



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel  
John 10:11-21  
From sermon 5.5.24

Read *John 10:11-21*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: We are now half-way through John's Gospel and about to change settings in the narrative. Jesus continues His shepherding discourse—comparing and contrasting biblical shepherding next to the false shepherding. It is powerful. He now discloses two main purposes for His 1<sup>st</sup> Coming ministry.

1. Review and discuss the "I AM" statements we'd had so far:

- *John 8:58*—Before Abraham was, I AM. I AM title = Yahweh
- *John 6:35*—I AM the Bread of Life
- *John 8:12*—I AM the Light of the World
- *John 10:7*—I AM the Door/Gate
- Today's key Text: I AM the Good Shepherd.

2. Jesus said He lays down His life *for His sheep*. What doctrine does this present? "Limited" or Definite Atonement.

2a. What is the Arminian doctrine regarding Christ's atoning work? Christ came to die for all people. The possibility existed that no one would accept His gift of atoning work.

2b. What do Arminians fear we are saying/teaching with a limited atonement (definite atonement)? That the sufficiency or merit of Christ's substitutionary death is somehow limited. We won't share with all.

2c. Is that true? Not at all. Christ's death is sufficient to cover all sins of all men. Everyone is welcome.

3. What is our repeated teaching regarding sheep and goats? Never one mention, allusion, or example of a goat ever being transformed into a sheep. There are lost sheep. We all were once. See *Ephesians 1:4*

4. Re-read verse 16. Who are the other sheep not of this fold? Gentiles/non-Jews. See *Ephesians 2:13-16*  
What hurdle did that create in Jesus' ministry? Getting Jewish believers to "unlearn" Gentile exclusion.  
How did the unbelieving Jews/Jewish leaders respond? They hated this inclusion and Jesus more.  
How did the believing Apostle and later the Church respond? At first, they struggled...Then, accepted.

5. Now, re-read verses 17-18. What greatest of miracles is being foretold here? The Resurrection.  
What doctrine does it teach regarding the sovereignty of God? All god's plan and timing. Jesus was not a victim nor a martyr. This was the pinnacle of the redemptive plan all along. God was going to provide the substitute for the sins of the elect. It would be God Himself (the Son) that could be the only acceptable atonement. The God-Man would not remain dead/in the grave, but rise victorious over sin, death, and the grave. See also *Acts 13:33-35 & Galatians 4:4-5*

6. With Jesus now claiming the title of the Good Shepherd, which biblical patriarchs has He now shown His preeminence over?

- Abraham—*John 8:56*
- Moses—*John 5:46*
- David—"I AM the Good Shepherd" from key text & *Matthew 22:42-45*