

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.