



Hearing the Shepherd

21st in the “Life in his Name” Series

John 10:22-42, p. 896

February 17, 2019

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God centers all spirituality on Jesus the Son and shows behind the scenes of salvation.

The Text: John 10:22-42

1) The identity of Jesus Christ confronts every person (vv. 22-27).

2) This text implies that salvation is God’s work, or regeneration (new birth) precedes faith (vv. 28-30).

(a) *John already explained that salvation is a “new birth” from God – a supernatural act of “regeneration.”*

John 3:5-8 – ⁵ Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

John 6:44 – No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him.

(b) *This “new birth” is required because of sin – we are spiritually dead and have no desire for God.*

Ephesians 2:1-10 – ¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved ... ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

(c) *The biblical logic (not logic of experience) is that new birth happens to us before any response by us.*

1 John 2:29 – everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

1 John 4:7 – whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

1 John 5:1 – everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God.

(d) *The implication of this text fits the rest of Scripture’s teaching regarding the way a person is saved.*

1 Peter 1:3-4 – ³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.

3) When God is working in a person spiritually, they will believe and follow Jesus Christ (vv. 31-42).

Response

Hear the words of the Good Shepherd: *“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.”*

Sunday Text Questions for John 10:22-42

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- 1) Starter Question: Which opinion about Jesus and his message is more common today: it is offensive or it is easy to ignore?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) The Jews wanted Jesus to speak plainly to them in v. 24. What is a simple or “plain” way we can share Christ to people, especially those with little or no knowledge of the Bible?
- 4) Jesus blames the Jews’ mishearing on disbelieving in vv. 25-27. How does Jesus make that point in these verses, and why is it significant?
- 5) Do you think the people in your networks (e.g., work, school, and neighborhood) have heard about Christ but disbelieve, or do some not know about Christ at all? What is the best way to remedy this?
- 6) Vv. 28-29 emphasize strongly that salvation is given by the Son (v. 28) and the Father (v. 29). What do those verses teach us about the *source* and *security* of our salvation?
- 7) Which do you think better describes the order in which a person is saved: (1) regeneration (new birth) precedes faith or (2) faith precedes regeneration, and what is the difference?

- 8) Read John 3:5-8, 6:44; Ephesians 2:1-10, 1 Peter 1:3-4, and 1 John 5:1. Do these texts lean toward option (1) or option (2)?
- 9) In vv. 31-39, especially v. 36, Jesus reveals that he is the chosen agent of God's mission to the world. What does this teach us about the centrality of Jesus for salvation but also for the Christian life?
- 10) What *truths to believe* or *actions to obey* does this passage of Scripture teach us?

Further study this week: Psalm 82 on “you are gods” from Jesus’ argument (Mon); John 3:5-8 on supernatural “new birth” (Tues); Ephesians 2:1-10 on salvation from death to new birth (Wed); Romans 3 on grace as a gift (Thurs); 1 Peter 1:3-12 on born again to a living hope (Fri).