

The Shepherd's Particular Relationships

Study Outline – Grace Bible Chapel

John's Gospel Study - John 10:14-18

Sunday – May 30th, 2010

CONTEXT: Jesus continues His dialogue with the Jews following the healing of the man born blind (John 9). He is revealing Himself symbolically providing explanation as to why He was accepted by the man born blind, but not by the Jewish leaders and most of Israel. In addressing the listening Jewish crowd, He first identifies Himself in the first 10 verses as the Door (the only means of access to God). Then He reveals Himself as the Good Shepherd (vs. 11). This is an obvious reference to Ezekiel 34. He makes a contrast between the Good Shepherd, and the false religious leaders who have no real relationship, investment, or concern for the sheep (vs. 12-13).

In our passage today (vs. 14-18), Jesus describes the particular nature of His relationship to His sheep. He further reiterates that relationship brings with it a connectivity of personal knowledge. The genuineness of the relationship is enforced by His giving His life for the sheep, a stark contrast to the false shepherds who run from trouble. Verse 16 reveals extraordinary information about what God is doing in building His flock, and the identity of the sheep. This also is driven by the relationships He has determined. Jesus further declares that His actions are in perfect compliance with God the Father, while at the same time He has all authority even over His own death and life.

Broad outline of the Gospel of John (underlined is the immediate context).

VII. The Performance of Christ followed by irrational rejection (6:1-12:50)

- E. The Confrontation of Christ with hypocrisy (8:1-11)
- F. The Challenge to Christ's glorious claim (8:12-30)
- G. The Clarity of Saving Faith (8:31-47)
- H. The Clarity of Christ as the "I AM" (8:48-59)
- I. The Confirmation of Messiah (9:1-41)
- J. The Contrast of Jesus with the Jewish leaders (10:1-21)
 - 1. His Symbolism as the Door of the sheep (10:1-10)
 - 2. His Symbolism as the Good Shepherd (10:11-18)
 - a. The Shepherd identified as Jesus (10:11a)
 - b. The Shepherd's care contrasted with false shepherds (10:11b-13)

Key Words (10: 14-18)

- down (4)
- Father (4)
- lay (4)
- know (3)
- own (3)
- authority (2)
- take (2)

Introduction:

c. The Shepherd's particular relationship to the sheep (10:14-16)

- The confirmation of true relationship (10:14-15)

- The composition of the flock (10:16)

d. The Shepherd's purpose verified (10:17-18)

- The character and authority of the Shepherd (10:17-18a)

- The commission from God the Father (10:18b)

Conclusion: