

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

July 24, 2022

I AM the Good Shepherd (John 10:11-21)

We continue our series on the seven great "I AM" statements in the gospel of John. Today we will be looking at "I AM the Good Shepherd" from **John 10:11-21**. Last week we discussed "I AM the Door" from this same discourse (**1-10**). Since we've already explored the metaphor of the sheep, this morning let's focus on what Jesus further reveals about His nature and character in verses **11-18**.

The D_____ C_____ (11, 14)

We've already discussed the significance of Jesus using the phrase "I AM," and the connection back to Exodus 3:14. When Jesus says that He is the "good shepherd," He is also making a very weighty claim. The concept of a divine shepherd, points to the Old Testament. Consider these passages:

Psalms 23:1 "The Lord is my shepherd"

Psalms 79:13 "But we your people, the sheep of your pasture"

Psalms 80:1 "Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock."

Psalms 95:7 "For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture..."

Jer 23:3 Speaks of gathering the nation as a flock of sheep

Eze 34:12, 15 "As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them ... I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down"

In view of this metaphor from the OT where God is the only true shepherd of Israel, what is Jesus claiming about Himself? He is claiming to be divine! He is claiming to be the one true God, and He backs it up (**Acts 2:22-24**).

The D_____ C_____ (11, 15, 17, 18)

Jesus is not just the "good shepherd," but He also chose to give His life for His sheep. The phrase "lay down" is unique to John's writings and means a voluntary sacrificial death (**Jn 13:37-38; 15:13; 1Jn 3:16**).



"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

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May You Never Be conformed
To all of this World's ways
To be fashioned by its customs
And to do what others say
May you be so transformed
By the changing of your mind
As you focus on God's word
In His presence you will find
That you will be so renewed
And changed, so you may prove
What is the perfect will of God
And what is good for you
For God so longs for us
To become as Jesus Christ
And to always walk in line
With His purpose for our lives

The repeated phrases, and the metaphor of the shepherd, evokes imagery of the young shepherd, David, risking his life to keep his sheep safe (**1Sam 17:34-37**). However, the “good shepherd’s” death is not like the physical shepherd’s death while fighting against a robber or beast. The shepherd might indeed die, but not willingly. His death saves the sheep eternally, whereas the death of a shepherd might hasten the death and destruction of the sheep. He will lay down his life, but with a purpose of taking it up again, something no earthly shepherd could do.

Jesus repeats this phrase 4 times, which shows that it is the main theme of His teaching. It is not just that He is God, but that God Himself will voluntarily “lay down” His life for His sheep (**Rom 3:26**). This is the Gospel!

The D_____ C_____ (14-15)

To “know” is more than just understanding the facts; it implies a relationship of trust and intimacy, something the Pharisees were missing with their ritualistic righteousness (**12-13**). They did not truly know the Father or the Son (**Jn 8:19**). Jesus’ relationship with the Father gives Him the authority to make the claims He does (**Mt 11:27**). The union between the Father and Christ is like that between the “good shepherd” and His flock.

The D_____ C_____ (16)

He is pointing to the Gentiles whom Christ would save and who together with the spiritual Israel (remnant) would compose the one flock of God.

Gen 12:3 “...in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Gal 3:8 “...foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith...”

Isa 56:8 “The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, ‘I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered.’”

PRAYER LIST

- **Doug Demonbreun** is still dealing with pain
- **Forshia Pennington, Carolyn Pennington** and **Judy Grissom**, relatives of the Reeds, have breast cancer
- **Faye Waller** is at NHC rehab after elbow surgery
- **Rebecca Brown’s** great-granddaughter passed away
- **Donna Rawls Head** has cancer
- **Diane Singleton** is recovering from knee surgery
- Continue to pray for: families in **Uvalde, Texas** and those in **Ukraine; Kristine Garrett, Delores Coleman**, the **Krantz** family, **John Hayes, Nick Phifer, Gaynell Walker, Rosemary Douglas, Isabel Johnson**, and **Jim Sims**

COMING EVENTS

- Hilldale Church of Christ is hosting a Ladies day on the 27th
- Cheap Hill Church of Christ will have VBS on the 30th

SERVING TODAY (July 24, 2022)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Read: C. Baker
Prayer: L. Gregory

WORSHIP

Read: J. Walker
Wait On Table: J. Gupton
Serve: D. Demonbreun, M. Reed
Prayer: J. Baker