The Good Shepherd

John 10:1-21

Introduction:

In his Gospel, John records seven figures of Jesus: Seven "I AM'S"

1. The Bread of Life - 6

2. The Light of the World - 8

3. The Door – 10:9

4. The Good Shepherd – 10:11

5. The Resurrection and Life - 11

6. The Way, Truth, Life - 14

7. The True Vine - 15

Two Types of Sheepfolds:

Fold #1- The Sheep Hotel:

Some shepherds would tend their sheep all day and then leave them in a fold (built for that purpose). He would go home. A door-keeper would keep the sheep safe through the night. Then, the next day, he would return to the fold, take his sheep out to let them graze.

Fold #2 – Camping Out:

Other shepherds made their own smaller enclosures for their sheep only. It might have some natural fences and the rest he, himself, would build. There would not be a door. The shepherd would lie in the opening.

I. The Shepherd and the Fold – 10:1-15

A. The Door of the Sheep – 10:1-7

1. Sheep Fear the Robber – 10:1

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.”

The true shepherd will have access by the door. The thief or robber will break in.

2. They Follow the True Shepherd – 10:2-4

a. Access to the Fold – 10:2-3

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“But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by ﻿﻿name and leads them out.

b. Acceptance by the Flock – 10:4

“And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.”

3. They Flee from the Stranger – 10:5

“Yet they will by no means follow a ﻿﻿stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.”

(Parenthetical Explanation by John – 10:6-7)

a. The Confusion of the Pharisee – 10:6

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“Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them.”

b. The Explanation by Jesus – 10:7

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“Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.”

B. The Defender of the Sheep – 10:8-15

1. The False Shepherd –10:8-10

a. By Character – 10:8

“All who *ever* came ﻿﻿before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them.”

b. By Contrast – 10:9-10

1. The True Shepherd Saves – 10:9

﻿﻿“I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.”

2) The True Shepherd Secures – 10:10a

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy”

3) The True Shepherd Satisfies – 10:10b

“I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

2. The Fearful Shepherd – 10:11-13

a. The Heavenly Shepherd – 10:11

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﻿﻿“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.”

b. The Hireling Shepherd – 10:12-13

1. Lacks Commitment – 10:12

“But a ﻿﻿hireling, *he who is* not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and ﻿﻿leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them.”

1. Lacks concern – 10:13

“The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep.”

3. The Faithful Shepherd – 10:14-15

a. His Comprehension – 10:14-15a

“I am the good shepherd; and ﻿﻿I know My *sheep,* and ﻿﻿am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father…”

b. His Commitment – 15b

“…and I lay down My life for the sheep.

II. The Shepherd and the Flock – 10:16-21

A. His Future – 10:16-18

1. A Great Truth – 10:16

“And ﻿﻿other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; ﻿﻿and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd.”

2. A Great Triumph – 10:17-18

a. In His Transcendent Love – 10:17

“Therefore My Father ﻿﻿loves Me, ﻿﻿because I lay down My life that I may take it again.”

b. In His Transcendent Life – 10:18

“No one takes it from Me but I lay it down of Myself. I ﻿﻿have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. ﻿﻿This command I have received from My Father.”

B. His Fellows – 10:19-21

1. The Cause of their Disunity – 10:19

“Therefore ﻿﻿there was a division again among the Jews because of these sayings.

2. The Completeness of their Disunity – 10:20-21

“And many of them said, ﻿﻿“He has a demon and is ﻿﻿mad. Why do you listen to Him?”

“Others said, “These are not the words of one who has a demon. ﻿﻿Can a demon ﻿﻿open the eyes of the blind?”