

Jesus Keeps His Sheep

July 19, 2026
John 10:22-29

Pastor Mark Turner
Oak Community Church (PCA)

John Gives Another Time Marker

- This portion of the narrative takes place at Feast of Dedication
- Intertestamental Maccabean Revolt 2nd century BC, today Hannukkah

The Coldness of Unbelief

- Leaders 'gathered' about Jesus as in surround in military siege
- Jews anticipated a political or military Messiah...Jesus avoided that^{Jn6:15}
- Jesus had identified as Messiah to woman at the well^{Jn4:26}, to disciples^{Jn6:69}
- Jesus seems to have been careful about using term Messiah publicly
- Jesus knew Messiah was 'Servant of the Lord' or 'Suffering Servant'^{Isa52:13-53:12}

Jesus' Reply

- Jesus' teaching made quite clear Son of God^{5:25-26}, Son of Man^{5:27;6:53,62;9:35-40}
- Bread of Life^{6:35,48}, Light of the World^{8:12}; from heaven^{6:58;8:42}, I Am^{8:28,58}
- Jesus reminded *the works I do... bear witness about me*²⁵
- *But you do not believe because you are not among my sheep*²⁶ - profound!

Jesus Pulls Back the Curtain

- He didn't say *"you're not part of my flock because you don't believe"*
- Jesus taught their unbelief caused by not being chosen or one of 'my sheep'
- Jesus is saying these leaders are not chosen by God

Applying Jesus' Words

- These are blunt truths - but they are from the words of Jesus
- We believe because we are chosen by God^{26,Eph2:8-9}
- His sheep hear His voice²⁷ and Jesus knows them & they follow^{27;Jn6:37}
- Men believe because God is gracious and calls them^{28;Jn3:3}
- *My sheep*²⁷ → Divine Election
- *My father, who has given them to me*²⁹ - also Divine Election
- *My Sheep hear My voice*²⁷ - effectual calling unto saving faith
- *I know them*²⁷ - Jesus justifies us through faith in His work
- *they follow me*²⁷ - Jesus sanctifies us; Psalms 23:3
- *I give them eternal life and they will never perish*²⁸ - glorification Psalms 23:7
- *No one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand*²⁹⁻³⁰ eternal security because God has done a work in us and He will complete it^{Phil1:6}
- Thank God for His Grace to you if you believe in Jesus!

Salvation Through Faith

- We receive eternal life by faith in Jesus - it is a gift^{Rm3:23-25;Eph2:8-9}
- Faith involves 3 elements: hands; ear; foot based upon Jesus' words:
- Faith of the hands²⁸: Faith is received as a gift - received gratefully
- Faith of the ear²⁷: His sheep hear Jesus' call²⁷; some hear and don't believe²⁵
- Faith of the foot²⁷: we follow if we have faith: obey^{Jn14:15}, bear fruit^{Gal5:22-23}
- Don't doubt, rest in Jesus' words²⁷⁻³⁰: He holds you! Paul's confidence^{Rm8:38-39}
- Some appear to fall away^{Jn2:19} but they were not true believers.
- Look at contrast between Judas & Peter - both were 'disciples'
- Judas only confessed about \$^{Jn12:5}; Peter publicly confessed Jesus^{Jn6:68-69;Mt16:16}
- Judas: liar & thief^{Jn12:6}; Peter rash^{Mt16:21}; both betrayed Jesus^{Mt26:14-16;69-75}
- Judas remorse turned on himself in despair & killed himself
- Peter repented, humbled and was restored^{Jn21:15-19}
- Be a good sheep and listen to your Master's voice, even when you sin!