

# HARVEST FORT WORTH EQUIP GROUP

Sunday August 25, 2024

Teacher: Bob Taylor

## **TITLE: WILL THE REAL JESUS PLEASE STAND UP?**

### **Review of last week's lesson: John 10:1-22**

1. Jesus told the people he was the “**gate**” of the sheepfold and that he was the “**Good Shepherd**” of his people Israel and all of humanity.
2. **Verse 16**, “I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold.”
3. Jesus said that there would be spiritual leaders or **thieves** and **robbers** that would come who were wolves in sheep’s clothing.
4. The purpose of the thief, Satan, was to **steal, kill and destroy** but he would give them a satisfying and abundant life. (**John 10:10**)
5. Jesus told them that he would sacrifice his life for the sheep.
6. Jesus said to them that all who **come through faith in him would be saved and have Eternal Life.**

### **John 10:22-42**

#### **1. JESUS WAS ASKED BY THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS IF HE WAS THE MESSIAH**

**22** It was now winter, and Jesus was in Jerusalem at the time of Hanukkah, the Festival of Dedication. **23** He was in the Temple, walking through the section known as Solomon’s Colonnade. **24** **The people surrounded him** and asked, “How long are you going to keep us in suspense? **If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.**”

- These people that surrounded Jesus were no doubt the religious leaders of that day.
- Jesus was their promised Messiah (the Christ) but not the Messiah they were looking for and wanted.
- The Messiah they expected was a political and military leader that would deliver them from the Roman Empire’s control.

## 2. JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE SON OF GOD

**25** Jesus replied, "I have already told you, and you don't believe me. **The proof is the work I do** in my Father's name. **26** But you don't believe me because you are not my sheep.

- These people tried to blame Jesus for their doubts and unbelief.
- They had evil hearts of unbelief and wouldn't accept the truth.
- There are a multitude of times that Jesus said and proved he was the true Messiah.

### EXAMPLES WHERE JESUS PROVED TO BE GOD BY HIS WORDS AND DEEDS

- Example of a man caught speeding by a policeman. "Officer, if there were more speed limit signs I would have slowed down."

## 3. THE SIGNS OF A GENUINE FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

**27** My sheep **listen to my voice**; I know them, and **they follow me**.

**28** I give them **eternal life**, and **they will never perish**. No one can snatch them away from me, **29** for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father's hand. **30** The Father and I are one."

- Our physical bodies will perish at death, if we die before Jesus comes, but we will be resurrected and have new bodies.
- Our lives on earth are more than physical and material.
- Spiritually, as true christians, not only does Jesus secure us in our relationship with him but his Father holds all true believers in his powerful hand.

## 4. THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS WANTED TO STONE JESUS TO DEATH FOR CLAIMING TO BE GOD

**31** Once again the people **picked up stones to kill him**. **32** Jesus said, "At my Father's direction I have done many good works. For which one are you going to stone me?"

**33** They replied, "**We're stoning you not for any good work, but for blasphemy! You, a mere man, claim to be God.**"

- In verse 33 the religious leaders are proving that Jesus claimed that he was God.

- When this group of religious leaders resorted to violence they by their actions had lost the argument.

## 5. THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS ACCUSED JESUS OF BLASPHEMY

**34** Jesus replied, "It is written in your own Scriptures that God said to certain leaders of the people, '**I say, you are gods!**' **35** And you know that the Scriptures cannot be altered. So if those people who received God's message were called 'gods,' **36 why do you call it blasphemy when I say, 'I am the Son of God'?** After all, the Father set me apart and sent me into the world.

- **Psalm 82:6** describes human judges as gods meaning their authority on earth was to judge the affairs of men.
- In the Jewish culture the fate of a man or woman was in the hands of a Jewish judge, a god like figure.

## 6. THE EVIDENCE DEMANDS A VERDICT

**37** Don't believe me unless I carry out my Father's work. **38** But if I do his work, **believe in the evidence** of the miraculous works I have done, even if you don't believe me. Then you will know and understand that the Father is in me, and I am in the Father."

- There are people in our world that will not believe no matter what convincing evidence you give them that Jesus is God in human flesh.

## 7. THE PERSONAL WITNESS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST ABOUT JESUS WAS VINDICATED

**39** Once again they tried to arrest him, but he got away and left them. **40** He went beyond the Jordan River near the place where John was first baptizing and stayed there awhile. **41** And many followed him. "John didn't perform miraculous signs," they remarked to one another, "**but everything he said about this man has come true.**" **42** And many who were there believed in Jesus.

- Those who hated Jesus could not touch him until it was God the Father's time for him to suffer for the sins of the world.
- The next time Jesus went to Jerusalem it would be to sacrifice his life on the cross for the sins of the world.

- Many believed in John's testimony about who Jesus was and many will believe in Jesus from hearing our testimony.