

The Genuine Shepherd!

John 10:1-6

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- Security measures today to prove one's identity
- False Messiahs in Jesus' day—Acts 5:35-37
- Jesus' Claims
 - To the Samaritans—living water and Messiah
 - To the Jews
 - "Bread of life"—John 6:47, 51
 - "Light of the World"—John 8:12
 - "I AM"—John 8:23-24, 58
- Jew's inability to view Jesus as the Messiah
- New claim: The Great Shepherd—John 10
 - The "*Genuine*" Shepherd—John 10:1-6
 - The "*Gate*" Shepherd—John 10:7-10
 - The "*Good*" Shepherd—John 10:11-18
 - The "*God-like*" Shepherd—John 10:25-29

The Genuine Shepherd!

A. Illustration misunderstood by the Jews—10:6

- 1) Natural Illustration from agrarian life
- 2) Spiritual Illustration—relationship between God and Israel
Psalm 80:1; 95:7; 100:3; Ezekiel 34:12-15; Psalm 23:1
- 3) Lest we misunderstand-- Setting the morning scene

B. Three Telltale Signs of Genuine Shepherd

1. **Jesus enters by means of the door—John 10:1-2**
 - a. Identification of the "thieves and robbers"
 - 1) Pharisees in Jesus' day—John 9:22; Mt. 23:13-14
 - 2) False shepherds in Israel's—Jeremiah 10:21; 23:1-2
 - b. Identification of the "door"—Fulfilled prophesy
 - 1) Examples of OT prophesies fulfilled at first coming
 - 2) Probability of one man fulfilling 8 prophesies
 - 3) The prophecy of Genuine Shepherd—Ez. 34:23; Is. 40
2. **The "doorkeeper" opens the door for him—John 10:3**
 - a. The "doorkeeper" prepares the way for the Messiah—Is. 40:3
 - b. John the Baptist was the "doorkeeper"—Luke 3, John 1
3. **His sheep hear his voice and follow Him—John 10:3-5**
 - a. Sheep recognize the voice of the shepherd.
 - b. Jesus issues the call for his sheep to congregate—Matt. 11
 - c. He calls his own by name—individually
 - d. He leads His sheep, does not drive them—v. 4
 - e. His sheep will not follow a stranger—v. 5

The Old Testament Scriptures had revealed much concerning the Messiah. There was a great deal of objective evidence which could be tested to determine whether Jesus Christ was the true Shepherd.

- Concerning his birth, the Messiah was to be born of the seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15), the result of a virgin birth (Isaiah 7:14), He was to be of the seed of Abraham (Genesis 22:18), the son of Isaac and Jacob (Numbers 24:17), of the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10), from the family line of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1), of the house of David (Jeremiah 23:5). He was to be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), presented with gifts from visiting kings (Psalm 72:10). After his birth, Herod would kill the children of Bethlehem (Jeremiah 31:15)

- Concerning his nature, the Messiah would exist from eternity (Micah 5:2). He will be called the LORD (Ps. 110:1) and Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14). He shall be a prophet (Deuteronomy 18:18), priest (Psalm 110:4), Judge (Isaiah 33:22) and King (Psalm 2:6). The Messiah will possess a special anointing of the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:2) and zeal for God's house (Psalm 69:9)
- Concerning his ministry, the Messiah would be preceded by a Messenger who would prepare the way of the Lord (Isaiah 40:3). His ministry would begin in Galilee (Isaiah 9:1). As he ministers, *"the eyes of the blind will be opened. And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer. And the tongue of the dumb will leap for joy."* (Isaiah 35:5-6). He will speak using parables (Psalm 78:2) At the end of his public ministry, it was prophesied that the Messiah would enter Jerusalem sitting on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9). It was also prophesied that He would be a *"stone of stumbling"* or offense to the Jews (Psalm 118:22) but *"light"* to the Gentiles. (Isaiah 60:3)