

Saint Anne's Bible Study (Zoom) Thursday May 5, 2022 John 10:1-30 (4 Easter John 10:22-30)

Opening Prayer (Collect 4 Easter): O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads, who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

John 10.1-30

10"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. /// ⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The 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. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

[19] Again the Jews were divided because of these words. ²⁰Many of them were saying, "He has a demon and is out of his mind. Why listen to him?" ²¹Others were saying, "These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"]

Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

Easter, 2nd Easter, 3rd Easter Appearance 4th onward events prior to Resurrection but now seen through the light of the resurrection/Risen Christ

Eigo Eimi I AM the bread of life (6:35,51)

I AM the light of the world (8:12 (9:5)

I AM the (sheep) gate (10:7,9)

I AM the good shepherd (10:11,14)

I AM the resurrection and the life (11:25)

I AM the way, the truth, and the life (14:6)

I AM the true (real) vine (15:1,5)

About shepherd imagery in Hebrew scriptures Ezekiel 34:1-4,10,13-16,22-23

VV 1-6 Very truly intimate *paroimia*

VV 7-10 I AM statement Voice of the Risen Lord go in and out and find pasture

VV 11-18 I AM statement *kalos* (good) intimacy between Jesus and sheep 17:3 *And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.*

Vs 16 other sheep to be brought in 12:32 lifted up, drawing the world

VV 22-30 "the Jews" in John

Chapter 9 The Man Born Blind (being put out of the synagogue, reflecting events of the evangelist's day, his *sitz-im-leben*)

Feast of the Dedication

Benefits that accrue to those who believe into (pisteuin eis) Jesus

My sheep hear my voice...

The final 9 verses recall and develop pastoral images already encountered (10:3,4,14,16)

Verse 30: I and the Father are one.

Reflection: Image/phrase

Other biblical texts referring to shepherds/shepherding

Shepherding and our culture