

I Am the Door

John 10:1-10

“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.

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.

A Reminder: In all of the “I AM” sayings of Christ, Jesus is making Himself the center of His message – not a philosophy, a system, or a way of life, but Himself.

I. The Parable (vv. 1-5)

The “Big Ideas” that Jesus speaks of:

- a) The Sheepfold — 2 common types: in a town/village or in the countryside
- b) The Danger of Thieves (counterfeit shepherds) and robbers (spiritual predators)
- c) The Faithful Shepherd — The sheep know His voice; He calls them as His own by name; He goes before them and leads out all His own

Jesus does not explain this parable, but we can hear in it the contours of the doctrine of grace – He is describing His own care of His beloved ones.

II. The Parable Clarified (vv. 7-10)

Verse 7: “I am the Door” — It is an exclusive claim, to Him/through Him alone that the sheep are gathered.

Verse 9:

“Anyone” may enter — not qualified or restricted

“Saved” — rescued. A spiritual rescue from a death worse than physical death

“Will go in and out” — freedom. Security living in the shepherd’s care

“Find pasture” — provision and nourishment for the soul

But you must enter the door, which is Christ Himself.

As the sheep enter the fold only through the shepherd, so everyone in the Kingdom of God has come in through one gate: Christ Himself. Have you entered?