**JESUS, THE GUARDING SHEPHERD**

**John 10:11 – 14**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. The confrontation [tension] between Jesus and rabbinical Judaism continued to grow.

 A. Jesus healed a blind man who was brought before the Jewish rulers (Jn 9:1 – 7).

 1. The man healed correctly said what Jesus had done concluding Him [Son of God].

 B. John records the last public discourse of the Teachings of Jesus (Jn 10:1 – 42).

 1. An analogy from which [we] learn the relationship between Jesus and His Flock.

 2. Its primary concern is to warn the disciples of possible threats to their salvation.

 A. Jesus points out many could take away their salvation, but ***only*** one can provide it.

**BODY:**

**1. WARNING THE SHEEP INVOLVING DANGER**

 A. Danger for the flock: form of the thief, the robber and the stranger (Jn 10:1, 5, 8, 10).

 1. The one outside the flock seeking to steal them away for one’s own benefit.

 A. This is exactly what the Pharisees were trying to do (Mt 23:15).

 2. Today, there are individuals who seek God’s People (1 Tim 6:3 – 5).

 B. Danger coming from the hireling (Jn 10:11, 12).

 1. The hireling is the one who:

 A. Tends to the flock for one’s own benefit.

 B. Willing to feed the sheep, but if danger comes is unwilling to defend them.

 C. When danger comes, fails to give appropriate warning due to having run away.

 D. Gains the trust of the flock, **BUT** turns one’s back and flees (Eze 34:1 – 6).

 2. The modern application would be the elders failing to carry out their responsibilities

 or the preacher ***NOT*** preaching the whole counsel of God (Ac 20:27).

 A. Similar to the watchman failing to warn the people of the enemy (Eze 33:1 – 7).

 C. Danger of the wolf seeking to destroy the flock (Jn 10:11, 12). This is the agent of Satan.

 1. ***NOT*** concerned for the flock, BUT to destroy it (Mt 7:15; Ac 20:29; 2 Cor 11:13-15).

**2. PROVIDING AND GUARDING THE ENTRANCE**

A. Jesus said, “I am the door” (Jn 10:9).

 1. He blocks the sheep from going out and the enemy from coming in.

 2. Concerning the sheep, they hear His Voice and follow after Him (Jn 10:27 – 29).

 B. Those entering the fold (i.e.: the church), must do so through Him.

 1. Jn. 14:6; 1 Cor 12:13; Gal 3:26, 27

 C. For danger to enter the fold, it must come into the fold; ***NOT*** through Jesus (1 Tim 3:16).

 1. It must disguise itself and bring another gospel (Gal 1:6 – 9).

 A. The message of Jesus does ***NOT*** change (Heb 13:8).

 3. So long as one abides in the doctrine of Christ, safety is provided (2 Jn 9 – 11).

**3. THE GUARDING SHEPHERD GIVES LIFE TO THE SHEEP**

A. As the “Good Shepherd,” *He* leads the sheep to the pasture (Jn 10:9).

 1. The 23rd Psalm is an excellent commentary on the care provided by the Shepherd.

 B. As the “Good Shepherd,” *He* provides abundant LIFE to the sheep (Jn 10:10).

 C. As the “Good Shepherd,” *He* lays down *His* LIFE for *His* Sheep.

 1. Jn 10:11, 15; Rom 5:6 – 8; 1 Pet 3:18; 1 Jn 3:16