

FINAL NOTES - THIS WEEK'S STUDY – 12/18-19/2023 - John 10:1-42

Classroom Location and Zoom – Sign In information, below at end of the notes;

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OPENING PRAYER

Review from last week: Before Abraham Was, I AM! Chap. 9 - Man Born Blind Receives Sight (A Man! A Prophet! The Son of God! My Lord! I believe!) The Pharisees Cast Out the Healed Man; True Vision and True Blindness!

So this man, born blind, but now healed, was being put out of one-fold, that of Judaism; but Jesus is receiving Him into another fold, that of Christianity.

(John 10:1-42) – Jesus the True Shepherd! – (vs. 1-6); Jesus the Good Shepherd! – (vs. 7-21); I and the Father Are One! The Shepherd Knows His Sheep! – (vs. 22-30) Renewed Efforts to Stone Jesus! – (vs. 31-39); The Believers Beyond Jordon! – (vs. 40-41)

I Am the Good Shepherd! Jesus the True Shepherd! – (vs. 1-6);

Joh 10:1 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

- **Probably to the Pharisees in the context of, You say, you see; therefore your sin remains, Jesus is going to tell us that He is the door** to the sheepfold. If any man does not enter by the door, the same is a thief and a robber. Jesus is now saying that there is only one way by which a person can enter into true fellowship with God. He is not saying that John the Baptist, Isaiah, Jeremiah, David, and all were thieves and robbers. He is not condemning those men of God but those false pretenders, false prophets. Those who were pretending to lead people unto God but leading them astray.
- **By the time that Jesus came on the scene, the religious system of Judaism was pretty well corrupted.** The high priest and his family were of the sect of the Sadducees, which neither believed in angels nor spirits nor resurrection. They were materialists. They had learned how to profit off of people's desire to worship God. They had set up in the temple courts little booths, controlling the franchises whereby people were sold certified sacrifices. Sacrifices that would immediately and automatically be accepted by the priest because they had the seal of certification. But the cost of the certified animals was excessive. They profited handsomely.
- **They had money changers who would exchange the Roman currency for the temple shekel so that the people could give unto God.** But it costs them handsomely to exchange the money for the temple shekel. So they were skimming off the top, enriching themselves, using the religious system for their own personal gain and benefit. When Jesus came into the temple, seeing them selling the sacrifices and exchanging the money, He took a whip and He drove them out. In **(Mat 21:13)** *And He said to them, "It is written, 'MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER,' but you have made it a 'DEN OF THIEVES.* He was referring to the false prophets, who supposedly spoke in the name of the Lord. He was referring also to those men who have preceded Him who claimed to be the Messiah.
- **In Acts chapter five, Gamaliel speaks of a Theudas who rose up, making claims for Messiahship,** gathered about four hundred men around him, but when he was put to death, the whole thing dissolved. Also he spoke of another Judas of Galilee who also made elaborate claims and how that entire system fell apart. So, counseling them concerning the apostles. He said, **(Act 5:38-39)** *And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; [39] but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it—lest you even be found to fight against God."* Jesus said, Those that came before Me, making the claim to be the Messiah. They were thieves and robbers. Those who were false prophets. Those, profiteering off of the religion, were trying to get into the kingdom some other way than by the door.

Joh 10:2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

Joh 10:3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

- **This is a sheepfold that was in the city. In the evening when the shepherds would come in** from the fields with their various flocks, they had sort of a common sheepfold. It was a secure place. It had a gate on it. The porter would open the gate to the shepherds and their flocks would go in and mingle during the night.
- **In the morning, the shepherd would come to get his flock to lead them out to the pastures.** He would call and his flock would respond. The sheep knew the voice of their own shepherd. You could go and stand and call all day and not one of them would follow you. They do not know your voice, but they knew only the voice of their own shepherd. So Jesus is saying, and it would be an interesting thing to watch the shepherds stand there and call and all of his sheep just leaving the others coming out and the others just still not paying any attention because they did not recognize the voice. But when their shepherd came, then you would see them perk up and they would follow him out. This is the picture that Jesus is giving here.
- **He is the Shepherd. He comes to the sheepfold; He calls and His sheep hear His voice and they respond.** And He leads them out.

