

JOHN 10:1-10: FALSE PASTORS & THE UNIQUE JESUS

1. FALSE PASTORS: THE WAY TO DESTRUCTION

John 10:1 "I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ... 8 All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them ... 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Ezekiel 34:1 The word of the LORD came to me: 2 "Son of man, prophesy against the **shepherds of Israel**; prophesy and say to them: `This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to the shepherds of Israel who only take care of themselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock? 3 You eat the curds, clothe yourselves with the wool and slaughter the choice animals, but you do not take care of the flock. 4 You have not strengthened the weak or healed the sick or bound up the injured. You have not brought back the strays or searched for the lost. You have ruled them harshly and brutally. 5 So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild animals... 10 This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against the shepherds and will hold them accountable for my flock. I will remove them from tending the flock so that the shepherds can no longer feed themselves. I will rescue my flock from their mouths, and it will no longer be food for them.

2. JESUS THE GATE: THE ONLY WAY TO SALVATION

John 10:7 Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the **gate** for the sheep ...

9 I am the **gate**; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

Psalms 118:19 Open for me the **gates** of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD. 20 This is the **gate** of the LORD through which the righteous may enter.

QUESTIONS FOR HOME GROUPS

1. How important is it that pastors/preachers teach the truth?
2. Read John 9:35-41. How does John 10:1-10 continue the theme of John 9:35-41?
3. Who are the thieves & robbers of John 10:1; 8; 10; the stranger of v 5 and the hired hand of v 12?
See Ezek 34:1-10 and John 9:40.
4. Who might the thieves and robbers in our day be?
5. How do the sheep know the shepherd's voice in John 10:4-5?
6. How do we today know Jesus' voice? See John 20:30-31; 2 Tim 3:16-17.
7. How can we discern true leaders from false leaders? See Titus 1:7-9.
8. What does it mean that Jesus is the gate in John 10:7, 9? See Ps 118:19-20.
9. How does one enter through the gate in John 10: 9? See John 20:31. Is Jesus the only gate to safety and salvation in John 10:9?
10. What implications does your answer to question 9 have for the questions of whether other faiths lead to salvation?