the Scriptures and turn to hostility. How do you think this happens? Have you ever wanted to think a certain thing that you actually read the Word to try to find it? (and found it somewhere, where it actually wasn’t?) **PRAY:** Pray over your application!

**SATURDAY**

**Prepare** your heart for Sunday’s gathering by being ready to fully engage in the worship.  
**Pray** – ask the Lord to show you people to encourage!