



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel  
John 10:1-10  
From Sermon 4.21.24

Read *John 10:1-10*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: As chapter 10 opens, we note again that it is just a continuation of the drama from chapter 9—the healing of the man born blind. With that piece of evidence submitted, Jesus now takes the witness stand to testify to His own identity and to further indict the false, unbelieving teachers of Israel. As they have tried to discredit Jesus, He now accurately discredits them.

1. Jesus often used the teaching analogy of the shepherd sheep relationship. Read the following passage and note the other relationship metaphors He used.

*1 Peter 2:5-6*—the builder and the stones

*Luke 13:6*—the farmer and the vineyard/fruit

*Luke 15:11-12*—the father and the son

*Revelation 19:7*—the groom and the bride

2. Why is a sheep a great illustration of God's people? (Israel and the Church) Like sheep, we tend to wander and get lost easily. We are defenseless to our own sin, outside influences, and predators. We will follow whoever offers to provide for our physical needs. However, once under the true shepherd and in His fold, we will not listen to another voice, can identify false shepherds, and have real peace.

3. What is the fold? A secure, walled pen where the sheep would sleep at night

What is the door or gate? The single, solitary way in and out of the fold

What is a doorkeeper? The person who guarded the door or gate throughout the night.

4. Historically, how well had Israel's priesthood (shepherds) faithfully ministered? Not well at all! For the most part, they failed to be anything but worldly, weak, and selfish. See *Isaiah 56:10-11* & *Matthew 9:36*

4a. Can you name some who did a good job? Various answers O.T: Moses, Joshua, David, Ezra. N.T.: Peter, John, Paul

5. The church is also allegorized as a flock of sheep. What were Jesus, Paul, & Peter's warning to the church and her shepherds? Wolves/Predators would always seek to invade the fold, scatter the sheep, and devour the weak. See *Matthew 7:15*, *Ephesians 20:28-29*, & *1 Peter 5:1-4*

5a. What kind of wolves are we seeing in the Church today? Various answers. Unqualified pastors/teachers. Those in ministry for financial gain or influence. Many teaching a false Gospel.

6. Read the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. List the traits of a true, faithful shepherd. Provider. Leader. Safety. Restoration. More concerned for the sheep than for himself. Truth. Champion. Lavish love.