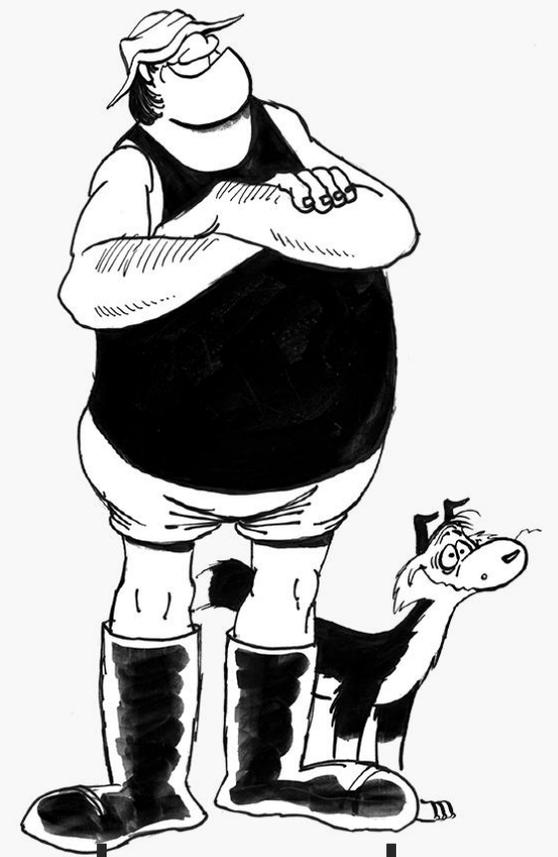




I am the Good Shepherd

The Great I Am part 4





Last Week

- ▶ Jesus Heals blind man
- ▶ Locals are divided, Pharisees divided
- ▶ Ask parents to confirm
- ▶ Pharisees claim to be upright and holy
- ▶ Jesus explains that if they were blind they would be innocent but they claim to see so they are guilty.
- ▶ Jesus uses to analogy of sheep pen and the gate
- ▶ They still didn't get it...

John 10:11-21



¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

John 10:11-21 Cont.

¹⁴ “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”



John 10:11-21 Cont.

¹⁹ The Jews who heard these words were again divided.²⁰ Many of them said, “He is demon-possessed and raving mad. Why listen to him?”

²¹ But others said, “These are not the sayings of a man possessed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”





GOOD??

- Good shepherds

- Lead from the front
- Risk their lives for their sheep
- Know their sheep

- Bad shepherds

- Leads sheep astray (JER 50:6)
- Doesn't care for sheep (ISA 56:10-12)
- Works for their own gain (EZE 34:2-3)



A certain ruler asked him,
"Good teacher, what must
I do to inherit eternal life?"

Then Jesus said to him:
"Why do you call me good?
No one is good except God
alone."

Luke 18:18-19



Hired Hand

- Israelite leaders
 - Priests
 - Pharisees and Teachers of the Law
- 

Matt 23:13-36

- **13** “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the door of the kingdom of heaven in people’s faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to. ^[14] [They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.]
- **15** “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when you have succeeded, you make them twice as much a child of hell as you are.



Matt 23:13-36 Cont

- ▶ ¹⁶ “Woe to you, blind guides! You say, ‘If anyone swears by the temple, it means nothing; but anyone who swears by the gold of the temple is bound by that oath.’ ¹⁷ You blind fools! Which is greater: the gold, or the temple that makes the gold sacred? ¹⁸ You also say, ‘If anyone swears by the altar, it means nothing; but anyone who swears by the gift on the altar is bound by that oath.’ ¹⁹ You blind men! Which is greater: the gift, or the altar that makes the gift sacred? ²⁰ Therefore, anyone who swears by the altar swears by it and by everything on it. ²¹ And anyone who swears by the temple swears by it and by the one who dwells in it. ²² And anyone who swears by heaven swears by God’s throne and by the one who sits on it.



Matt 23:13-36 Cont

- ²³ “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. ²⁴ You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.
- ²⁵ “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. ²⁶ Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.



