

John 10:14
JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD

- I. The beautiful concept.
 - A. Jesus uses the figure of a shepherd to describe His relationship to His people (Ps. 23:1; 80:1; Isa. 40:11; Ezek. 34:23).
 - 1. A shepherd leads his flock, guiding, nourishing, protecting, and caring for them all.
 - 2. Jesus knows His sheep intimately, loving them, personally and as a whole (3,14,15,27).
 - B. He is the “good” shepherd.
 - 1. First, He is good over against the hired men who are selfish and unkind.
 - 2. He has all the qualities necessary to be not only a shepherd, but an excellent one.
 - 3. He is “the” Shepherd.
- II. The excellence of Jesus as our Shepherd.
 - A. First, He is made Shepherd by His Father’s appointing, calling, and sending.
 - B. He knows His sheep, so as to call each of them by name.
 - 1. He has a universal, special, distinct, and exact knowledge of all of His sheep, their distinct natures, temperaments, needs.
 - 2. He has affectionate love for them, taking special care of them, indulging them with intimate communion with Himself.
 - C. He gave His life for the sheep, freely and voluntarily.
- III. The benefit and profit for the sheep.
 - A. First, they are “saved” (9). They are assured of their salvation.
 - 1. In our Shepherd we are given pardon and peace.
 - 2. In our Shepherd we have perfect security and safety, working all things together for our spiritual profit.
 - B. Second, we know Him: I “am known of mine.”
 - 1. This is a special, spiritual, saving knowledge, not in a general way as the devil does.
 - 2. They love Him above all else.