

They Shall Never Perish

John 10:22-30

22 Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. 23 And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch. 24 Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly."

25 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. 26 But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. 27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. 30 I and My Father are one." NKJV

We spend our lives having to let go. We watch our parents get older and we have to let them go. The longer we live the fewer and fewer of those that we loved and care about are still with us. We have only the memories that can be both a blessing and a torment. Its not that we want it that way, it is our of our control, beyond our ability to change the outcome.

But our God is not like us. He will never have to say good-bye to those who are dear to Him. Nothing can separate them from the love of God. Paul said in Rom 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

I. My sheep

A. Hear My voice

1. He first lets us know who He is speaking of.
2. Those who hear the voice of the Shepherd and follow what He says,
3. This not for all the sheep but for those who belong to the shepherd.
4. We found earlier that these Jewish leaders are not His sheep.
 - a. V-26 But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you.
5. So then it is not sheep or the sheep but My sheep that He is referring to.

B. I know them

1. The term to know here means much more than to have cognizance of.
2. There is no one that Jesus does not know about but there are many that He does not know.
 - a. In Matthew 7 Jesus tells of two different groups of people to be

judged at the last day.

- b. He says to the one group "I never knew you"
- c. Mt 7:23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"
- d. It is not that Jesus does not know about some people and He does know about others.

3. Often in the Bible, the idea to know means to love.

- a. It was a euphemism, an expression that come to mean something that does not necessarily reflect the meaning of the word.
- b. In the OT it is said that Adam knew Eve and a child was conceived.
- c. But God also uses it to express His setting His love on someone.
- d. Amos 3:2 "You only have I known of all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities."
- e. So when Jesus says that He knows His sheep it is much more in view that simply to know about them.

C. They follow Me.

- 1. This is also a distinguishable characteristic of the sheep.
- 2. They follow Him and only Him as we have seen in earlier passages.
- 3. Their following Him is an expression of their love for Him.
- 4. It indicates their trust of Him.
- 5. It indicates their obedience to Him.

II. The security of the sheep

A. I give them eternal life

- 1. John 3:15 "that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."
- 2. John 4:14 "but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."
- 3. John 5:24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life."

B. They shall never perish

1. Romans 8:1 ¶ There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.
 2. Jeremiah 32:40 ‘And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good; but I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me.
- C. Neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.
1. Jude 1:24 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,
 2. Philippians 1:6 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;
 3. Hebrews 7:25 Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.
- D. No one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.
1. 1 Peter 1:5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

III. Their owner

- A. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all
1. John 6:37 "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.
 2. John 6:39 "This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.
 3. John 6:40 "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

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