

**Sermon outline notes: Stand –Alone Sermons from John
John 10: 1-21**

Background:

This discourse occurs directly after the healing of the man born blind, with the subsequent investigation and confrontation between Jesus and the Jewish authorities.

Two of the seven **'I AM'** statements of Jesus are found here.

- 1) **The Parable:** **Verses 1 - 6**
 - A familiar analogy to the Jews;
Animal husbandry/ sheep farming
- 2) **The Explanation:** **Verses 7 - 18**
 - A) **"I am the Gate for the sheep"** **Verses 7 - 10**
 - Service for Christ, only done in Christ
 - Life given by Christ, only found through Christ
 - B) **"I am the Good Shepherd"** **Verses 11 - 18**
 - (i) **The Good Shepherd & the Hired Hand** **Verses 11 - 13**
 - The Shepherd sacrifices Himself for the sheep
The hired hand sacrifices the sheep
 - The Shepherd owns the sheep
The hired hand abandons the sheep.
 - (ii) **The Good Shepherd & the Sheep** **Verses 14–18**
 - Jesus knows His people
And His people know Him
 - Jesus chooses when and how to lay down His life
And He takes it up again!
- 3) **Reactions** **Verses 19-21**
 - Are you living your life through the gateway of Jesus Christ?
 - Do you know Him as your Good Shepherd?

A Great Prayer: Hebrews 13:20-21

For Further Study:

Read verses 22-33 for a continuation of the Shepherd/sheep analogy at the feast of Hanukah, (this feast was established after a significant Jewish military victory in 167 BC). The expectation of a Messiah in this military mould would have been heightened at such a celebration.

Notice the interest in Jesus, (verse 24) and how Jesus clearly identifies Himself with God, (verse 30) yet the people reject Him, (verses 31 & 33).

- 1) Clearly the Jews cannot accept God's revelation in Jesus. Can you identify examples where this is happening in our society? Does your expectation of Jesus match with the Jesus of scripture?
- 2) Notice Jesus' assertion that His 'sheep' listen and follow, (verse 27) and are eternally secure, (verses 28 & 29). Those who are eternally secure will listen and follow the Good Shepherd. The latter is the evidence of the former. Do you agree? How do you view the security of 'backsliders'?
- 3) The text speaks of 'thieves, strangers, wolves and hired hands' out to get the sheep. Are we watchful or complacent about the obvious and not so obvious enemies of our souls? Think through your typical weekly media consumption, do you filter what you take in? can you identify the 'wolves in sheep's clothing' (Matthew 7:15), according to the pattern of the Bereans, (Acts 17: 11)?
- 4) This week read and meditate on the outworking of Psalm 23 in your life.

NOTES