



The Shepherd and the Gate

John 10:1-16 (ESV)

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- “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ² But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
- ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵ A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.”
- ⁶ This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

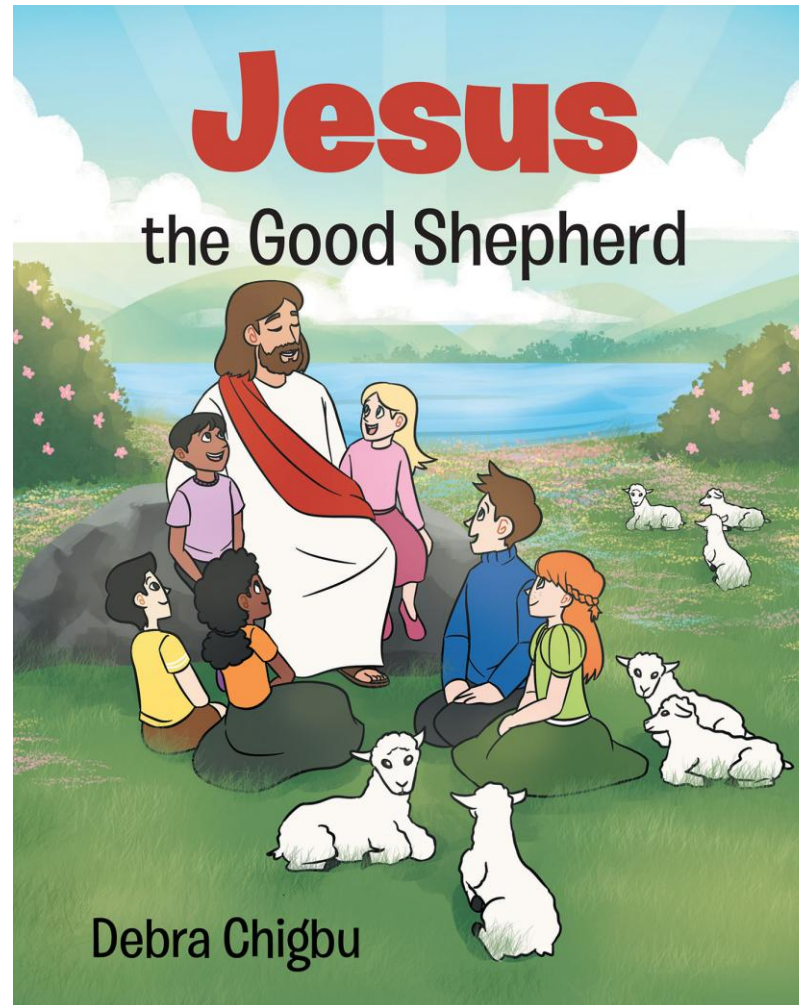
John 10:1-16 (ESV)

- ⁷ So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.
- ¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

John 10:1-16 (ESV)

- ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

A Common Depiction: What a Friend We Have in Jesus



The Backstory:

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

- As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ² And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. (John 9:1-30) . . .
- His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. (John 9:22) . . .
- ³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, **“Do you believe in the Son of Man? (*Son of God*)”** ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸ He said, **“Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.** ³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ **Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things**, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains. (John 9:35-41)

