

I Am The Good Shepherd: John 10:11-42.

I Am The Bread Of Life (**John 6:35**), I Am The Light Of The World (**John 8:12**), I Am Door (**John 10:9**)...

- I. (11-15, 27-30) The Good Shepherd.
 - i. The Good Shepherd dies (sacrifices) for the sheep.
1 John 4:10 - *In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*
 - ii. The Good Shepherd gives His sheep eternal life. Sheep are helpless.
John 3:16 - *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*
 - iii. The Good Shepherd protects His sheep. Sheep are defenceless.
Psalms 91:11 - *For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.*
 - iv. The Good Shepherd knows His sheep. Sheep are gullible.
Matthew 10:30 - *“But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*
 - v. The Sheep listen to the Shepherds voice and follow Him.

On the contrary, a **hireling** (hired shepherd) takes off when attacked by wolves (sin and Satan).

- II. (16) Other Sheep, gentile believers (non-Jews).

Romans 1:16 - *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.*

- III. (17-21) The Good Shepherd Has Power Over Death.

Jesus never resisted His illegal-unfair arrest, trial and painful/shameful crucifixion and on the cross He willingly died. Jesus "raised Himself" from the dead. He had the power to lay down His life, and He had the power to take it up again.

Jesus made such radical claims about Himself that people divided over Him. His teachings imparted wisdom, transformed lives and He performed miracles (cared about people), He couldn't have been demon possessed.

IV. (22-29) The Feast of Dedication, Hanukkah. Jewish unbelief.

This feast celebrated the cleansing and re-dedication of the Temple after three years of desecration by Antiochus Epiphanes, king of Syria (in 164 B.C.). The Pagan king slaughtered a pig on the Temple Altar and forced the Jews to abandon their sacrifices and adopt pagan rituals. However, a group of Jewish freedom fighters (Maccabees) rose up, defied the oppressive pagan regime, and overthrew them, regained the Temple and purified it to resume normal worship sacrifices.

The original Feast of Dedication involved a miracle, according to rabbinic tradition. When the Jews re-entered the Temple they could only find one small, sealed jug of olive oil that had not been contaminated by the pagans. They used this to light the Menorah in the Temple, and though the oil was only enough to last one day, it miraculously lasted eight days—time for more oil to be made ready. This is the reason Hanukkah lasts for eight days.

Some Jews refused to believe in Jesus, even when the supernatural were performed before them; they take up stones for Him accusing Him of blasphemy.

V. 4. (34-41) Jesus Explains And Many Believe.

The judges of **Psalm 82:6** were called "**gods**" because their duty was to determine the fate of other men in the (punish offenders and free the innocent).

Jesus is saying "If God gives these unjust leaders the title 'gods' because of their office, why do you consider it blasphemy that I call Myself the 'Son of God' in light of the testimony of Me and My works?"

Psalm 23:

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, 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. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.