

John 10

¹ "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is <u>a thief and a robber</u>. ² But he who enters by the door is <u>the shepherd</u> of the sheep. ³ To him the <u>gatekeeper</u> opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls <u>his own</u> <u>sheep</u> by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵ A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

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⁶ This <u>figure of speech</u> Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Jesus is giving us a proverb or illustration to help us understand more about who He is which calls for decisions from us.

So who is Jesus?.....

1. Jesus Claims Exclusivity – "I Am the Door" (7-10)

⁷ So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, <u>**I** am the door of the sheep.</u> ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ <u>**I** am the door.</u> If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find <u>pasture</u>. ¹⁰ The <u>thief</u> comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

The Exclusive Claim is that Jesus is the Only Way to be Saved!



John14:6 says the same thing in the same way... Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. The Inclusive Offer is that Anyone who Enters through Jesus will be Saved and find abundant life!

> This first claim of Jesus as the door is only worthwhile if you actually open up and step in.

2. Jesus Claims Exclusivity – "I Am the Good Shepherd" (11-18)

¹¹ I am the <u>good shepherd</u>. The good shepherd lays down his life for the <u>sheep</u>. ¹² He who is a <u>hired hand</u> and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the <u>wolf</u> coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,

2. Jesus Claims Exclusivity – "I Am the Good Shepherd" (11-18)

¹⁹ There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. ²⁰ Many of them said, "He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?" ²¹ Others said, "These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

Why should I trust the direction of my life to Jesus?

- Sheep need a shepherd!
- Jesus died for me!
- Jesus knows me best!
- Living in Jesus' flock is God's design!
- Jesus guarantees heaven!
- Jesus is God!

Jesus desires all believers to be Under-Shepherds!

¹ "I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber!

Implicitly we see here bad under-shepherds!

⁸ All who came before me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them.

Jesus desires all believers to be Under-Shepherds!

Explicitly we see a need for under-shepherds!

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, <u>like sheep without a shepherd</u>. ³⁷ He said to his disciples, "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. ³⁸ So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to <u>send more</u> <u>workers into his fields</u>." (Matt. 9NLT)

Jesus desires all believers to be Under-Shepherds!

I Cant! Because I am unworthy!

⁹ For I (PAUL) am the least of the apostles, **unworthy** to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but <u>the</u> grace of God that is with me. (1 Cor. 15)

Jesus desires all believers to be Under-Shepherds! I Cant! Because I am inadequate!

¹⁷ You see, we are not like the many hucksters who preach for personal profit. We preach the word of God with sincerity and <u>with Christ's</u> <u>authority</u>, knowing that God is watching us. ⁵ It is <u>not that we think we are qualified to do anything</u> <u>on our own</u>. <u>Our qualification comes from God</u>. ⁶ He has enabled us to be ministers of his new covenant. This is a covenant not of written laws, but of the Spirit... (2 Cor. 2&3) "Presenting myself to God implies a recognition that I am altogether His. This giving of myself is a definite thing, just as definite as (receiving Christ). There must be a day when I pass out of my own hands into His, and from that day forward I belong to Him and no longer to myself... If we give ourselves unreservedly to God, many adjustments may have to be made: in family, or business, or relationships, or in the matter of our personal views..." The Normal Christian Life by Watchman Nee



