

# STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

## LESSON 11 - JOHN CHAPTER 10

### ASSIGNMENT

READ John chapter 10.

MEMORIZE John 10:9,

*“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”*

MEMORIZE John 10:11.

*“I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.”*

### KEY WORDS

The key words in this chapter are **believe** and **did not believe**.

### OUTLINE OF JOHN CHAPTER 10

- A. The shepherd and the fold.
- B. The shepherd and the door, John 10:1-10.
- C. The good shepherd, John 10:3,4.
- D. Jesus, the Door, John 10:7-10.
- E. Jesus, the good Shepherd, John 10:11-18.
- F. Other sheep,
- G. Belief and unbelief, John 10:19-21.
- H. Who Jesus is, John 10:22-39.
  - 1. Jesus is equal with God, John 10:28,29.
  - 2. Jesus is the keeper of the sheep, John 10:28,29.
  - 3. Jesus is God, John 10:30-38.
- I. Jesus beyond the Jordan River, John 10:40-42.

## LOOKING AT JOHN CHAPTER 10

In chapter 9, Jesus had made a blind man see. What did the Pharisees do to the blind man?

John 9:34

Jesus went to look for the man who had been blind.

Did He find the man?

Jesus told the man that He was the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Who was with Jesus at this time? John 9:40

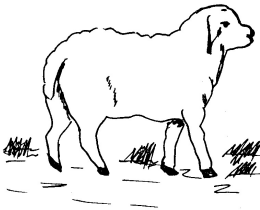
These Pharisees asked Jesus, "Are we blind also?" In answer to this question, Jesus told the story of the Good Shepherd.

### **A. The shepherd and the fold.**

There were many sheep in Palestine. The people knew what sheep were like. They knew how sheep were taken care of. Sheep were important - the sheep were used for meat and sacrifices. The wool from the sheep was used for clothing.

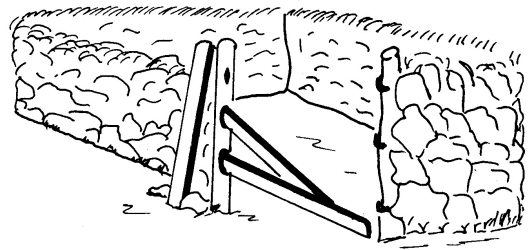
The man who took care of the sheep was called a shepherd. The shepherd stayed all day with his sheep. He protected them from lions, bears and other dangers. The shepherd knew all the sheep by name. He also made sure the sheep were safe at night.

Would a shepherd take good care of his own sheep?



Sheep are animals about the size of dogs. Sheep are very different from dogs. They will not fight or bite. They cannot protect themselves against other animals. When sheep get lost, they cannot find their way home. The sheep do not find their own food.

At night the shepherd puts the sheep into a sheepfold. There are several kinds of sheepfolds. Where there is a lot of grass all the time, the shepherd builds the sheepfold out of rocks. He puts thorns on top of the walls. These are to keep thieves and wild animals out. Where there is not much grass, the shepherd has to

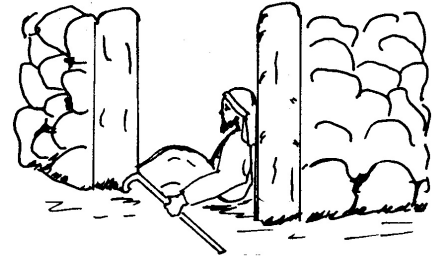


move the sheep often. Then he builds the sheepfold out of brush that has thorns on it.

**B. The shepherd and the door.**

How many doors are there to the fold?

How would the shepherd go into the fold?



Who would try to climb over the wall? John 10:1

and

Many sheepfolds did not have a door that closed. The shepherd or a watchman would sit or lie in the doorway at night. He always knew if a sheep tried to get out. He also knew when someone tried to get into the fold. That is why the thief would try to climb over the wall.

**C. The good shepherd.**

Sometimes they had several flocks of sheep in one fold. In the morning the shepherd called his sheep.

