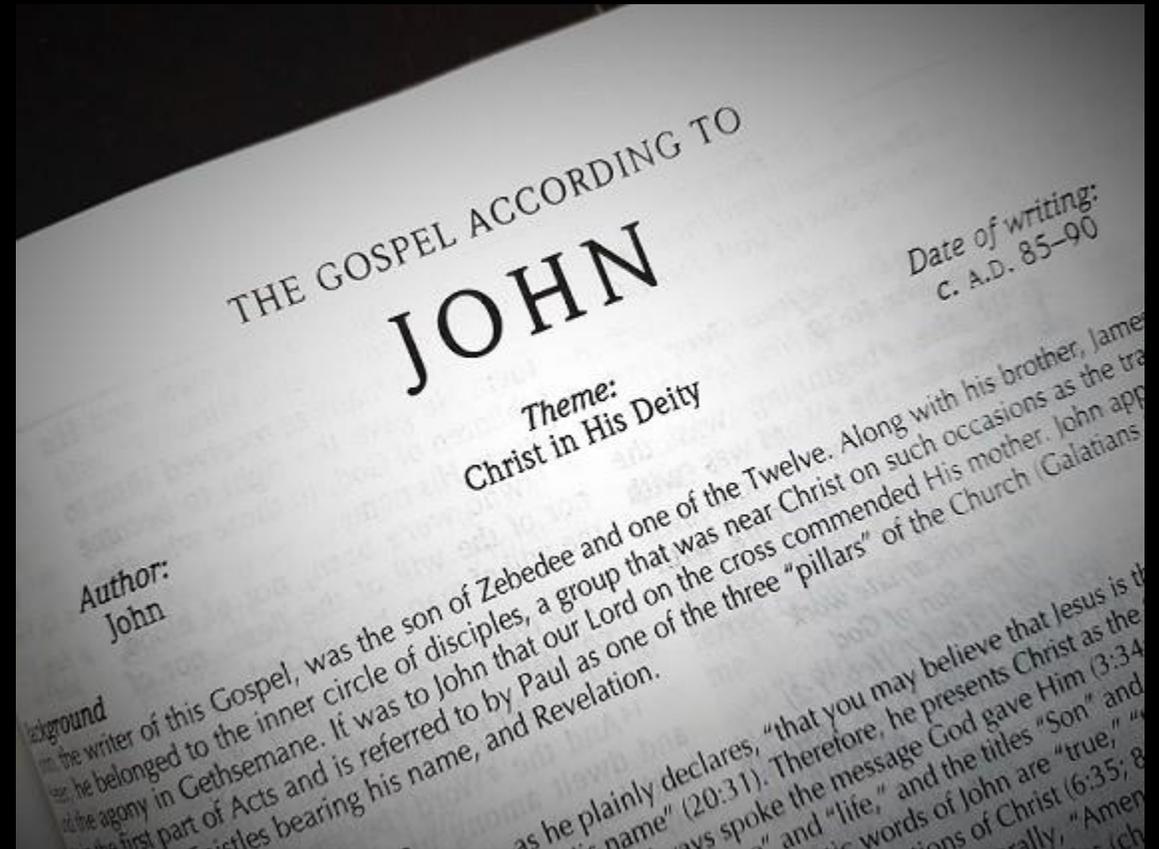


Verse by Verse

John 10



Previously in John

Previously in John

- In **Ch. 2** Jesus performed his first **miracle** or **sign**, when he turned water into wine at a wedding.
- In **Ch. 4**, we witnessed Christ's dialog with the Samaritan **woman at the well**.
- In **Ch. 6**, after feeding the 5000, Jesus then referred to himself as the **bread of life**.
- Last week in **Ch. 9**, we saw Jesus, the **light of the world**, heal a man born blind.

John 10 Introduction

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- The **shepherd and sheep** material in this chapter has a rich background in the Old Testament.
- Jesus and his audience, whether for or against him, would have all shared the Jewish Scriptures.
- This literature would have permeated the thought life and worldview of Jerusalem at the time of Christ.
- One relevant passage is **Ezekiel 34:1-16**.

“I am” Sayings in John

“I am” Sayings in John

1. I am the bread of life 6:35, 48, 51
2. I am the light of the world 8:12, 9:5
3. I am the gate (or “door”) 10:7, 9
4. I am the good shepherd 10:11, 14
5. I am the resurrection and the life 11:25
6. I am the way, the truth and the life 14:6
7. I am the true vine 15:1

John 10 Key Verse

John 10 Key Verse

- **John 10:11** (ESV)

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 10 Outline

John 10 Outline

0. Preface from **John 9** 9:35-41
1. The True Shepherd 10:1-6
2. The Good Shepherd 10:7-21
3. True and False Sheep 10:22-30
4. Some Do Not Believe 10:31-39
5. Others Believe 10:40-42

0. Preface 9:35-41

- This will give us some context for **John 10**.
- In the original there would not have been a chapter break interrupting the flow of the text.

1. The True Shepherd 10:1-6

1. The True Shepherd 10:1-6

- 10:1 Sheep do not need much of a fence or wall to keep them in place.
- A low hedge will usually do fine, because they don't climb or jump very well.
- But that means thieves and robbers can easily get in.

