

John 10

1 I tell you the truth – indicates something of very great importance.

Beware of false shepherds – teachers. They attempt to steal the sheep – the people, using cunning means.

2 The real or genuine shepherd uses legitimate means.

3, 4 He is recognised by the Watchman and the sheep. The sheep pen is The Kingdom of God. The shepherd is The Lord Jesus Christ. In the Old Testament, God is the Shepherd of His people. The sheep are His people – those saved and guarded by Him. They listen to His voice and follow Him.

5 They recognise the voice of a strange false shepherd and will not follow him.

6 Jesus further explains.

7 He is also represented by The Door, or The Gate. He is the only means of entry into the safety of God's Kingdom.

8 The religious leaders of Israel were the thieves and robbers. The sheep were not deceived by them.

9 The Promise of eternal salvation for all who trust in Him and receive Him as their Shepherd. Safety and security! Plus freedom and satisfaction.

10 The thief – Satan and false shepherds in his employ. Their aim – to do as much harm as possible. In contrast The Saviour gives fullness of life.

11 I am the Good Shepherd, the proof? He dies for His people.

12, 13 In contrast, hired shepherds abandon the sheep when they are attacked. The Lord Jesus went out to meet the wolves and by His death slew them.

14, 15 The Good Shepherd, the sheep – Heavenly Father share intimate fellowship.

16 The Lord's sheep (people) at this time were all Jews. He foretells the bringing into the Kingdom of God from among the Gentiles to form one flock.

17 He foretells of His resurrection from the dead.

18 His death is purely voluntary. He surrendered Himself into the hands of His enemies. He has the authority from the Father.

19 The Lord Jesus always divides people. Those for Him and those against Him.

20, 21 their excuse – demon possession which is really the only alternative to believing that He is the Son of God. But the problem then is how come demons do such good things?

22-24 Another occasion when Jewish leaders demand a plain answer to the question. Are you The Messiah? Their major problem was, they were anticipating a militant political leader who would restore Israel to its former glory; not a spiritual sacrificial Saviour.

25, 26 The real problem was they were not His true people; otherwise His miracles would have convinced them.

27 A description of His true people. Listen – Know – Follow

28 Their absolute guaranteed security. They have eternal life – The gift of God. They shall never perish – be lost, stolen or destroyed. No one can snatch them from Him. Many attempts may be made but none will be successful.

29 The Father has pledged them to Him and will also ensure their safety. There is no greater power than that of the Father.

30 “I and the Father are One”. This was a clear statement and claim to share the divine nature with God the Father.

31-33 The Jews recognised this and accuse Him of blasphemy and prepare to stone Him. Again He shows that His miracles show He represents The Father.

34-36 He points out that in the Old Testament, Judges and Rulers are at times called gods because they act as God’s representatives. This is not considered to be blasphemy, how much less is it blasphemy for the Son of God set apart and sent by The Father into the world, should be so accused? As God had those who spoke on His behalf in the Old Testament, He is God’s supreme **representative**.

37, 38 A person should be judged by what He does. The miracles show clearly who He is.

39 He escapes – His time had not yet come.

40 He returns to the Jordan where the people who had believed John the Baptist affirmed that what had been said about Jesus was true and they believed in Jesus.