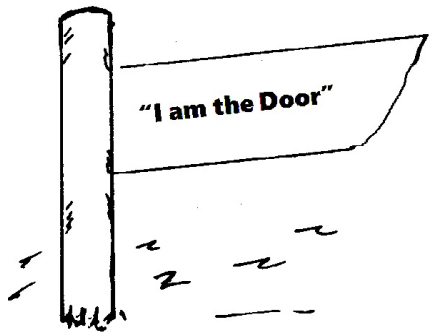
How did the shepherd call his sheep? John 10:3

A shepherd did not drive the sheep like we drive cattle or dogs. He would lead the sheep.

What would the sheep do? John 10:4

Whom would the sheep not follow? John 10:5

**D. Jesus, the Door.**



When Jesus told this story, the Pharisees did not know what Jesus meant. Then Jesus told them another story. This time Jesus talked about the sheepfold.

How many doors does a sheepfold have?

Who was the door? John 10:7

Jesus said,

*"All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers."* John 10:8.

All the people who said they were "the Christ" were not "the Christ." Only Jesus was "the Christ." Only Jesus was the Son of God. The fold is the Church or the kingdom of God. Only Jesus could let people into the Church or the kingdom of God.

All who go in by the Door, Jesus, shall be \_\_\_\_\_ and find \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_, John 10:9.

<b>What does a thief do? John 10:10</b>	<b>What does Jesus do? John 10:10</b>
<b>1)</b>	<b>1) gives</b>
<b>2)</b>	<b>2) gives it</b>
<b>3)</b>	

**E. Jesus, the Good Shepherd.**



Next Jesus told the Pharisees about the Shepherd. Who was the Shepherd?

John 10:11

What kind of shepherd was Jesus?

What did He do for His sheep?

The man who is paid to take care of sheep is called an hireling (hired man).

Do the sheep belong to him?

What does the hireling do when there is danger? John 10:12.

He \_\_\_\_\_ the sheep and \_\_\_\_\_

What happens to the sheep? John 10:12 1)

2)

A hireling (hired man) is **not a good** shepherd. What about Jesus? What does He do?

John 10:14

verse 15

Now let us see what Jesus was trying to tell the Pharisees. The priests were also called shepherds of the people.

Did the priests take good care of the people?

They were like the hireling. The Pharisees were not priests. Yet, they tried to teach the people. They made the people keep the laws of the Pharisees. The Pharisees were like thieves and robbers who tried to get the sheep. They wanted the people to follow them instead of Jesus.

Jesus said,

*"I am the good Shepherd."*

What will Jesus do for His sheep? John 10:11,15,17

Jesus speaks about His coming death in these verses. He speaks about laying down His life for His sheep. Jesus gave His life because **He was willing to do it**. No one could take the life of Jesus, because He is Life, John 14:6; John 10:17,18. Jesus gave His life for His sheep.

God said,

*". . . the soul that sinneth, it shall die."* Ezekiel 18:4.

Jesus took the place of punishment when He died. He died for those who sinned. When Jesus died, He destroyed the power of Satan, Hebrews 2:14. He finished paying for all sins at one time, Hebrews 7:27. (A. Martin, John - Life Through Believing, p. 71.)

Why does the Father love His Son Jesus?

Were the soldiers able to kill Jesus Christ on the cross? Matthew 27:50

Tell why.

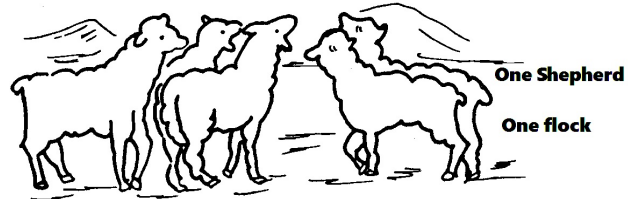
Who gave Jesus Christ this power?

