

Series: John
Title: The Door
Text: John 10: 07,09
Date: Dec 12, 2021
Place: SGBC, NJ

John 9: 40: And *some* of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? 41: Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.

Christ continued speaking to the scribes and Pharisees, the religious leaders.

John 10: 1: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 2: But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3: To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. 4: And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. 5: And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

A parable uses something earthly (familiar to the audience) to illustrate spiritual truth. Christ created the earthly things he used in his parables to show his glory—“*all things [in heaven/earth] were created by him and for him*”—to glorify him.

Many in Israel were shepherds of sheep. This was familiar to them. A sheepfold was a holding pen with high walls around it with one door in, one door out. A shepherd would lead his sheep into the sheepfold by the door where he left them overnight. A porter kept the door. When the true shepherd came to the sheepfold he came to THE DOOR—and the porter opened the door to him.

The shepherd came to the door—he entered the door, he led his sheep out by the door AND in by the door. But any man who entered NOT by THE DOOR, but climbed over the wall, was NOT THE SHEPHERD BUT a thief and a robber come to steal the sheep.

John 10: 6: This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.

The Pharisees understood the illustration but not the spiritual meaning. They did not understand that he declared *them* to be false shepherds, thieves and robbers.

John 10: 7: Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep...9: I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Subject: The Door

Proposition: Christ declares “I AM THE DOOR.”

John 10: 7: Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep....

The Lord Jesus is perfect Wisdom. Wisdom speaks in simplicity. Everyone knows what a door is. Think of how many times a day we pass through a door. This morning we came in by a door, we will leave by passing through a door. At home, tomorrow, we will pass through many doors. Each time you pass through a door, let it be a reminder, Christ is THE Door.

THE ONLY DOOR

John 10: 7: Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am THE door

Christ is not one of many—but THE DOOR! There is only one door—it is Christ. The reason we preach salvation only by Christ and him crucified is because Christ is the only Door by whom sinners enter and are saved.

Illustration: The door—Apopka, FL

Christ says, *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am THE door."*

John 14:5: Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? 6 Jesus saith unto him, I am THE WAY, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but BY ME.

There are not multiple doors. There are not multiple ways to the Father. There are not other ways to salvation. There is ONE DOOR. Christ is THE DOOR.

THE DOOR OF THE SHEEP

John 10: 7: Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of THE SHEEP.

Christ is the door of the sheep. Not all are sheep. But the characteristic of all who are "the sheep" is that they enter ONE WAY—by Christ, THE Door—*"Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of THE SHEEP."* Christ's sheep enter BY CHRIST alone. *"I AM THE DOOR: by ME if any man enter in..."*

The sheep enter salvation by Christ the Door alone by faith alone by Christ himself making us enter. But Christ says the man who tries to climb up some other way is a robber. Think of how much work is involved in trying to climb over a wall. Any man who comes preaching any other way than Christ the Door is a thief and a robber. Faith enters Christ, apart from our works, with no works of our own. We come to Christ as sinners begging mercy, needing Christ to be All unto us, to save us by grace. The sheep enter by Christ the Door by faith in him alone by the grace of God alone.

And faith is given by Christ. He makes us hear and know him BECAUSE we are his sheep—not to become his sheep. We do not become sheep by believing. He gives us faith to believe BECAUSE we are his sheep—chosen of God in Christ before the foundation of the world.

Galatians 4:6 And BECAUSE YE ARE SONS, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

By Christ, all who are the sheep, enter by Christ the Door. The Pharisees did not enter by Christ the Door. Christ declares they did not believe BECAUSE they were not his sheep.

John 10: 26: But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. 27: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

Christ makes his sheep hear his voice—*"My sheep hear my voice."* Christ regenerates his sheep, giving us a new spirit by Christ knowing us, making us to know him—*"And I know them."* By Christ making us know him, he makes us willing to enter in by Christ the Door by faith alone—*"and they follow me"*

Christ is the door of the sheep. We enter Christ by Christ making us willing to enter. He gives faith to enter by faith alone, apart from our works, trusting Christ to be all our acceptance with God.

