

The Good Shepherd (Part 3)

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John 10:11-21

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Look @ verse 11. "I am the GOOD SHEPHERD." Look @ verse 14. "I am the GOOD SHEPHERD."

- KALOS – That which is FINE. PRECIOUS. *That Which stands alone.*

JESUS calls HIMSELF – the GOOD SHEPHERD.

- He is this EXQUISITE SHEPHERD that STANDS ALONE.
- Peter calls him in 1 Peter 5:1 "The Chief Shepherd."
- Hebrews 13:20 – "The Great Shepherd of the Sheep."
- The FULFILLMENT of what GOD had said in Ezekiel 34.
- Ezekiel 34:11 – [11] *For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out.*
- Ezekiel 34:12 – [12] *As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness.*
- Ezekiel 34:13 – [13] *And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places.*
- Ezekiel 34:14 – [14] *I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel.*
- Ezekiel 34:15 – [15] *I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the LORD GOD.*
- Ezekiel 34:16 – [16] *I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.*

We have studied the QUALITIES of this GOOD SHEPHERD: 1) *the Legitimate Shepherd*, 2) *the Pursuing Shepherd*, 3) *the Leading Shepherd*, 4) *the Exclusive Shepherd*, 5) *the Saving Shepherd*, and 6) *the Life-Giving Shepherd*.

7) The Sacrificial Shepherd

John 10:11 – [11] *I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*

- The HEART of CHRISTIANITY is the ATONEMENT.
- He died to give us life. He died to save. He died to bring us back to GOD.
- A) *The Costliness of the Sacrifice*
 - Salvation requires the LIFE of the LORD JESUS CHRIST.
 - Not just time. Not just pain. Not just hardship. HIS LIFE. Psyche.
 - The highest price in the world was paid to achieve grace.
 - Diedrich Bonhoeffer. *Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it*

is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son: "ye were bought at a price," and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us.

- B) The Willingness of the Sacrifice
 - It is the LORD who lays it down.
 - *From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.* Matthew 16:21.
- C) The Nature of the Sacrifice
 - "For" – HUPER. Such a remarkable WORD. It could mean "on behalf of." The idea is that of SUTBSTITUTION.
 - The CHRISTIAN atonement is SUBSTITUTION.
 - 2 Cor 5:21 – [21] *For our sake he made hm to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*
 - Galatians 3:13 – [13] *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us...*
- D) The Particularity of the Sacrifice
 - In the design of the ATONEMENT, Jesus died for a particular people. "The SHEEP."
 - This is the doctrine of PARTICULAR REDEMPTION which is that Christ died to effectively secure the salvation of His Church.
 - This isn't to limit it's sufficiency or POWER. The atonement could have saved 10 million worlds.
 - But in terms of THE INTENT of the ATONEMENT, the DESIGN of the ATONEMENT. The ATONEMENT was DESIGNED to save all those whose NAMES were written in the LAMB'S BOOK of LIFE before the FOUNDATION of the WORLD.
 - Hebrews 10:14 – [14] *For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.*
 - Acts 20:28 – [28] *Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.*
 - Ephesians 5:25 – [25] *Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, [26] that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, [27] so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.*
 - Revelation 5:9 – [9] *"Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation..."*
- E) The Motivation of the Sacrifice

John 10:12 – [12] *He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.*

John 10:13 – [13] *He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.*

- A hireling is not someone who is paid... a hireling is someone who only does the job to GET paid.
- Notice the logic of verse 13. HIRELINGS will shirk tasks because they are HIRELINGS.

- In terms of OT Israel, the false shepherds were hirings. They were not there to care for the SHEEP. So when the wolf comes, they flee... and the sheep are preyed upon and scattered.
- The Heidelberg Catechism - Q. *What is your only comfort in life and in death?*
 - A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

8) The Personal Shepherd

John 10:14 – [14] *I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,*

- The GOOD SHEPHERD knows his sheep intimately.
- The RELATIONSHIP of the SHEEP to THEIR SHEPHERD is that of personal intimacy.

John 10:15 is the ANALOGY – [15] *just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.*

- How well and how deep does the Father, know the SON? Infinitely.
- The Analogy is that as the FATHER knows the SON – so the SON knows the SHEEP.
- He sovereignly reigns over our lives. He watches over us.
 - By His Spirit, He comforts us. And speaks to us through His WORD.
 - John 14:16 – [16] *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, [17] even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.*
 - Then we come to KNOW HIM, through the SPIRIT and the WORD.
 - Cornelius Van Til. “I have never met Christ in the flesh. No matter, he has written me a letter. Not he, himself. He chose helpers. By his Spirit, the Spirit of truth, these helpers wrote what he wanted me to know. From heaven my Lord then sent his Holy Spirit on Pentecost to dwell in the hearts of all those whom he came into the world to redeem. I am, by his grace, one of them. Together we form the church, his people. In us and through us he establishes his kingdom. As a soldier of the cross, strengthened by his power in the inward man, I fight daily against Satan, who seeks at every point to establish his own kingdom in the hearts and to the hurt of men.

9) The World's Shepherd

John 10:16 – [16] *And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.*

- There is ONE SHEPHERD for the WORLD.
- He adds other SHEEP underneath the SHEPHERD of ISRAEL. GENTILES being GRAFTED IN.
- JESUS leads the SHEEP out of ISRAEL. And He Calls the GENTILES to HIMSELF.

- Something Isaiah prophesied in Isaiah 42:6 – [6] *“I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations.”*
- Notice the certainty in verse 16. *“I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice”*
 - Jesus brings them in. The SHEEP will hear His voice.
- Evangelism and Missions is not done in ISOLATION. It is CHRIST working... His Power. His mission to call home His SHEEP.

10) The Obedient Shepherd

The Son of God was obedient to the Father in carrying out His Father’s commands. Remember the Father sent Him on this mission. The FATHER loves the SON because the SON perfectly executes this mission. John 10:17 – [17] *For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I lay take it up again.*

- There is a sense, where the FATHER takes great JOY in the SON carrying out the MISSION of the FATHER.

John 10:18 – [18] *No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I received from my Father.”*

- Jesus in the GARDEN of GETHSEMANE. John 18:11 – [11] *So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”*
- Matthew 26:53 – [53] *Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once end me more than twelve legion of angels?*
- Philippians 2:8 – [8] *And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

The response to JESUS...

John 10:19 – [19] *There was again a division among the Jews because of these words.*

- Whenever the GOOD SHEPHERD is truly seen. There is DIVISION.

Notice how the world divides over what He says.

John 10:20 – [20] *Many of them said, “He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?”*

John 10:21 – [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?”*