

Jesus, Our Shepherd

I. Good Shepherd Dies
For The Sheep, Jn.10

Context (Jn.10)

- Jn.7:2, feast of tabernacles
- Jn.8, adulterous woman; attack of enemies
- Jn.9:35, Jews cast out formerly blind man
 - Blind man meets Good Shepherd.
 - Ezekiel 34:23
- John 10, Jesus, our Shepherd

Jn.10:1

- Roofless enclosure in open field; wall of rough stones with a “door”
- Thief takes what belongs to others
- Robber takes with violence

Jn.10:2

- Shepherd uses door – no need to climb wall

John 10:3

- Community sheepfold; door-keeper stayed overnight with sheep
- Raised mostly for wool, not meat

Jn.10:4-5

- Trust, obey shepherd; run from imposters

John 10:6

Figurative saying; allegory or illustration

Jn.10:7-9

- Door...hillside sheep-fold...gives access
- Go in for protection, out for pasture
 - Jesus is both door and shepherd
 - He contrasts with ¹those who come in another way and with ²hirelings
- Shepherd lies across opening; no other entrance (14:6)
- “Go in and out” describes safe, secure life.
1 K.3:7; Ps.121:8

Jn.10:10

- Thief comes to steal, kill, destroy. Mt.23:15
- Shepherd must protect sheep in fields and in fold.
- Bandits climb over wall...
- Shepherd gives life in superabundance.
- Disciples are sheep in midst of wolves, Mt.10:16
- “Good”: not just skilled, but kind, sympathetic

Jn.10:11

- Good Shepherd gives life for sheep
- Rabbinic law did not require shepherds to expose life for sheep. Many did

Skill + kindness + sacrifice saved many sheep

1 Sm.17:34-37

Jn.10:12-13

- Pharisees are not only strangers and thieves, but hirelings
 - They have no concern for sheep
 - “Scatters” – run for their lives

Jn.10:14-15

- Knows His sheep
- Lays down His life for His sheep

“The death of a Palestinian shepherd meant disaster for his sheep.
The death of good shepherd means
life for His sheep.”

Jn.10:16

- Flock is not Jews alone. Gn.12:3. Ac.18:10

Jn.10:17-18

- Jesus did more than ordinary shepherds
 - Voluntary sacrifice.
 - Laid down His life to take it again.

The resurrection is as
necessary as the crucifixion

- Romans 4:25

Jn.10:19-21

- No neutral ground with Jesus. Mt.12:30
- Mt.26:31, smite Shepherd...the sacrificial Lamb (Jn.1:29)
 - Lk.23:34
 - Mt.27:42

I. Good Shepherd Dies For The Sheep, Jn.10

II. Great Shepherd Lives
For The Sheep, Hb.13:20

Hb.13:20 summarizes whole letter

Words rank among most power of NT

Under this Shepherd's staff is true peace: God of peace

Blood of eternal covenant, 10:19; 13:20

Resurrection of Jesus, 13:20

Shepherd's care for His sheep

Ps.23:2, 5

Ps.100:3

Is.40:11

Mt.9:36

1 Pt.5:7

Lk.2:8

Gn.31:36-40

I. Good Shepherd Dies For The Sheep, Jn.10

II. Great Shepherd Lives For The Sheep, Hb.13

III. Chief Shepherd Comes
For The Sheep, 1 Pt.5:4

Passages on elders (pastors) imply activity of Chief Shepherd

- 1 Pt.2:25, Shepherd over His flock
- Acts 20:28, oversee flock of God
- Ep.4:11, pastor: shepherd = 1 Pt.5:1-2, shepherd the flock
 - Peter: Jn.21:16
- Moses in wilderness, Ex.3:1

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