<b>Shepherd</b>	<b>Jesus</b>
<b>Calls sheep by name, John 10:3.</b>	<b>Knows His sheep, John 10:27; II Timothy 2:19; Isaiah 43:1.</b>
<b>Leads his sheep, John 10:3,4.</b>	<b>Leads His sheep, Psalm 23:2,3.</b>
<b>Gives his life for the sheep. John 10:11.</b>	<b>Gives His life for His sheep, John 10:15; Romans 5:8.</b>
	<b>Gives life that lasts forever, John 10:28; John 3:16.</b>

<b>Sheep</b>	<b>Christians</b>
<b>Know the voice of the shepherd, John 10:3,4.</b>	<b>Hear the voice of Jesus, John 10:27; John 18:37.</b>
<b>Run away from strangers, John 10:5.</b>	<b>Run away from evil, 1 Thessalonians 5:22.</b>
<b>Do not obey strangers, John 10:8.</b>	<b>Do not follow-false teachings, John 10:5,8; 2 Timothy 6:3-5.</b>
<b>Are fed by the shepherd.</b>	<b>Saved from the punishment for sin, John 10:9; Acts 4:12.</b>
	<b>Are fed by Jesus, John 10:9; 1 Corinthians 10:3,4.</b>
	<b>Have a great full life, John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 9:8.</b>
<b>Are protected by the shepherd.</b>	<b>Will never perish, John 10:28; John 3:16.</b>
	<b>Cannot be taken out of the hand of Jesus, John 10:28; Romans 8:33-39.</b>

## F. Other sheep.

When Jesus talked about “other sheep,” He talked about people who are not Jews, called Gentiles, John 10:16. Jesus would bring these other sheep into the same fold. They would be one flock.



They would have one shepherd, Jesus. (Most translations use “*one flock and one shepherd.*” King James version uses “*one fold and one shepherd.*”) One of the best known Psalms is the 23rd Psalm. It is called the “Shepherd Psalm.”

Why?

Psalms 22,24,95 and 100 also speak about the shepherd.

## G. Belief or unbelief, John 10:19-21.

After the words of Jesus (John 10:1-18), the Jews talked about Jesus. They did not agree about Jesus. They argued about Him.

What did some say? John 10:20

What did others say? John 10:21

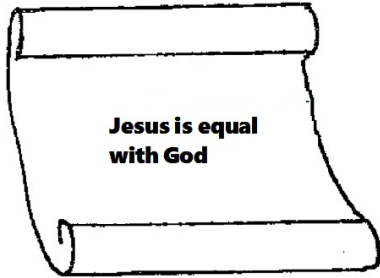
## H. Who Jesus is . . . John 10:22-39.

With verse 22 we come to the time of another feast, the feast of dedication. This feast is about 2 months after the feast of tabernacles. (feast of tabernacles - a time when the Jews thanked God in a special way. They remembered the time their forefathers finished their time of wandering in the wilderness.)

At this feast of dedication, they remembered the time when the temple was cleaned. This was about 160 years before Christ was born. Antiochus Ephihanes had made the temple unclean by killing pigs in it. So the temple had to be cleaned before the people could worship in it again.

At the feast of dedication, there were many lights in each house. It was not necessary for the people to go to Jerusalem for this feast. (W. Smith, *Bible Dictionary*, p. 142.) Jesus was at Jerusalem at this time. He was in Solomon's porch. Solomon's porch was a part of the temple.

## 1. Jesus is equal with God.



While Jesus was in Solomon's porch, the Jews made a circle around Him. They had a question to ask and they did not want Him to get away.

What did they ask Jesus? John 10:24

Had Jesus told them before Who He was?

They saw the works Jesus did. They knew a man could not do these miracles. But they did not want to believe.

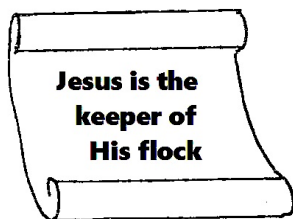
What witness did Jesus have that God sent Him? John 5:36

Again, what did Jesus say in John 10:25?

“ *bear witness of me.*”

Jesus told the religious leaders that God sent Him into the world. The works He did showed He was the Son of God. He was right in saying, He was the Son of God.