Joh 10:4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

Joh 10:5 Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

Joh 10:6 Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them.

- **Jesus used this illustration. That would be unto the Pharisees** and all that were there when He was receiving this ex-blind man into fellowship.
- **But they did not understand the things which He spoke unto them.** It was a mystery. They could not figure it out. What's He talking about? So Jesus went on to explain.

Jesus the Good Shepherd! – (vs. 7-21);

Joh 10:7 Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.

- **Now we have another type of sheepfold. This is one that is out on the countryside.** In the dry summer months, as they had to go far for pasture, the grass of course would be eaten around the area. Out in the wilderness, sheepfolds were just walled-in areas. The walls provided protection from the wild animals and from the wind, but there was no door to it. It was just an opening in this walled enclosure of rocks. In the evening when the shepherd would bring the sheep to this enclosure, he would hold his staff down low, making the sheep come under it to give him an opportunity to examine them, to see if there were any briars stuck in their wool, or any cuts that he might anoint with oil. Once the sheep were brought in, examined, anointed, and counted, then the shepherd himself would lie across the opening of the enclosure. So he became the door. You could not enter in except by the shepherd. In the same token, the sheep could not leave. He became the door to the sheepfold.
- **So He is declaring now, "I am the door of the sheep."**

Joh 10:8 All who ever came before Me (claiming to be the Messiah) are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them.

Joh 10:9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

- **You can come into the safety, the security of the sheepfold by Jesus Christ.** Of course, He is talking to this blind man who had been kicked out of the one-fold. Jesus is saying, He has come into another fold and there he is safe.

Joh 10:10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

- **There are still those today who lay some kind of Messianic claim upon themselves.** In India, there are those men who claim to be Godmen, that they have passed through an evolutionary transitional state from man into God, the Avatar and they claim to be God. They draw huge crowds of followers. They build

themselves palatial mansions. They live in the laps of luxury. They drive fleets of Rolls Royces. They are using their position and their power over the people for their own personal gain and enrichment.

- **There are those who claim to be the Messiah here in the United States.** We have such claimants, having their followers, selling peanuts in parking lots and flowers on the street corners. Making merchandise of the people that they might live a very luxurious lifestyle. But they are all interested in their own personal comfort, taking advantage of their followers to enrich themselves.
- **Jesus said, “They are thieves and robbers,” and “*the thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.*”** They are really not interested in the flock of God. They want to steal from them, killing them, if necessary, selling the meat, destroying them. But in contrast, Jesus said, “*I am the door, I am the good shepherd!*”
- ***I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly***(something more, something better; live and rejoice!) Jesus came to give, not to take. The true servant of Jesus Christ will give, rather than take. He will minister rather than being ministered to, as he follows the example of his Lord. He is more interested in the welfare of the flock of God than he is in his own welfare. You will not find him begging the people for funds, but he will just trust the Lord to provide for the things that God desires to do. Jesus came to give life to you!
- **Often, people have such a wrong concept of Christianity.** Perhaps for good reason, because of some of the false prophets. Jesus came that you might have life on the highest plain. He did not come to take from you. He came to give to you and to bring you to life on the highest plain. To take life at its best; add whipped cream, chopped nuts and a cherry and you have Christianity. He is the whipped cream. He is just that added touch. It is life plus, more abundantly!

Joh 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

- **I did not come to kill. I came to give My life for the sheep, that they may have life!**

Joh 10:12 But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them.

Joh 10:13 The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep.

- ***Hirelings who have their own interests. They really do not care for the sheep.*** They are hirelings. When danger comes, they will flee. They will forsake the flock. Why? Because it is not their flock! They do not really care for it! All they care about is the wages that they can get from keeping the flock. Those who mind their safety more than their duty are an easy prey to Satan's temptations!

Joh 10:14 I am the good shepherd (repeating); ***and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.***

Joh 10:15 As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

- **Later on in the fifteenth chapter, Jesus will say, (Joh 15:13) Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.** He is saying here, “*I lay down my life for the sheep.*” It is a prophecy because within a few months, He will actually lay down His life for the sheep!