Matt 23:13-36 Cont

- ²⁷ “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. ²⁸ In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.
- ²⁹ “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You build tombs for the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous. ³⁰ And you say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ ³¹ So you testify against yourselves that you are the descendants of those who murdered the prophets. ³² Go ahead, then, and complete what your ancestors started!

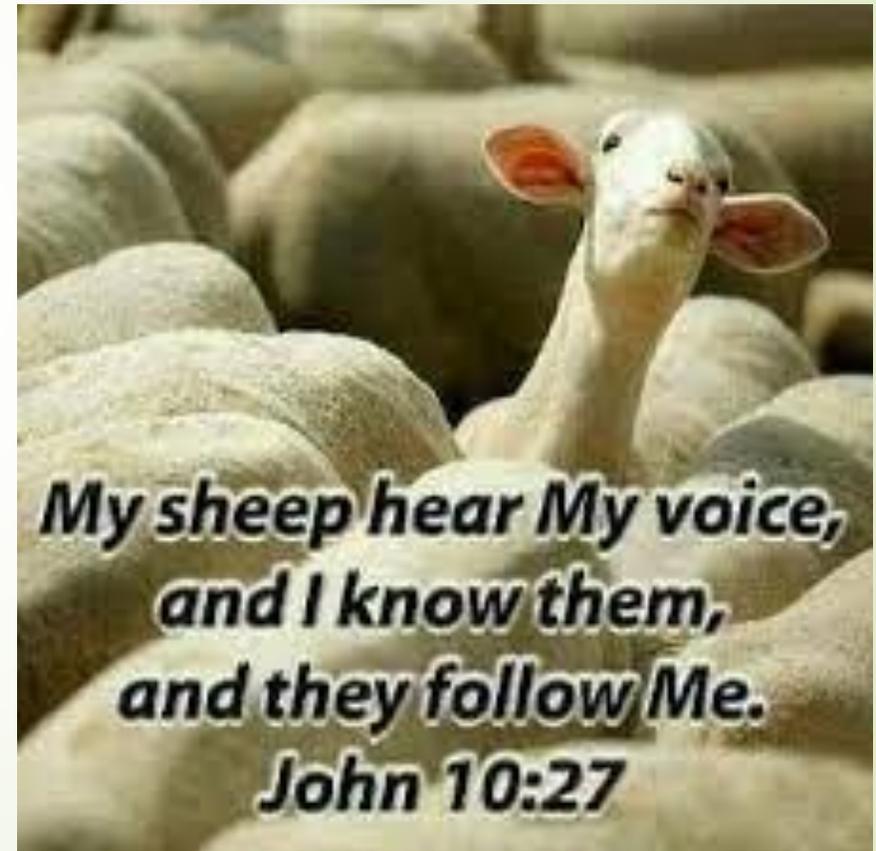


Matt 23:13-36 Cont

- ▶ ³³ “You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell? ³⁴ Therefore I am sending you prophets and sages and teachers. Some of them you will kill and crucify; others you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town. ³⁵ And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. ³⁶ Truly I tell you, all this will come on this generation.

He knows His sheep and they know Him

- His sheep hear his voice
- When God speaks all listen!
- He knows you and what you need!
- You know Him





He chose to die for you!

Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.



Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!



⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.



He has the Authority!

- There is only one way
 - There is only one truth
 - There is only one who has authority over life
- 





Who was He?

- ▶ Even after this they still were divided over who He was
- ▶ "Logic!" said the Professor half to himself. "Why don't they teach logic at these schools? There are only three possibilities. Either your sister is telling lies, or she is mad, or she is telling the truth. You know she doesn't tell lies and it is obvious she is not mad. For the moment then, and unless any further evidence turns up, we must assume she is telling the truth."

C.S. Lewis – *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*



- LIAR

- ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. – John 10:10

- LUNATIC

- One who is crazy or possessed cannot heal the blind!



He Is Lord



