

The Shepherd and His Sheep

John 10:1-6

Intro:

- Having finished our study on Ps 23...
- We move to Jesus' take on the ministry
- What more does He want us to know...
- David has spoken of the Lord to Come
- Jesus is now on the earth doing it!
- Jesus has just finished healing blindness
- Soon, John will focus on the last hours...
- But, there is a message for us to hear...





I. The Sheepfold (1)

- The enclosure of protection
 - From elements and predators
 - Not always a cave, but always a WALL
 - The 2 legged predator was the worst of all...
 - Refuses to use the gate... thief/robber
 - Many of us have been violated “over the wall”
 - Imposing thoughts/degrading values
 - Always for the purpose of destruction
 - Many of us think we are our own... we are not
 - We are either the Shepherd’s or prey...Co 1:15-17

Col 1:15-17

- 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.
- 16 For **by Him all things were created**, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created **through Him and for Him**.
- 17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

II. The Sheep Gate (2,3)

- He comes to and thru the door only
 - Shepherds would tap or sing to announce them
 - Jesus calls: “Peace to you, be not afraid, it is I.”
 - He willingly stands outside our lives and calls
 - Not intrusion, by injection of dynamic life!
- What keeps us from the Shepherd’s call:
 - Fear - He will want too much, pain of past hurt
 - “ME-itus” – “kings of our castles”, - of nothing!
 - Walls entrench our positions
 - So he calls and waits... our names...

III. The Sheep Call (4-5)

- He calls, leads, puts forth, the know Him
 - Sheep come to understand the benefits
 - By following, they are cared for and safe
 - His voice! The Word; The Spirit; devotions; a “pastor”; a friend; an email; a text; a book!!!
 - Ears to hear... do we hear?
 - RESPOND! Don't just sit there!!! RUN to Him
 - Faith still requires follow thru
 - We can weep and cry but not change or obey
 - Mt 7:21-23...

Mt 7:21-23

21 ¶ "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

22 "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'

23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

Things to Consider:

- There are many others who come over the wall to confuse and abuse...
- Voice of strangers (5) – problematic over the years of watching sheep...
- The apostles had trouble with this... (6)
- Our Great Shepherd:
 - Comes to us and waits
 - Calls to us by the name we know
 - Has plans and wonders we are yet to know...