



BAPTIST CHURCH

The Gospel of John

“I Give Them Eternal Life And They Will Never Perish”

John 10:27-30

Introduction

The purpose of the Gospel of John is found in **John 20:31** “But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” CSB

The last time we were in the Gospel of John we were looking at **John 10:22-30**.

The Jews were divided in their response to Jesus:

John 10:19-26 Again the Jews were divided because of these words.

²⁰ Many of them were saying, “He has a demon and he’s crazy. Why do you listen to him?” ²¹ Others were saying, “These aren’t the words of someone who is demon-possessed. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

²² Then the Festival of Dedication took place in Jerusalem, and it was winter. ²³ Jesus was walking in the temple in Solomon’s Colonnade. ²⁴ The Jews surrounded him and asked, “How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ “I did tell you and you don’t believe,” Jesus answered them. “The works that I do in my Father’s name testify about me. ²⁶ But you don’t believe because you are not of my sheep.” CSB

Some thought Jesus was Crazy v.20

Some thought Jesus was the Christ v.21

Some Rejected Jesus vv.24-26

Two forms of Rejection:

Rebellion—

My life is about **Me**

My life is about **Here**

My life is about **Now**

Religion— Religion is a form of righteousness without God in it.

Some Received Jesus

Today we are going to discover:

Jesus has the Authority to Save and Secure His Sheep

Scripture

My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me.

²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

³⁰ I and the Father are one.”

Quote Of The Day

“Believing the right things about Jesus isn't enough. You're not adopted as God's child until you confess and turn away from your wrongdoing and receive the freely offered gift of forgiveness and eternal life that Jesus purchased with his death on the cross. Until you do that, you'll always be on the outside looking in.” — Lee Strobel

Every passage of Scripture has three things in common:

Context, Truth and Application

The context of **John 10:27-30** is found in v.22 “Then the Festival of Dedication took place in Jerusalem, and it was winter.”

The context of **John 10:22-30** is the celebration of The Festival of Dedication.

The Festival of Dedication is also known as Hanukkah— December 25— January 2. The Festival of Dedication was a celebration signifying the rededication of the temple in Jerusalem in 165 BC.

Antiochus IV was a “mad man” who was spiritually blind and lived in rebellion to the living God. In a defiant act of disrespect toward Yahweh—the Living God, Antiochus IV savagely attacked and raided the temple in Jerusalem. The treasures in the temple were taken, an altar for the worship of Zeus was constructed and pigs were sacrificed on the altar. When the Jews expressed their outrage over the profaning of the temple, Antiochus responded by slaughtering a great number of Jews and selling others into slavery. He ordered the Jews to sacrifice to pagan gods and eat pig flesh. The Jews revolted against Antiochus IV led by **Judas Maccabeus**. After Antiochus was defeated the Jews cleaned and restored the temple in 165 BC.

Antiochus Epiphanes was a savage and rebellious tyrant who was blind to the truth. Many scholars believe Antiochus Epiphanes was foreshadowing of the coming Antichrist.

Because of the Festival of Dedication the streets of Jerusalem were filled with Jews who had come to celebrate. The temple was also filled with people who had come to worship.

It is in this context Jesus revealed the truth about eternal life.

In this life we will make poor choices, we will make mistakes, and we will do some things wrong. If we live long enough we will learn from the poor choices and mistakes.

THERE IS ONE THING IN THIS LIFE WE MUST NOT GET WRONG—

WE MUST NOT GET ETERNITY WRONG!

When our body dies our spirit is separated from our body and will depart to where in this life time we prepared to go.

In Gospel conversations I ask where they will spend eternity and many of them say “I hope I will go to heaven!”

“Eternity is too long to get it wrong!”

In this passage of Scripture Jesus has much to say about eternal life.

Four Reasons Why Jesus Has The Authority To Save And Secure His Sheep

The Relationship of Jesus to His Sheep

The Promise of Jesus to His Sheep

The Greatness of God

The Relationship of Jesus and the Father

Jesus Has The Authority To Save And Secure His Sheep Because:

The Relationship of Jesus to His Sheep v.27

“My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me.” CSB

When Jesus says “**My sheep**” He is referring to His People, the ones who believe and follow him.