Joh 10:16 And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring (home to God), ***and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.***

(Isa 42:6) "I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles.

- **He is talking about you.** In the seventeenth chapter of John as He is praying for His disciples, ***(Joh 17:20) "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word.*** So that includes us! We, who have come to a faith in Jesus Christ through the reading of the Gospels, the New Testament. The prayer of Christ is all-inclusive! It includes us!
- **When Paul, writing in, (Eph 2:14) For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,** he talks about how Jesus has broken down the wall that once existed between the Jew and the Gentile. That wall that had been built up to exclude the Gentile from salvation. That wall of separation that kept you outside. But he talks about how Jesus has broken down the wall and made us all one. Here, Jesus is declaring that. *I have other sheep, which are not of this fold. Them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd!*

- **Paul lays this out, how that the church is one and we Gentiles** who were once “without hope, and without God in this world: have been brought near through the blood of Jesus Christ” (*Eph 2:12-13*) *that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.* We have been made partakers of the promises of God and of the covenants. We have been brought into this covenant relationship with God!
- **He goes on to declare, (Eph 4:4-5) *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; [5] one Lord, one faith, one baptism.*** So, the Lord has made one of the two! He has brought us together so that we are all of the one-fold! Jesus the Chief Shepherd, Jesus the Good Shepherd, has brought us Gentiles into the fold of God! How glorious that is!

Joh 10:17 "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again.

- **The laying down of His life was an act of submission to the Father.** As Paul said in (*Php 2:6-11*) *who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, [7] but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. [8] And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. [9] Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name, which is above every name, [10] that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, [11] and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* So, the emptying of Jesus and then the exalting of Jesus by the Father because of His obedience, submission to the will of the Father
- **In the garden, (Mat 26:39) *He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."*** And one occasion God said, (*Mat 3:17*) *And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."*
- **He speaks about His Father’s love for Him. (Joh 10:17) "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again.** Here this should settle an age-old issue as to who crucified Jesus. There has been sharp tension between the Roman Catholic church and the Jews because both of them seek to lay upon the other the blame for the crucifixion of Jesus. The Roman Catholic church has persecuted the Jews. They called them Christ killers.
- **But the Jews said it was the Romans, clearly the Romans, who crucified Him.** It was under the edict of the Roman court and the Roman soldiers were the ones that did it. So, the argument goes on and on, each trying to throw the blame on the other. But they are both wrong. Jesus said:

Joh 10:18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.

- **So it is not the Jew who is to blame; it is not the Roman soldiers who are to blame.** In a sense you might say, It is God who is to blame. (*Joh 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. It was my sin that took Him to the cross! I am the guilty one! He died for me! I am so glad He did! But He said that He did it, He laid it down Himself.* “No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself.”
- **We remember when Jesus was hanging on the cross and because it was the day of the preparation** for the sabbath, the next day was the special sabbath of that holiday, the beginning of the unleavened bread, and so they did not want the bodies to be hanging on the tree on the sabbath day which began at sundown. So they came to Pilate. They asked permission to break the legs of those that were hanging on the cross, in order to hasten the death. They were granted permission. So, they came and they broke the legs of the two thieves. But when they came to Jesus, they found that He was already dead so they did not break His legs, but the soldier just put his spear through His side into His heart and there came forth blood and water. But you remember as Jesus was hanging on the cross, (*Luk 23:46*) *And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT.'" Having said this, He breathed His last. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself.*
- **I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again.** He proved He had the power to lay it down. As He bowed His head, He dismissed His spirit. He said, Okay, you can go now. I have the power to do that. He also said He had the power to take it up again. On the third day He did exactly that! He rose from the dead!

Joh 10:19 Therefore there was a division again among the Jews because of these sayings.

Joh 10:20 And many of them said, "He has a demon and is mad. Why do you listen to Him?"

Joh 10:21 Others said, "These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

- **The Jews were faced with this miracle. They cannot give an explanation for it!** It was an obvious miracle! A man born blind is now there, he sees. So it creates the division.

I and the Father Are One! The Shepherd Knows His Sheep! – (vs. 22-30)

Joh 10:22 Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter.

