

I Am the Door and the Good Shepherd Jn. 10:1-18

Introduction:

These two statements of Jesus (“**I am the door**” and “**I am the good shepherd**”) are intertwined together throughout this passage. Today, we will look at these two statements and learn from their meaning. At the end of our lesson we will notice what this means for us today.

I. Jesus calls Himself “the door” (10:7-10).

- A. Notice the purpose of a door.
 - 1. We use a door to gain access to something.
 - a. We use a door to go into a building.
 - b. We use a door to go from room to room in a house.
 - 2. A door gives us access to something else.
- B. Jesus, as “the door,” gives us access to the Father.
 - 1. **Rom. 5:1-2** - Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, {2} through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
 - 2. **Eph. 2:18** - For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.
 - 3. **Eph. 3:12** - (again in reference to Christ) - in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.
 - 4. It is through Christ, and only through Him, that we have access to the Father.
- C. Jesus is quick to point out that those who do not use the door are a thief and a robber (10:1, 8-10).
 - 1. We are warned many times throughout the scriptures that there will be those who want to take us away from God.
 - a. **Mt. 7:15** - Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.
 - b. **Mt. 24:23-24** - Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. {24} For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.
 - c. **I Tim. 4:1-3** - Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, {2} speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, {3} forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.
 - d. False teachers are coming and they will try to take us away from Christ.

2. We, therefore, must make sure that we are following Christ, the true door.
 - a. It is only Christ that has the words of eternal life (Jn. 6:68).
 - b. It is Him that we must follow.

II. Jesus also calls Himself “the good shepherd,” (10:1-5, 11-18).

- A. As the good shepherd, Jesus entered through the door (10:1-5).
 1. He came from the Father.
 2. He came through the door (the right place) and is therefore the good shepherd.
- B. Jesus, as the good shepherd, gives His life for His sheep (10:11-18) (Jesus mentions this 5 times in this passage).
 1. We need to realize that Jesus gave His life for us.
 - a. When we truly understand this fact, we will be willing to serve Him more faithfully.
 - b. Heb. 2:9 - But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.
 2. It was prophesied that Jesus would be killed.
 - a. Zech. 13:7 - “Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, against the Man who is My Companion,” says the LORD of hosts. “Strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered; then I will turn My hand against the little ones.”
 - b. Mt. 26:31 - Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: ‘I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’”
 - c. This was fulfilled when Christ was betrayed and died on the cross.
 3. The thing that makes this sacrifice so great is the fact that no one took His life from Him, but rather He freely gave His life for us (10:18).
 - a. He laid down His life so that He could take it again.
 - 1) He took His life again when He rose from the grave on the 3rd day.
 - 2) Phil. 2:9-11 - Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, {10} that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, {11} and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
 - b. When we come together on the first day of the week and partake of the Lord’s Supper, we are proclaiming “the Lord’s death till He comes” (I Cor. 11:26).
- C. As we look at this statement of Jesus (“the good shepherd”), we also notice that Jesus contrasts Himself with a hireling (10:12-13).
 1. A hireling (one hired to tend to the sheep) does not fight for the sheep because he does not care about the sheep.

2. When times of trouble come upon the sheep, he flees and does not protect them.
 3. Christ, on the other hand, is always going to be there for us.
 - a. He will always protect us.
 - b. **Heb. 13:5** - For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."
 4. A hireling would not die for us, but Jesus did die for us.
- D. Jesus gave His life for us!

III. We must understand that in order for Christ to be a shepherd, He must have sheep (10:3-5, 14, 16).

- A. Notice an interesting statement that is used by Jesus in this text.
 1. Jesus also refers to "other sheep" that are His (10:16).
 2. Jesus is not referring to another way, but rather to the Gentiles.
 3. In fact, Isaiah prophesied that the Gentiles would have an opportunity for salvation.
 - a. **Is. 42:6** - I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, and will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles,
 - b. **Is. 56:8** - The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, "Yet I will gather to him others besides those who are gathered to him."
- B. Today, we must be His sheep.
 1. **Ps. 23:1** - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 2. **Ps. 95:6-7** - Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. {7} For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.
 3. **Ps. 100:3** - Know that the LORD, He is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture.
- C. If we do belong to Christ, we will hear His voice and follow Him (10:4-5).
 1. Also, if we are His sheep, we will have eternal life.
 2. **Jn. 10:27-28** - My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. {28} And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.
- D. Today, are you willing to be His "sheep?"

Conclusion:

Ps 28:9

9 Save Your people, and bless Your inheritance; shepherd them also, and bear them up forever.

Matt 2:6

6 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.' "

Matt 9:36

36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

Matt 25:32

32 "All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.

Acts 20:28

28 "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

Heb 13:20-21 - Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, {21} make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

1 Pet 5:2

2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly;

1 Pet 5:2-4 - Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; {3} nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; {4} and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Rev 7:17

17 "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Luke 15:4-7 - "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? {5} "And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. {6} "And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' {7} "I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

John 10:1-21

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.

2 "But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

3 "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

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

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

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

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

8 "All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them.

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

10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

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.

13 "The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep.

14 "I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.

15 "As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

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.

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

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."

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

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

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