SAVED BY CHRIST ALONE

John 10: 9: I AM THE DOOR: by ME if any man enter in, he SHALL BE SAVED and shall go IN and OUT, and find PASTURE.

Entering by Christ, the believer is saved by Christ alone. If you believe on Christ—entering by Christ alone—you shall be saved.

Christ declares, *v11*, “*I lay down my life for the sheep.*” Christ laid down his life for the elect. He put away the sin of his sheep. Christ made his sheep the righteousness of God in him—“it is finished!” Christ alone is salvation. “*I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved.*”

When we pass through a door, we go OUT of one place INTO another. Christ says he “*shall go in.*” Sinners go into Christ our Salvation, experimentally, by God’s regenerating, sanctifying grace giving us true spiritual life. He calls his sheep to enter into Life, into Righteousness, that is, into Christ our Life, Christ our Righteousness. He gives us faith alone by which we enter, apart from our works. The very nature of true faith is believing Christ has finished the works and is our Righteousness. By God’s Spirit we are given an understanding of God’s mercy to us in Christ and know that salvation is all of grace in Christ alone by his work alone.

At the same time, he shall “*go out*” of the darkness of unbelief and false hope and self-righteous works religion. Through faith in Christ we go OUT of the world into Christ’s church and kingdom. There is but one true, everlasting sheepfold.

John 10: 16: And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd

“*This fold*” refers to the Jews in Israel. Christ stood there in Israel. He came to call “*the lost sheep of the house of Israel*”—that is the lost sheep of the fold of Israel. He said but “*other sheep I have which are not of this fold*”—the other sheep are the elect among the Gentiles, among all other nations. Like as an earthly sheepfold was a temporary holding pen, Israel and the nations of this world is a temporary fold where Christ has placed his elect until he calls each one out of those folds into his one sheepfold, his one holy nation where he is our one Shepherd.

Christ calls his sheep OUT from among the Jews and the Gentiles—OUT of the world—INTO Christ, INTO his one fold where we have Christ as our One Shepherd—“*and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.*” The one fold into which Christ calls his elect is the eternal, spiritual church and kingdom of our Lord Jesus. Christ is the Door into this one fold. Christ is the one Shepherd of the sheep who brings each of his sheep into this one fold. Entering by Christ alone, by faith alone, by God’s grace alone, we shall be saved; we have passed out of sin and death into Christ our Righteousness and Life, eternally secure in Christ’s church and kingdom.

Hebrews 12: 18: For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, [not Mt Sinai with its fiery law]...22: But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, 23: To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24: And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than *that of* Abel. 25: See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more *shall not* we *escape*, if we turn away from him that *speaketh* from heaven:

Entering into Christ by Christ the sheep find *pasture*—“*I AM THE DOOR: by ME if any man enter in, he shall be saved and shall go in and out, and find PASTURE.*” Having been given the glorious light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, a regenerated sinner finds the pasture of LIFE AND REST in his Lord.

Pasture is life to the sheep—sheep eat the grass. To the believing sheep Christ is our Life, our pasture. In and by Christ we have spiritual, eternal life. His sheep eat of the richest pasture of his providing feasting upon Christ himself through the preaching of the gospel. And his sheep truly shall want for nothing.

Pasture is rest to the sheep—we lay down in Christ safe and content and rest. Righteous and holy in and by Christ alone; complete in and by Christ alone; perfect in and by Christ alone, protected in and by Christ alone; kept in and by Christ alone; accepted of God in and by Christ alone. Christ is our Salvation, our green pasture.

ANY MAN

John 10: 9: I am the door: by me if ANY MAN enter in, he shall be saved and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

“Any man” is the same as saying “whosoever.” Jew or Gentiles, rich or poor, bond or free, educated or uneducated—“any man.” Christ did not lay down his life for “every man,” only for the sheep. But the one way “any man” knows we are the sheep is we enter in by Christ the Door—by faith alone—by God’s grace alone—trusting Christ alone to be our salvation.

Have you entered Christ the Door? Believe on Christ today and you shall be saved.

John 10: 7: Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep...9: I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Amen!