- **That feast takes place right at wintertime, December twenty-fifth, which was about two months later,** than the Feast of Tabernacles. On December the twenty-fifth, they have the Feast of Dedication, also called the Feast of Lights, today known as Hanukkah. So John jumps over a couple of months of the life of Jesus without any comment and we are back again in Jerusalem, some two and a half months later at the Feast Of Dedication. This is one of the feasts of the Jews that does not appear in the Mosaic law. It is not one of the required feasts for them to be in Jerusalem. They can observe the Feast of Dedication anywhere.
- **It is the feast by which they were commemorating the rededication of the temple after it had been profaned** by the Syrian ruler, Antiochus Epiphanes, who in cold and callous disregard for the Jews, put the image of Jupiter in their temple in the holy of holies. He offered a pig as a sacrifice upon the altar of God! He profaned the temple of God. There was a family, the Maccabees. Judas Maccabeus, one of the boys, led a rebellion against the rule of Syria, overthrowing the Syrians. He drove them out, deciding to rededicate the temple, cleansing it from the impurities of Antiochus Epiphanes. So, they had the Feast of Dedication, year after year to celebrate the dedication once again of the temple and the cleansing of the profaning of the temple under this Syrian ruler.

Joh 10:23 And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch.

- **This was a large colonnaded porch of the temple.** It was on this porch that Peter healed the lame man and the crowd assembled and Peter preached to them on Pentecost and several thousand were converted. It was a large area.

Joh 10:24 Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If (since) You are the Christ, tell us plainly."

- **Jesus, as He was there on Solomon's porch, they encircled Him, hemming Him in.** They cornered Him. They asked Him, *How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.* **Don't leave us in** this question. *If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.* How long do you leave us just hanging? Make Your claim. He did and they picked up stones to kill Him.

Joh 10:25 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me.

- **The works that I have done answered your question.** Now there were those who recognized that. Nicodemus when he came to Him said, "No man can do the works that You do, unless God is with Him" In (*Joh 14:8-11*) Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." [9] Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10] Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. [11] Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. So again He calls upon the works that He does as the evidence. Not just laying claim. Not just saying, Yes, I am the Messiah. Anybody can say that.
- **When the man with the palsy was let down there in the house and they removed the roof and let the man down, and Jesus said, Your sins be forgiven.** There was a real reaction by the Pharisees when they heard that. Jesus said, *What is harder to say, Your sins are forgiven; or, Rise, take up your cot and go? But that you might know that the Son of man has power on earth to forgive sins, (He turned to the man with palsy and said), Take up your cot and go home. And the man took up his cot and walked out the door (Matthew 9:2-7).*

- **The works bore witness that He had the power to say, your sins are forgiven.** When they said, No man can forgive sins but God. That is blasphemy! What's He saying? Your sins are forgiven! They said, that's blasphemy! Jesus is proving that He has the power. No man can forgive sins but God. He is proving that He has the power to forgive sins, proving that He is God. So, He calls now again upon His works.
- **You want to know if I am the Messiah?** Look at the works that I do! I told you but you did not believe Me, so the works that I do, they bear witness of Me.

Joh 10:26 But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you.

- **There is a fascinating verse in the book of Acts that talks about an invitation** that was given and it says, (Act 13:48) *Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.* When we start getting into the subject of predestination and foreknowledge and all, we are trampling in areas that our human brains are not capable of really filtering out and coming to a complete understanding. It seems that those who dogmatically claim to know the most, know the least.
- **The Bible clearly declares that (Joh 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.** The invitation was also to all in (Rev 22:17) *And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely!* And yet, there are those that are of the fold, His sheep; and those that are not. And they did not believe Him because they were not His sheep. I do not understand it. I openly and honestly confess to you I do not understand it. There are always those who are trying to get you on one side of the fence or the other. To get you to commit.
- **The Bible teaches the sovereignty of God, divine election, and predestination. But the Bible also teaches the free moral agency of man.** How that man is a self-determinate being, made in the image of God. How that we can choose and God offers us the choice; that (2Pe 3:9) *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.* How to reconcile it? I cannot! Maybe you are smarter than I. I would not question that and I would not challenge that. But I will just stay blissful in my ignorance and you can fight.

