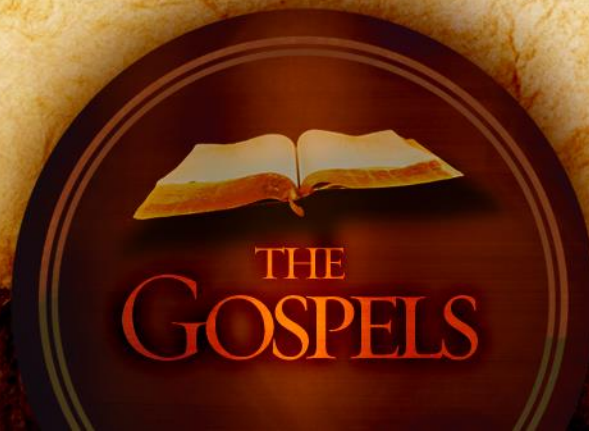




JOHN

Light of the World





INTRODUCTION

1. One of the things that pastors deal with is the problem that people have when they lack the assurance of their salvation. The question is WHY? What is it that steals a believer's assurance?
2. No metaphor is more widely used throughout the Bible to explain the relationship between God and His people than the metaphor of a shepherd & his sheep. The familiar passage in the N.T. using this metaphor is John 10.
 - A. John 10 is *the sequel* to chapter 9.
 - B. John 10 is *the fulfillment* of O.T. prophecy (Jer. 23)

JEREMIAH 23:5-6

JEREMIAH

"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness."

EZEKIEL 34:22-24

EZEKIEL

"I will save my flock, & they will no longer be plundered. . . . I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken."



INTRODUCTION

3. In John 10, the work of the “Good Shepherd” stands in contrast to the work of the false shepherds (i.e., religious leaders of Israel).
4. Last Sunday we identified three specific ministries the Good Shepherd performs on behalf of His sheep.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd . . .

PROVIDES SALVATION FOR HIS SHEEP (vss. 11-18)

Jesus, the Good Shepherd . . .

CALLS EACH OF HIS SHEEP BY NAME (vss. 1-10)

Jesus, the Good Shepherd . . .

SECURELY HOLDS HIS SHEEP (vss. 27-30)

JOHN 10:27-30

JOHN

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

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ROMANS 8:28-30

ROMANS

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified."

ROMANS 8.35-37

ROMANS

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? . . . No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.”

ROMANS 8:38-39

ROMANS

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."



How can I have the
ASSURANCE OF MY SALVATION?

1. Understand that security and assurance are different.
2. God wants us to have the assurance of salvation.

1 JOHN 5:11-13

1 JOHN

"And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."

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How can I have the ASSURANCE OF MY SALVATION?

1. Understand that security and assurance are different.
2. God wants us to have the assurance of salvation.
3. Why do Christians struggle with assurance?
 - A. Because they cannot pinpoint a specific time when they trusted Christ's finished work for their salvation.
 - B. Because they question the correctness of the procedure they went through when they expressed faith in Christ.



How can I have the **ASSURANCE OF MY SALVATION?**

- C. If one doesn't believe in the **security** of the believer, then he will more than likely struggle with assurance.
 - D. When **sin** enters the believer's life, especially a serious sin, some lose assurance of salvation.
4. How can I have assurance?
- A. The **objective** ground, based on God's Word.
 - B. The **subjective** ground, relates to my experiences.
5. Take **joy** in what God's Word is saying to you!

