

The Book of John:
The Disciple Jesus Loved
Study Notes

Chapter 10 PT. 2: Parable of the Good Shepherd

John 10:1-21

Note: Yeshua is using a Parable because He knows they can't receive direct truth.

- He speaks to them in a Parable that uses common things of the times they are in to illustrate a Divine Truth.
- The phrase, “truly, truly” is Jesus’ way of emphatically stating an absolute truth.

Verse 1

John 10:1 (NASB) - ¹“Truly, truly I say to you, the one who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber.



Key: Thieves and robbers typically focus on the back or side entrances to break in, or by climbing over gates, walls, or fences.

Verses 2-3

John 10:2-3 (NASB) - ² But the one who enters by the door is a shepherd of the sheep. ³ To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep listen to his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

Ancient Sheep Folds



Door Keeper: Biblically referencing the Believers, it can also be the Holy Spirit.

- Door Keepers guard the entrance to the sacred.
- Spiritual Discernment is a function of the Door Keeper.
- In Ancient Biblical times, this was a position of great honor.

Key: In ancient Israel, Levites served as temple doorkeepers, ensuring only the ritually clean entered sacred spaces, a role of trust and protection.

A Psalm of the Sons of Korah

Psalm 84:10 (KJV) – ¹⁰For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a **doorkeeper** in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.



Understanding: The Kohathites were responsible for and carried the most sacred objects of the Tabernacle as the community moved from place to place in the Wilderness as Moses led. Korah's main demand was that he and the others should be granted leadership and high priestly duties afforded to Moses and Aaron.

- G-d's judgment against this overt pride was swift and terrifying (**Numbers 16**).
- The Most High G-d caused the ground beneath Korah and the leaders of the rebellion to open up, swallow them, then close up once again.
- The sons of Korah were spared from G-d's judgment and punishment during this event.

Verse 4-5

John 10:4-5 (NASB) - ⁴When he puts all his own *sheep* outside, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵However, a stranger they simply will not follow, but will flee from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers."

Shepherds Fields



Research in 2012

- Tradition holds that the Shepherd's Fields are located to the immediate east of the historic (and contemporary) town of Bethlehem, easily within walking distance of where the manger that the Holy Family used would have been.
- This site is also identified with the story of Ruth and Boaz from the Old Testament, as told in the second chapter of the Book of Ruth. On occasion, the area is also referred to as the historical fields of Boaz.

Verse 6

John 10:6 (NASB) - ⁶ Jesus told them this figure of speech, but they did not understand what the things which He was saying to them meant.

Question: Why does the Lord continue trying to persuade those He knows cannot receive?

Answer: The Lord is full of Mercy!

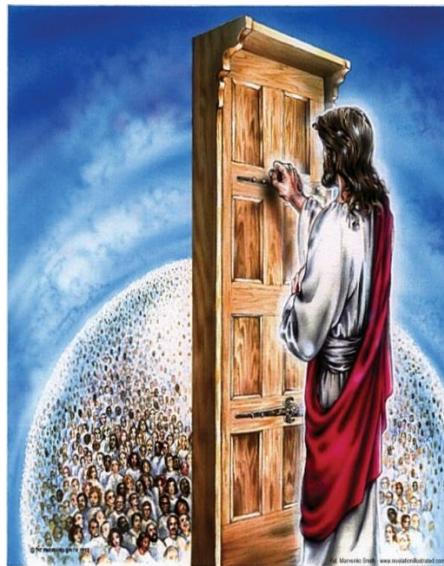
Micah 7:18 (NASB) – ¹⁸ Who is a God like You, who pardons wrongdoing And passes over a rebellious act of the remnant of His possession? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy.

- Micah is highlighting the very nature of G-d.
- How G-d takes pleasure over pardoning sins rather than holding anger.
- Micah highlights G-d's nature of Compassion that fails not (Lamentations 3:22-23).

Revelation Released: Jesus Is The Door

Verse 7-8

John 10:7-8 (NASB) - ⁷ So Jesus said to them again, “Truly, truly I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All those who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.



Note: Jesus is pointing something out about anyone that came before Him and took credit for being the Way and took credit for owning the sheep; Jesus makes it clear that the sheep did not follow them!

John 14:6 (NASB) – ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.

Verse 9-10

John 10:9-10 (NASB) - ⁹ I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came so that they would have life, and have *it* abundantly.

Acts 4:12 (NASB) – ¹² And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among mankind by which we must be saved.”

REVELATION: There are not many roads and there are not many names!

Verse 11-13

John 10:11-13 (NASB) - ¹¹ “I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees; **and the wolf snatches them and scatters the flock.** ¹³ *He flees* because he is a hired hand and does not care about the sheep.



THE HIRELING

Understanding: A hireling is a laborer employed on hire (**hired hand**) for a limited time. His wages were paid as soon as his work was over.

- They will not risk their lives for the flock.
- The goal is to get rich from temporary care of the flock.
- Once the money stops, or it's no longer beneficial for them, they are gone.

Verse 14-15

John 10:14-15 (NASB) - ¹⁴I am the good shepherd, and I know My own, and **My own know Me**, ¹⁵just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

Key: Jesus is stating He is known to those who belong to Him! Jesus is also referencing His **willingness** to die on the cross.

Verse 16

John 10:16 (NASB) - ¹⁶And I have **other sheep** that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice; and they will become one flock, *with* one shepherd.



Note: This scripture is talking about you and me, and all those for all time to come, those who will one day follow Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

Verse 17-18

John 10:17-18 (NASB) - ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it back. ¹⁸ No one has taken it away from Me, **but I lay it down on My own. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it back.** This commandment I received from My Father.”

Note: The Jewish religious council, the Sanhedrin led by the High Priest Caiaphas convened this night trial that was considered illegal under Jewish Law, really thought they had authority to kill Jesus!



- Jesus states, no one had authority to kill Him.
- No one on earth had authority to raise Him up.

John 11:25 (NASB) – ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life...

Verse 19-21

John 10:19-21 (NASB) - ¹⁹ Dissension occurred again among the Jews because of these words. ²⁰ Many of them were saying, “He has a demon and is insane. Why do you listen to Him?” ²¹ Others were saying, “These are not the words of one who is demon-possessed. A demon cannot open the eyes of those who are blind, can it?”

The Blind Leading The Blind

Note: Truth is in front of them, but no matter how many different ways Jesus explains Himself to them, **They Cannot See...Selah.**

The End