

“The Door”

John 10:1-10

Central Idea: Jesus is the door to abundant and eternal life.

Background:

- Immediately Follows the Events of John 9
 - Jesus heals a blind man on the Sabbath (9:1-12)
 - The man is brought to the Pharisees (13-17)
 - The man's parents called in (18-23)
 - Pharisees talk to the man for the second time (24-34)
 - Jesus speaks with the man and some Pharisees (35-41)

I. The Illustration of the Sheepfold (1-6)

- “Truly, truly.”
 - Never begins a new teaching time
 - Always follows-up some teaching Christ has already given
- Two Kinds of Sheepfolds
 - Near the City: A courtyard with a doorkeeper
 - Countryside: Simpler, only walls; the shepherd was the door
- Contrasts the Thief and Robber with the Shepherd (1-2)
 - Thief: Seeks to steal the sheep by deception
 - Robber: Comes to take the sheep by force
 - Shepherd: Enters through the door in the proper and legitimate way
- The Shepherd's Legitimacy is Proven by His Actions (3-5)
 - The door is opened to him

- The sheep listen to him
- He has a personal knowledge of his sheep
- He leads his sheep out of the fold
- The sheep follow because they know him

II. The Illustration Explained

- Four Main Aspects:
 - The Sheep = People
 - The Shepherd = Jesus
 - The Thieves and Robbers = The Religious Leaders
 - The Sheepfold = Israel

III. The Illustration Applied (7-10)

- Like the shepherd in the country, Jesus is both the door of the sheep and the shepherd. (7)
- “are” - shows the thieves and robbers are the current religious establishment (8)
- “saved” = to be safe (9)
- “pasture” = provision for basic needs and beyond
 - We find joy, freedom, and security in Christ
- Jesus in Contrast with the Thief (10)
 - Thief: Will kill the sheep, he does not care about them
 - Jesus (“The Door”) Provides:
 - Access, to the wonderful provision of the Father
 - Salvation & Security, to anyone who enters through Him
 - Life, better than we could expect or anticipate