

I. Introduction.

II. Those who reject Jesus are not His sheep. v. 19-26

- A. Jesus causes division. v. 19-21,31-42 9:16 7:20,43 8:48,52 Mt.10:25,34 Isa. 8:14
- B. The Jews ask the right question, but with the wrong motive. v. 24 Mt. 26:63
1. Why would Jesus be reluctant to openly tell these people that He is the Christ? 2:24-25 16:25,29 6:14-15
 2. He reveals Himself to those with prepared hearts. 4:26 9:36 Mark 8:30 Mt. 16:13ff
- C. Jesus has already provided them with all the proof that they need to draw the correct conclusion. v. 25 18:20 1:11
1. His words. v. 25a, 27a 10:11,30 8:58,12 6:35 5:17f Ezek. 34:23-24 Isa. 40:11 Ps. 23 80:1 95:7
 2. His works (signs). v. 25b, 21b 20:30-31 5:36ff 19ff 9:32-34 14:10 Isa. 35:5-6 Mt. 11:2ff Luke 16:31 Acts 2:22
- D. You do not believe because you are not His sheep. v. 26 8:23
1. After telling them about Himself, Jesus tells them about themselves.
 2. By nature they are unable to come to Jesus. 8:43,44,47 6:44 12:37-43 Ro. 8:6-8 1 Co. 1:18 2:14
 3. They are excluded from the blessings of God's flock. v. 11, 26-28
 4. Has God's plan failed? 1:11-13 10:16 Romans 9:1ff
 5. If eyewitnesses would not believe, you should not be surprised when people don't receive God's Word from us. Mt. 10:25
 6. They are fully responsible for their rejection of Jesus. Acts 2:23

III. Those who hear and follow Christ are His sheep. v. 27

- A. The Good Shepherd's sheep are branded.
1. Their ears hear His voice. v. 27a,3,8,16 5:25 18:37 6:44 Mt. 16:16-17 Acts 13:48
 - a. Every single sheep hears and comes. 6:37,39,44 10:3-4 9:38
 - b. Evangelism is Jesus' voice to His sheep. Acts 13:48 Eph. 2:17
 2. Their feet follow Him. 8:12 12:26 Phil. 1:6 Titus 2:14
 - a. Perseverance of the saints goes beyond eternal security.
 - b. Those who have been renewed by the Spirit have a new nature. 2 Co. 5:17
 - c. Jesus is their Shepherd (Lord) Whom they delight to obey (follow). 14:15 8:12 1:37-38 Mt. 4:19-22 19:21-22,27-28 Mark 8:34
- B. Do you believe in order to become a sheep or do you believe because you are a sheep?
1. The Father chose you and gave you to the Son. v. 29a 6:37 Eph. 1:4 Rom. 8:29-30
 2. The Son laid down His life to redeem you. 10:11 Acts 20:28 Rev. 5:9
 3. The Spirit renews you (the new birth) and gives you a new nature. 1:12-13 3:3-8 5:25 II Co. 5:17 1 Pe. 1:3 Rom. 6:1ff
 4. Regeneration takes place in connection with the Gospel Word. Js. 1:18 1 Pet. 1:23 Acts 13:48
 5. God's work of regeneration precedes your faith. 6:44 1 John 5:1
- C. Are you Jesus' sheep?

IV. If you are Jesus' sheep, you are secure. v. 28-30

- A. You are known (loved) by the Lord. v. 27b, 14 Eph. 1:4ff Rom. 8:29-30 Amos 3:2 Mt. 7:23 Gal. 4:9 Ps. 1:6 34:6**
- B. You have received eternal life from Him. v. 28a 3:15-16 5:39 6:51,58 8:51-52 11:25-26 17:3 I Co. 15:22 Ro. 6:23 Gal. 2:21**
1. We who were spiritually dead have been made alive by grace. 5:25 Eph. 2:1f
2. The life He gives you is abundant and never ending. 10:10b 11:25-26
- C. You most certainly will not perish. v. 28b-29 6:39 17:12 2 Tim. 1:12**
1. Sheep are vulnerable to many dangers. v. 12
2. The Son keeps you secure. v. 28b 6:37-40 17:12 Rom. 8:31f 2 Tim. 2:13,19 1 Pe. 1:3-5 Isa. 49:16
3. The Father keeps you secure. v. 29-30 I Pet. 1:3-5 Dt. 33:3 Col. 3:3 Isa. 43:13 Phil 1:6 Ro. 8:35ff Ps. 121:4
4. You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit. Eph. 1:13-14
5. Eternal life depends not on your hold on Christ, but on His firm grip on you. *The perseverance of the saints is really the perseverance of the Savior.*
- D. God the Father and God the Son are united in saving you. v. 30 5:18-23**
1. Jesus implies that He is equal to God the Father. 1:1ff 8:58 20:28 17:10,22
2. The Jews get His point, but they don't like it.
- E. The response illustrates the truth that some are sheep and some are not. v. 31-42**
1. Those who are not sheep reject the Good Shepherd. v. 31-39
2. His sheep believe. v. 40-42 1:7 3:30

V. Concluding Applications.

- A. Questions.**
1. Can a sheep choose to escape from the Shepherd's hand? 1 Pe. 1:3-5 2 Tim. 2:13
2. Does eternal security encourage people to live lawlessly? 14:15 Ro. 6:1ff 1 Jo. 2:3f
3. What about those who profess faith in Christ but later fall away? Mt.7:22-23 13:19f 1 Jo. 2:19
4. Can a true sheep fall into sin? Heb. 12:1f Ps. 32 51 Mt. 18:12-13 Luke 22:31-32
- B. Two problems in the church today. Luke 18:9-14 II Co. 13:5 II Pet. 1:10 Mt. 7:22f**
- C. Wonderful words of comfort, assurance and hope.**

Discussion questions

- 1. What is the significance of the fact that the unbelieving Jews are not Jesus' sheep? v. 26**
- 2. Why do some refuse to believe?**
- 3. Which comes first, regeneration or faith? Explain.**
- 4. What are the characteristics of true sheep?**
- 5. What are the privileges of Jesus' sheep?**
- 6. Is it possible for a true sheep to lose his or her salvation? Explain your answer.**
- 7. How do you explain those who profess Christ but fall away?**
- 8. Is it possible for a true sheep to experience doubt? How can such doubt be overcome?**
- 9. Does our security in Christ encourage sinful living? Explain your answer.**
- 10. How are our evangelistic efforts the voice of our Good Shepherd?
What response should we expect?**