Jesus said:

My sheep Hear my voice

To understand the relationship of the Shepherd to His sheep we must pay attention to the words translated “**hear and voice.**”

Hear— akouo— To believe and respond on the basis of hearing.
To accept, to respond to pay attention to what we have heard.

Voice— phone` — an auditory effect, noises we hear and recognize.

There are many sounds we hear and recognize:

Thunder, Piano playing, door bell, car horn, train whistle, we also recognize ring tones on our phones.

My phone always stays on silent because I never want to be that person whose phone rings when it shouldn't.

Angela, however, has ring tones on her phone. She has a different ring tone for each of our four children and a ring tone for me.

Can you guess what my ring tone on her phone is?

BAD TO THE BONE

Every person that believes and follows Jesus will recognize the voice of Jesus.

Three Ways to Recognize the Voice of the Shepherd:

The Shepherd's voice will always Comply with the Word of God.

Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God remains forever.” CSB

Psalms 119:89 “Lord, your word is forever; it is firmly fixed in heaven.” CSB

The Shepherd's voice will never Confuse us

I Corinthians 14:33 God is not a God of disorder (confusion) but of peace.
CSB

The Shepherd's voice will never Tempt us

James 1:13-16 "No one undergoing a trial should say, "I am being tempted by God," since God is not tempted by evil, and he himself doesn't tempt anyone. 14 But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desire. 15 Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death. 16 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. CSB

To understand the relationship of the Shepherd to His sheep we must pay attention to the phrase translated:

I know my sheep

The phrase translated "**I know**" comes from the Greek word "**Ginosko**" meaning, to have personal knowledge of something or someone.

"We know a thing because of a thing!" We can tell a tree by the fruit it bears.

"We know a person because of that person" We recognize those who follow Jesus by the fruit they bear."

Galatians 5:22-25 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things. ²⁴Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit." CSB

Jesus said in **Matthew 7:21-23** "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my

Father in heaven. ²²On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, didn’t we prophesy in your name, drive out demons in your name, and do many miracles in your name?’ ²³Then I will announce to them, ‘**I never knew you. Depart from me, you lawbreakers!**’ CSB

Jesus knows, He recognizes His sheep!

To understand the relationship of the Shepherd to His sheep we must pay attention to the phrase translated:

My sheep follow me

“The voice we listen to determines the master we follow and the voice we follow influences the life we live.”— Pat Kilby

The phrase translated “**follow me**” comes from the Greek word “**akoloutheo**” meaning to follow after, to go the same direction, to accompany someone, to follow someone as a disciple.

Matthew 16:24-27 “Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will find it. ²⁶For what will it benefit someone if he gains the whole world yet loses his life? Or what will anyone give in exchange for his life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will reward each according to what he has done.” CSB

Those who hear and follow the voice of “The Good Shepherd” — Are Saved

The “Good Shepherd” will lead those who follow His voice—

To the greatest places

To accomplish the greatest things

To become the greatest person He has created and called us to be

To experience the greatest life

What does following Jesus really look like?

Asian Access (or A2), a Christian missions agency in South Asia, listed a series of questions that some church planters have been asking new believers who are considering baptism. (Due to safety concerns, Asian Access does not mention the country's name.) The country is predominantly Hindu, but over the past few decades Christianity has grown in popularity—especially among poor and tribal peoples. The following seven questions serve as a reality check for what new followers of Jesus might experience if they decide to "go public" with their decision to follow Christ:

1. Are you willing to leave home and lose the blessing of your father
2. Are you willing to lose your job?
3. Are you willing to go to the village and those who persecute you, forgive them, and share the love of Christ with them?
4. Are you willing to give an offering to the Lord?
5. Are you willing to be beaten rather than deny your faith?
6. Are you willing to go to prison?
7. Are you willing to die for Jesus?

These seven questions serve as a sobering reminder for all Christians from every continent of what it might cost us to follow Jesus. These questions also help Western Christians identify with the threats faced by our brothers and sisters from other countries as they seek to follow Christ.

I Have Decided To Follow Jesus

1. I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.
2. The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
No turning back, no turning back.
3. Though none go with me, still I will follow;
Though none go with me, still I will follow;
Though none go with me, still I will follow;
No turning back, no turning back.
4. My cross I'll carry, till I see Jesus;
My cross I'll carry, till I see Jesus;
My cross I'll carry, till I see Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.