## 2. Jesus is the keeper of His sheep, John 10:28,29.



What are the four great promises Jesus gives to His sheep?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

If Jesus was not God He could never have kept these promises.

Who is keeping us?

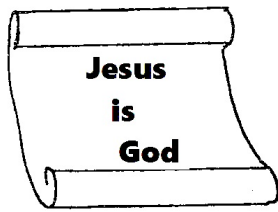
When we trust Christ as our Savior, He saves us from our sin, Acts 16:31. When we trust Christ as our Savior, He begins to make us like Himself. He will keep on making us like Himself until we go to be with Him, Philippians 1:6. Jesus protects us from those who would take us away from God. Read Romans 8:38,39.



We do not have to be afraid that we will lose our salvation. But we do want to be afraid of making Jesus sad. We make Jesus sad when we let sin stay in our lives.

What does Ephesians 4:30,31 tell us?

### 3. Jesus is God.



What did Jesus say in verse 30?

Did the Jews know what Jesus meant?

They picked up stones. They had said, "*Tell us plainly.*" Now that He told the Jews, what did they do? They picked up stones. Why? (John 10:33)

*"Because*

*"*

The Jews said this was blasphemy, and He should die.

Did the Jews believe on Jesus?

Jesus used words from the Old Testament. The Jews respected the Old Testament. Jesus said to them,

*"Is it not written in your law, 'I said you are gods'?"* (Psalm 82:6; John 10:34. (N.L.T.)

God sent His Son into the world. Jesus had the right to say, "*I am the Son of God.*"

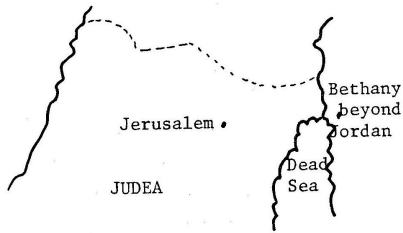
Again, Jesus told them that the works He did should show them that He was the same as God.

*". . .that the Father is in me, and I in him."* John 10:38.

What did the Jews try to do this time? John 10:39

The Jews were waiting for a Messiah. They expected the Messiah to be a king. They could not see Jesus as the Messiah.

## I. Jesus, beyond the Jordan River, John 10:40-42.



Jesus walked away from the Jews. He left them and did not come back until shortly before His death.

Where did Jesus go?

Who had preached here before?

What did these people say about Jesus?

Did these people believe on Jesus?

### IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

1. There is only one door into a sheepfold.
2. Jesus said, "I am the Door." He is the only One who can let people into the Church or the kingdom of God.
3. Jesus said, "I am the good Shepherd."
4. As a good Shepherd
  - 1) He knows His sheep,
  - 2) leads His sheep,
  - 3) gives His life for His sheep.
5. The other sheep are people who are not Jews. Jesus came to bring them also into the fold.
6. Jesus is
  - 1) equal with God,
  - 2) the keeper of His sheep,
  - 3) God.
7. The Jews at Jerusalem did not believe on Jesus. The people beyond the Jordan River believed on Jesus.

### WORDS TO-LEARN

1. feast of dedication - the Jews remembered the cleaning of the temple about 160 years before Christ was born. At this feast the people had many lights in their houses.
2. hireling - a hired man, a man who works for pay.
3. Messiah - the One God was to send. The One Who was to be the king of the Jews. The Christ.

## Lesson 11 - Review

### Fill in the blanks.

1. A sheepfold has (one door, many doors) .
2. The thief and robber come to , and .
3. An hireling (owns, does not own) the sheep. .
4. The sheep follow the voice of the .
5. The shepherd
  - a) goes (before, behind) the sheep.
  - b) calls the sheep by .
  - c) lays down his for the sheep.
6. People (could, could not) kill Jesus.
7. The of Jesus showed that He was equal with God.
8. The Jews wanted to throw stones at Jesus because .
9. Jesus gives life to His sheep. They will never .  
No one can them out of His hand.
10. The two "I am" sayings in this chapter are:
  - 1) .
  - 2) .
11. Write out John 10:9.
12. Write out John 10:11.