Joh 10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

- All I can say it that I am glad that I am one of His sheep! I have heard His voice! I follow Him!

Joh 10:28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

- **And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish;** What a glorious promise! I revel in it! I rejoice in it! **Notice the security given here in verses 28 & 29!**
- **Neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.** Paul the apostle in the latter part of chapter eight, asked a series of questions that I absolutely enjoy every time I read them and contemplate and meditate upon them. He said in (Rom 8:31) *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?* That's a great one to meditate on! First of all, to know that God is for you. If God is for me, then just who can be against me? As Martin Luther said, "The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him. One little word shall fell him." "If God is for us, who can be against us?"
- **And (Rom 8:33,34) Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. [34] Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.**
- **(Rom 8:35,38,39) Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** I love that one! *Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? [38] For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, [39] nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Jesus said, "No man will pluck them out of my hand."

Joh 10:29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.

- **Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.** Neither principalities, powers, nor anything else. **His grip on us is firm!**

Joh 10:30 I and My Father are one."

- **Are you the Messiah? Tell us plainly. He goes one step further.** He said, "I and the Father are one." That is the substance! We are one! (Joh 17:21-24) that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. [22] And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: [23] I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. [24] "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

Renewed Efforts to Stone Jesus! – (vs. 31-39);

Joh 10:31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him.

- **Alright, You told us plainly of Your divinity, that you are the Son of God, You make Yourself God!**
We got the message! Let us stone Him!

Joh 10:32 Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?"

- **He had healed the lame man, who had been lame for 38 years, at the pool of Bethesda! He had now opened the eyes of a man born blind man!** For which of the works are you going to stone me?

Joh 10:33 The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."

- **They were there. They clearly understood the claims that Jesus was making,** even though the Jehovah Witnesses do not understand what Jesus was saying to the present day. Jesus was saying that He was God. He was saying, *I and My Father are one!* He was continually avowing the fact that He was God. For this, they were ready to stone Him.

Joh 10:34 Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your law, 'I SAID, "YOU ARE GODS" '?"

- **Jesus is likely referring to (Psa 82:6) I said, "You are gods, And all of you are children of the Most High.** God referred to the religious judges under the law as *gods*. Lowercase *elohim*, in the sense that when cases were brought before them, and they judged them on the basis of the Law of Moses. That they were representing God in that judgment. That God stood behind the judgment which they needed out as a result. Also, they were called *gods* because as the Lord's representatives, they had the authority to rule on capital crimes to give a death sentence. They had the power of life and death. So he called them gods with a lower case because they represented Him in this capacity. It is clear in (Psa 82:7) But you shall die like men, And fall like one of the princes."
- **Whenever a Mormon missionary comes to your door and takes you to this passage in John's gospel and into Psalm 82 as a proof for their teaching, always take them on through to (Psa 82:7) But you shall die like men, And fall like one of the princes.** God is clearly not calling human beings, "God." So, Jesus essentially is declaring here that if sinful men could be used by God to represent Him to other men without the Pharisees complaining at all about it, in any way, accepting God's description of them as gods. How could they then complain with Him declaring Himself to be the Son of God, backing it up with a sinless life, also backing it up with the miracles that He brought to bear as well.
- **The only conclusion that could be rightly made concerning Him here is that the power of God was operating through His life.** Then they should recognize that and recognize His unique relationship with the Father! *I and My Father are one!*

Joh 10:35 If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken),

- **If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came.** These are the judges, to whom God's decrees for certain crimes were given.
- **(and the Scripture cannot be broken).** An interesting passage, which could be referencing (*Num 23:19*) "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? That comforts me! "The scripture cannot be broken!" God will stand by His word. He will honor His word above His name!

Joh 10:36 do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?

- **Why are you going to stone Me? For what good work?** Not for your good works but for blasphemy; because You being a man are making Yourself God. So Jesus again is showing them their own scriptures. He said that, Are you going to accuse Me of blasphemy *because I said I am the Son of God?* The One who the Father has sanctified and sent into the world.

