

THEME: WHO I AM IN CHRIST

TOPIC: I AM HELD

TEXT: JOHN 6:37-40; 10:11 &14; 10:27-29; PSALM 23:1-6

INTRODUCTION

We continue our series study on “Who we are and what we have in Christ”. Today we are looking at the topic of “**I am Held**”. Jesus says, “I am the good shepherd” (John 10:11, 14). The relationship of believers with Jesus Christ is that of sheep to a shepherd. The Lord is our shepherd; we are his flock.

1. The Good Shepherd

In John 10, Christ spells out what it means for him to be our shepherd and for us to be His sheep, verse 28 proclaims the precious promise believers have in Christ. We are the Father’s gift to the Son. John uses sheep as an illustration of Christians because we are so much like them.

- They are a clean animal (as we are in Christ)
- They flock together
- They are harmless (as we should be).
- They are prone to wandering.
- They need a shepherd for safekeeping, food, and instruction.
- They are used as sacrifices (we yield our lives as a living sacrifice).

Q: Now how would you know if you are one of Christ’s sheep? John 10:27

2. Sheep Trust the Good Shepherd – John 10:28

This text is one of the most emphatic passages on our security. It tells us no one and nothing can separate us from God’s love.

To walk the Christian walk you have to **trust God**, if you believe you could do something to make Him stop loving you, how can you trust Him?

We do not have to worry about our salvation, thinking; what if I fail?

We have already failed. Jesus is the one who saves us, and He never fails. God doesn’t need our perfection. We need His, and He has given it to us as His free gift through faith in Christ. We are not defined by our erratic behaviours!

- God loved us while we were walking in sin.
- He loves us as we become a new creation.
- He loves us as we are learning, healing and growing.
- He loves us when we walk away, He will pursue us to return back to Him.

Q: What are the things that shows that the sheep trust the shepherd?

3. He Holds Your Life in His Hands

- All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. John 6:37
- He who believes has eternal life. John 6:47.
- Everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life and I will raise him up at the last day. John 6:40
- I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish: no one can snatch them out of my hand (John 10:28)....
- If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? (Romans. 8:31-32)

- There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1)....
- Those God foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son (Romans 8:29)....
- [Nothing] will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:39)....
- [Christ] will keep you strong to the end. 1 Corinthians 1:8
- God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. 1 Corinthians 10:13
- He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion. Philippians 1:6.
- He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. Hebrews 7:25
- We have passed from death to life. 1 John 3:14

Conclusion

So, if you believe and follow Jesus Christ, you are one of Christ's sheep. You have been given by the Father to the Son. Jesus Christ knows you completely! There may be times when you are a mystery to yourself, but you are never a mystery to Christ.

Here is the joy of following Jesus Christ because He knows you completely, He is able to lead you effectively. The good shepherd knows what you need, and He is able to give you what you need at precisely the time that you need it.

Christ owns you and will never abandon you. Christ does not care for you because of what He can get out of you. Christ cares for you because you are His. There will never be a time when He will say, "You're not worth it." He made you his own, at the cost of His life and, having made you His own, He will never leave you; He will never forsake you.

With such a shepherd committed to you for life, what do you have to fear?