

Christ Community Church Bible Study
Drs. Carl and Jeanne King
Week 14-- John Chapter 10 **The Good Shepherd**

Outline

- I. The Logistics of the Sheepfold
 - a. The Purpose of the Sheepfold
 - i. Sheep are kept in the sheepfold for safety and security
 - ii. They go out of the door from the sheepfold into the pasture to graze or eat; they leave the pasture to return back into the sheepfold.
 - b. The door
 - i. The door is the means by which the sheep enter into the place of safety and security.
 - ii. The door is the means by which the shepherd enters the sheepfold (vs2)
 - c. The Shepherd
 - i. Is the owner of the sheep
 - ii. The shepherd knows the sheep and the sheep know the shepherd; there is a relationship between the sheep and the shepherd;
 - iii. The shepherd acts in the best interest of the sheep to keep them safe, secure and to protect them from threats
 - iv. The shepherd leads the sheep and the sheep follow the shepherd; the sheep recognize the voice of their shepherd and will not follow a stranger
 - d. The doorkeeper
 - i. Is placed in the sheepfold, presumably at night to stand watch over the sheep and to monitor who is given access to the sheepfold (vs 3)
 - ii. The doorkeeper is a hired hand, a hireling (vs 12)
 - iii. There may have been other hired hands that work for the shepherd
 - iv. Hirelings have an interest in self-preservation, perhaps in getting that paycheck but are not willing to risk their lives for the sheep. The sheep don't belong to them and the hireling does not care for the sheep (vs 13)
 - e. The thief/robber
 - i. The one who does not enter the sheepfold through the door (vs 1)
 - ii. This one does not have legitimate access nor legitimate authority to lead or care for the sheep
 - iii. Their intent is to steal, kill and destroy the sheep (vs 10)

- II. The Lesson of the Sheepfold
 - a. Jesus uses the logistics of the sheepfold to illustrate some key lessons for the hearers of his day (especially those we had read about in John 9:35-41)
 - b. In so doing, Jesus affirms who He is and what his role and commitment are to those who follow Him
 - c. Jesus declares: I am the door (vs 7, 9)
 - i. The 3rd “I AM” Statement given by Jesus
 - ii. What does it say about His essence—Jesus is the means by gaining access to the place of safety and security—the spiritual sheepfold, if you will.
 - iii. According to the Spirit Filled Life Application Bible, Jesus uses this imagery to contrast His protection of the sheep in the fold with false prophets and false Messiahs. They can’t offer security and safety.
 - iv. Entering the sheepfold is language signifying entering into salvation—a place of eternal safety and security.
 - d. Jesus also declares: I am the good Shepherd (vss 11, 13)
 - i. This is the 4th “I AM” Statement given by Jesus
 - ii. The Good Shepherd gives his life for the sheep (vs 11)
 - iii. The Good Shepherd knows his sheep and His sheep know Him (vs 14)
 - iv. The Good shepherd also has sheep that are not of this fold—has other sheepfolds (vs 16)—that His intent is to bring them together into one fold!
 - v. The Good Shepherd is loved by the Father because the Good Shepherd willingly lays down His life for the sheep and has power to take it again. (vs 18)

- III. The Reaction to the Teaching
 - a. There was division among the hearers (vs 19)
 - b. One group: he has a demon (vs 20)
 - c. One group: These are not the words of one who has a demon.
- IV. The Shepherd Knows His Sheep
 - a. The context: The Feast of Dedication (Hanukkah) (vss 22-24)
 - b. 7 lessons for the spiritual application (vss 27-28)
 - 1. My sheep hear my voice
 - 2. I know them
 - 3. They follow me
 - 4. I give them eternal life
 - 5. And they shall never perish
 - 6. Neither shall anyone snatch them out of my hand or the Father’s hand
 - 7. Why: because I and my Father are one
- V. Renewed Efforts to stone Jesus (vss 31-39)

VI. The Believers Beyond Jordan (vss 40-41)