

## I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

### John 10:11-21

#### INTRODUCTION

- A. Jesus' claims associate Him as God's Son or one with God.
- B. Reference to the Good Shepherd.
  - 1. Psalm 23:1, "*The Lord is my Shepherd...*"
  - 2. Ps. 80:1, "Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel..."
  - 3. Isa. 40:11, "*He will tend His flock like a Shepherd...*"
  - 4. Ezek. 34:12, "*As a shepherd seeks out his flock...so will I seek out My sheep...*"
- C. The fourth "I Am" statement.
  - 1. "I am the Good Shepherd."
  - 2. Not just "a" good shepherd, but "the" Good Shepherd.

#### I. THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

- A. He Knows His Own, Verse 14.
  - 1. Contrasted with the strangers, verse 5.
    - a. Strangers don't know the sheep.
    - b. Neither do the sheep recognize strangers.
  - 2. He calls His sheep by name, verse 3.
    - a. God knows us intimately.
    - b. Ps. 100:3, "*Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.*"
    - c. Ps. 139:13-16
- B. He Leads His Sheep, verse 3.
  - 1. Contrasted with thieves and robbers, vss. 1, 8.
    - a. They are only after their own good.
    - b. 2 Pet. 2:1-3.
  - 2. As God led the children of Israel through the wilderness.
    - a. Fiery pillar at night and cloud by day, Ex. 13:21-22.
    - b. He cared and provided for them.
    - c. He protected them from harm.
      - i. Ps. 46:1, "*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*"
      - ii. 1 Cor. 10:13
      - iii. 2 Thess. 3:3
- C. He Lays Down His Life for His Sheep, verse 15.
  - 1. Contrasted with the hireling, vss. 12-13.
    - a. He is not evil, he just does not care for the sheep.
    - b. Only concerned with how much he is going to make.
    - c. Will not lay down his life, voluntarily. When in danger the hireling will flee.
  - 2. Jesus, on the other hand, the "good Shepherd."
    - a. The word "good" relates to the readiness to lay down His life.
    - b. David, a good shepherd, risked his life to protect his sheep (bear and lion).
    - c. If killed, it was not his intention.
  - 3. Jesus willingly and purposefully laid down His life, Mt. 20:28.
    - a. Jesus willingly offers His life for the world.

- i. Jn. 1:29, "...takes away the sin of the world" (John the Baptist).
  - ii. 1 Jn. 2:2
- b. His will agrees with His Father's will.
  - i. Mt. 26:42, prayer in the Garden.
  - ii. Phil. 2:7-8
- c. According to the eternal plan, Eph. 1:7-10; 3:11.

## **II. THE SHEEP.**

- A. The Sheep Know the Shepherd, vs. 14.
  - 1. We know the Shepherd through His Word, 1 Jn. 2:3.
  - 2. The need for constant Bible study, Heb. 5:13-14.
  - 3. Do we know the world better than we know the Lord?
- B. The Sheep Hear His Voice, vs. 3.
  - 1. Sheep follow the voice of the shepherd.
  - 2. To hear the voice of Jesus is to listen and obey, Mt. 7:24-27; 7:21.
  - 3. Are we more in tune with the world and its fashion, entertainment, leisure, and daily walk?

## **III. THE FLOCK.**

- A. Other Sheep, vs. 16.
  - 1. Definite reference to the Gentiles.
  - 2. The promise to Abraham fulfilled, Gen. 12:3.
- B. The One Flock, vs. 16.
  - 1. The second use of the word, "fold" is incorrectly translated.
  - 2. According to the Greek, it should be translated "flock."
  - 3. What's the big deal?
    - a. In a sheepfold you may find many different "flocks" with different "shepherd."
    - b. In the morning, shepherds would call their sheep (flock) to follow him.
    - c. Not all of the sheep in the fold are the Lord's.
    - d. Eph. 4:4-6
  - 4. Those who hear His voice, 10:3.
    - a. Some will suggest that as long as we believe that Jesus is the Son of God...
    - b. Jesus died for His church, the called out.
    - c. We are to be separate from the world.
      - i. 1 Pet. 2:9
      - ii. 2 Cor. 6:14-15, 17