1. The True Shepherd 10:1-6

- **10:2** The true shepherd has no need to sneak into the sheepfold to get to the sheep.
- **10:3-6** Apparently, in those days, more than one shepherd might make use of the same sheepfold.
- A shepherd at the gate could call his own sheep, which would then come out to meet him.

2. The Good Shepherd 10:7-21

2. The Good Shepherd 10:7-21

- **10:7-10** At night, when sheep were grazing out in the fields, shepherds would build temporary pens.
- They would use what was available, rocks, branches or thorns, to keep the sheep in and predators out.
- The shepherd would then personally lie down and sleep across the opening, and would be “the door.”

2. The Good Shepherd 10:7-21

- 10:7-10 Christ is claiming to be the exclusive way to salvation from our fallen condition.
- We might be reminded here of Christ's response to a question from Thomas in John 14:6,

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

2. The Good Shepherd 10:7-21

- 10:11-19 Christ's self-sacrifice separates him from all other founders of all other religions.
- He was not only a great teacher or leader.
- He gained nothing from his earthly ministry and laid down his life so that we would be saved.

2. The Good Shepherd 10:7-21

- 10:11-19 The word shepherd is also the New Testament word that is translated “pastors.”

- For example, in Ephesians 4:11 (ESV),

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds [footnote: “or *pastors*”] and teachers.

See also HCSB, NKJV, NIV, NLT on this verse.

2. The Good Shepherd 10:7-21

- 10:11-19 There are pastors who are like hired hands – who see their ministry simply as a job.
- There are other pastors – and this includes all who lead using pastoral gifts – with a self-sacrificing heart.
- There will always be opportunities for ministry for those of this second type – the ones more like Jesus.

2. The Good Shepherd 10:7-21

- 10:19-21 He has a demon, and is insane
- The Gospel of John does not include any cases of Jesus casting out demons as the other Gospels do.
- But people accuse Jesus of having a demon in John 7 & 8, and here again in John 10.

3. True and False Sheep 10:22-30

3. True and False Sheep 10:22-30

- 10:22 Feast of Dedication ... winter = Hanukkah
- This is an eight-day festival in December that commemorates the rededication of the temple.
- This holiday originates from the time between the Old and New Testaments, so it first appears here.

3. True and False Sheep 10:22-30

- 10:22 Feast of Dedication ... winter = *Hanukkah*
- In the second century BC, the Seleucids (Syrian Greeks) were ruling the land and defiled the temple.
- The Jews rebelled and retook the temple putting the menorah back in its place.
- A small amount of oil, meant for one day, burned for eight days in the menorah.
- By that time they had more consecrated oil.

3. True and False Sheep 10:22-30

- 10:27-28 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.
- Jesus clearly explains why some can receive what he says and some do not.

3. True and False Sheep 10:22-30

- 10:30 I and the Father are one.
- This is a very clear claim to be God.
- The unbelieving crowd understands this well enough and their reaction clearly illustrates that.

4. Some Do Not Believe 10:31-39

4. Some Do Not Believe 10:31-39

- 10:34-36 Jesus is referring to Psalm 82:6-7, where God is speaking of the unjust judges of Israel.

⁶ I said, “You are gods,
 sons of the Most High, all of you;
⁷ nevertheless, like men you shall die,
 and fall like any prince.”

- If God could speak this way of unjust judges, then surely the words were more true of Jesus Christ.

4. Some Do Not Believe 10:31-39



A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell ...

— C. S. Lewis (1898 – 1963)

4. Some Do Not Believe 10:31-39



... You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God.

– C. S. Lewis (1898 – 1963)

4. Some Do Not Believe 10:31-39

- 10:31, 39 Christ's listeners, in the end, thought he needed to be arrested.
- This is after they decided to stone him to death.
- Look at what Jesus said again in 10:24, then consider their response.

5. Others Believe 10:40-42

5. Others Believe 10:40-42

- Let this be us – those who respond in faith.

Conclusion: Psalm 23

Conclusion: Psalm 23

- Psalm 23 (ESV)

A Psalm of David.

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

³ He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Conclusion: Psalm 23

- Psalm 23 (ESV)

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

Conclusion: Psalm 23

- Psalm 23 (ESV)

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

John 10 What We Just Read

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John 10 Key Verse

John 10 Key Verse

- John 10:11 (ESV)

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 10 Key Points

John 10 Key Points

1. As Christ goes on in his ministry, his claims to be the Messiah become clearer.
2. His claims to be God become more obvious.
3. He claims to be **the door** through which we must enter into God's presence.
4. He claims to be **the Shepherd of God's sheep**.
5. He offers eternal life to all those who believe.

John 10 A Prayer

John 10 A Prayer

- Dear heavenly Father,
- We receive your Son Jesus as our Shepherd. We put our faith and total trust in him.
- We believe that you sent him to lay down his life for us. We receive that eternal life offered by your grace.
- Let us never waver from that commitment. Let no one ever remove us from your hand.
- In Christ, Amen.