

Jesus Is...

The Good Shepherd

Read the following verses: John 10:1-42

Examining the Text:

1. Jesus used a figure of speech in John 10:1-6. Contrast the response of the sheep to their own shepherd, and to the thieves, robbers & strangers.
2. If the formerly blind man in John 9 is likened to a sheep, who is his shepherd? Who are the robbers, thieves & strangers? What message are the Pharisees/Jews supposed to get from the figure of speech in John 10:1-6?
3. Jesus says, "I am the door" (v.7). What is the main implication Jesus is pointing to? Is this similar to John 14:6?
4. Jesus also says, "I am the good shepherd" (vv. 11 & 14). What is the importance of that declaration?
5. Some say that Christians can lose their salvation/eternal life. What do verses 28-29 say about this thought?

Digging Deeper:

1. When Jesus called Himself the "good" shepherd, it would only be an obvious conclusion to make that there were "bad" shepherds. From Ezekiel 34:1-10 what are the characteristics of the shepherds of Israel? Were they good or bad?
2. Who is the shepherd that God promised to Israel? (See Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23)

The Heart of the Matter:

1. There is a personal relationship between the sheep and the shepherd in Psalm 23:1-4. How has the Lord been your shepherd recently and/or over your Christian life?