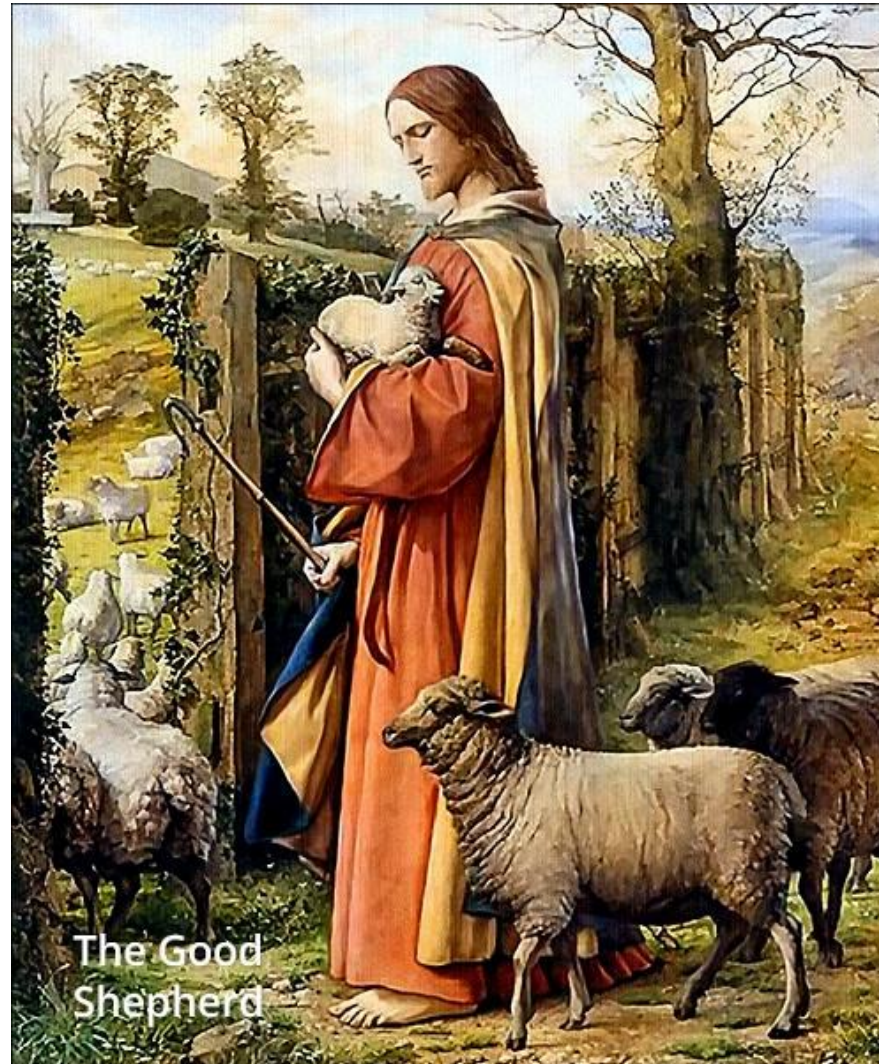
The Pharisees and Jesus

- “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is **a thief and a robber**. (John 10:1)



The Pharisees and Jesus

² But **he who enters by the door** is the shepherd of the sheep. (John 10:1-2)



Memorization of Scripture

- **Isaiah 40:11 (NIV)** He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

A Working Class Jesus: A Middle-East Sheepfold



Being both Shepherd and Gate



Jesus as the Door (Gate) to Salvation

- ⁷ So Jesus again said to them, **“Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.** ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ **I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved** (John 10:7-9a)
- Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent. ²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. **If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him** and eat with him, and he with me. (Revelation 3:19-20)

Jesus as the Good Shepherd

- ¹¹ **I am the good shepherd.** The good shepherd **lays down his life for the sheep.** (John 10:11)
- ¹⁴ **I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,** ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. (John 10:14-15)
- **Jesus died for our sins:** “For while we were still weak, at the right time **Christ died for the ungodly.** ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but **God shows his love for us** in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:6-8)
- **Jesus reconciles us to God:** “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, **that he might bring us to God**” (1 Peter 3:18).

Jesus as the Good Shepherd

- **God as the good shepherd:** I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak (Ezekiel 34:15-16a)
- *“The point of calling Jesus ‘the good shepherd’ is to emphasize the strange, compelling **power of his love**” (N.T. Wright).*

Jesus as Savior of the (Whole) World

- And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So, there will be **one flock, one shepherd**. (John 10:16)
- Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ **and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9-10)

The Abundant Life

- I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. (John 10:10)
- **The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.**
 - ² He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
 - ³ **He restores my soul.**
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake. (Psalm 23)
- Peace/Shalom: wholeness, harmony, flourishing, *eudaimonia*
- *“What Jeus promises and gives is a quality of life in intimate communion with God, life that does not end, and life that is rich and overflowing. Good pasture, indeed” (Lamar Williamson, Jr.).*

When You Know Jesus

The sheep hear his voice, and **he calls his own sheep by name** and leads them out.
⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and **the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.** (John 10:3b-4)





Let Us Pray

A silhouette of two hands raised in prayer, holding a glowing white cross. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon. The hands are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image, with the cross centered between them. The overall mood is peaceful and spiritual.