Joh 10:37 If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;

- **If I have not done the works, then do not believe Me.**

Joh 10:38 but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him."

- **Let the works again bear witness.** As He said to Philip, (*Joh 14:11*) *Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.* He called upon His works, His miracles, as a proof that He was the Son of God.
- **On the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon the church** and many Jews from all over the world were gathered because of the phenomena that accompanied the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, when Peter stood up in the midst and began to address the people: (*Acts 2 14, 22*) *But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. [22] "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested (proved) by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know.*
- **More literally from the Greek, Who was proved to be of God.** So Peter is there again using the same witness, the works of Jesus proved that He was of God. Proved to be of God by the signs and the wonders that He did in your midst. So here again once more, Jesus is calling upon the works as the witness that He was from God, that He was in harmony with God in the works that what the Father was doing is what He was doing, manifesting the works of the Father among them because He and the Father were one together.

Joh 10:39 Therefore they sought again to seize Him, but He escaped out of their hand.

- **He is again making it clear and so once more they attempt to take Him, but he escaped out of their hand,** because His hour had not yet come. It will be a couple more months before the hour comes.

The Believers Beyond Jordan! – (vs. 40-41)

Joh 10:40 And He went away again beyond the Jordan to the place where John was baptizing at first, and there He stayed.

- **He went away again beyond Jordan, near Jericho.** Leaving now the place of hostility, Jerusalem, going back to the area of the Jordan, where He will remain until called by Mary and Martha to come quickly because of the serious illness of their brother, Lazarus.

Joh 10:41 Then many came to Him and said, "John performed no sign, but all the things that John spoke about this Man were true."

- **We remember what John the Baptist said in (*Luk 3:16*) *John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.* John said of Him, Behold the lamb of God who will take away the sins of the world! So the people are saying, John did not do any miracles. Yet, we accepted him as a prophet. Everything that John said of this man is true! How true is that of us? In our witness? In our life?**

Joh 10:42 And many believed in Him there.

- **He will stay there beyond the Jordan until His final journey to Jerusalem.** We have Him coming back to Jerusalem at the call of Mary and Martha.

SUMMARY:

- **Jesus the True Shepherd! (Joh 10:1,4)** "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. [4] And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.
- **Jesus the Good Shepherd! (Joh 10:7,10,11,18)** Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. [10] The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. [11] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. [12] But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. [18] No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."
- **I and the Father are one! The Shepherd Knows His Sheep! (Joh 10:28-30)** And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. [29] My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. [30] I and My Father are one."
- **Renewed Efforts to Stone Jesus! (Joh 10:31,32, 36,37)** Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. [32] Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?" [36] do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'? [37] If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;
- **The Believers Beyond Jordon! (Joh 10:41-42)** Then many came to Him and said, "John performed no sign, but all the things that John spoke about this Man were true." [42] And many believed in Him there.
- **JESUS MESSIAH – THE TRUE SHEPHERD; THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

CLOSING SONG:

JESUS MESSIAH – Chris Tomlin (4:23/4:27)

*He became sin Who knew no sin That we might become His Righteousness
He humbled himself and carried the cross Love so amazing Love so amazing
Jesus Messiah Name above all names Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners The ransom from Heaven Jesus Messiah Lord of all
His body the bread His blood the wine Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled And the veil was torn Love so amazing Love so amazing, yeah
Jesus Messiah Name above all names Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners The ransom from Heaven Jesus Messiah Lord of all
All our hope is in You All our hope is in You All the glory to You, God The light of the world
Jesus Messiah Name above all names Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The rescue for sinners The ransom from Heaven Jesus Messiah Lord of all
Jesus Messiah Lord of all You're the Lord of all! The Lord of all*

CLOSING PRAYER:

Read and study John Chapter 11! I love that eleventh chapter. Get into it. Study it. You will really enjoy it. It has a lot of fascinating interest for us. So I encourage you to really study it during the next two weeks. and **we will meet again on January 8 & 9, 2024! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

We will be off for two weeks, meeting again on Jan 8 & 9, 2024!

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

**Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 www.ptwente.com - Audio & notes from previous studies
PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!**

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

Join Zoom Meeting -

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Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763>

TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

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