

True & False Shepherds

Gospel of John, Part XXXIII

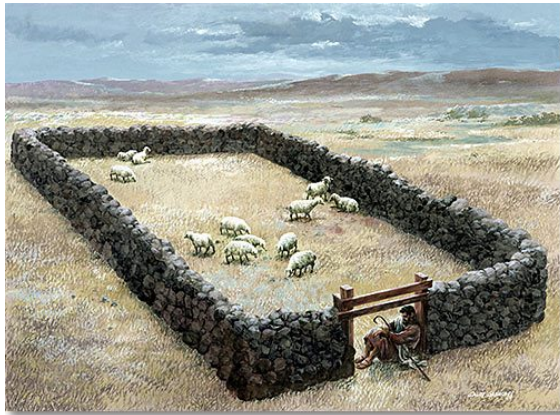
John 9:29-10:21

Stuart W. Bryan

I. Authority Gone Wrong Review

II. Of Thieves and Shepherds

A. The Illustration (1-6)



B. The Explanation (7-10)

- Door
- Sheepfold
- Thieves & Robbers
- Shepherds
- Doorkeeper
- Sheep

C. The Expansion (11-18)

D. The Division (19-21)

An Outline of John's Gospel

- I. Prologue: The Identity of the Son of God (1:1-18)
- II. Jesus Proven to be the Christ & the Son of God in His Public Ministry (1:19-12:50)
 - A. The Son of God Revealed (1:19-4:54)
 - B. The Son of God Rejected (5:1-12:36)
 1. Opposition in Jerusalem (5:1-47)
 2. Opposition in Galilee (6:1-71)
 3. Settled Opposition in Jerusalem (7:1-10:39)
 4. Belief across the Jordan (10:40-42)
 5. Hardened Opposition in Jerusalem (11:1-12:36)
 6. The hour has come (12:20-36)
 - C. Conclusion (12:37-50)
- III. Jesus Proven to be the Christ & the Son of God in His Passion and Resurrection (13:1-20:31)
- IV. Epilogue: The Future Mission of the Son of God (21)

III. The Character of a True Shepherd

A. True Shepherds are Christocentric (1 Cor 2:2; Heb 10:1-4, 14-16)

For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins... But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

Israel's true shepherds trusted in Christ. Like Abraham, they looked forward in faith to the One who would reconcile them to God.

True shepherds are Christocentric. They keep bringing the people of God back to Christ. Martin Luther wrote to his friend George Spenlein, "Beware of ever aspiring to such purity that you do not want to seem to yourself, or to be, a sinner. For Christ dwells only in sinners." Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified" (1 Cor 2:2).

B. True Shepherds lead the Sheep (1 Tim 4:12-16)

12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. 14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. 15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. 16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

C. True Shepherds feed & protect the Sheep (Ez 34:1-16)

Ezekiel 34:1-16 – *A Prophecy Against Israel's Shepherds*

- 34:1-6 – Woe to the Shepherds of Israel!
- 34:7-10 – Behold I am against the Shepherds!
- 34:11-16 – I will shepherd my flock!

IV. Conclusion