7 So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. 11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

12 He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

19 There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. 20 Many of them said, "He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?" 21 Others said, "These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

Jesus is the Door and Good Shepherd John 10:7-21

Jesus contrasts Himself with two images of selfish leadership

Jesus is the Gateway to True Life and Freedom (10:7, 9, 10b)

False shepherds have arisen throughout history to use and abuse God's people. (10:8, 10a)

Ezekiel 34 on Shepherds

Wicked Shepherds only take care of themselves at the expense of the flock (Ezekiel 34:2-3)

They do not strengthen the sheep, care for their hurting, seek for the lost, maintain the unity of the flock, nor protect them from threats. (34:4-6)

The Lord is against them, will judge them, and not let them remain as shepherds. (34:7-10b)

The Lord himself will search for, rescue, and shepherd HIS flock abundantly and with integrity (34:10c-16)

The Lord will separate the rams (sheep) from the selfish goats (34:17-19)

Wicked shepherds also referred to as gluttonous sheep (34:20)

There will be one princely shepherd of YHWH's flock, the Davidic servant/Messiah (34:23-24)

Jeremiah 3:15-17: God will provide faithful shepherds (plural) when he gathers all nations, with changed hearts, to his throne.

Jeremiah 23:1-6: Woe to the wicked shepherds; the Lord will gather his remnant flock with faithful shepherds (plural) and have the Righteous Branch of David as king over them (chief leader).

The Good Shepherd does what a hireling will not do. (10:11-13)

Hirelings/wage worker: Those whose provision for the sheep is determined by their personal benefit, not identity with them.

The Good Shepherd lays down His life down for the sheep because of deep, personal love for them (10:14-15)

The Good Shepherd is the Foundation to the Family of God

One Flock, One Shepherd

One flock, not a mixture of two flocks: Jew and Gentiles are made into one church by the Good Shepherd's sacrifice The Shepherd's death was not accidental, ultimately by the will of men, nor a judgment against His leadership.

Jesus affirms for us that his death and resurrection are commanded and are consistent with Father's love for the Son.

Just as the Shepherd lays down His own life to form the flock, so He raises back to life to lead it.



Jesus is the Shepherd Model for others to emulate