

Sermon ~ Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, by Pastor, Dwight Benoit

Text: Hebrews 4: 12a and John 10: 11

Title: "GOD'S WORD: The Answer!" (2)

Foundational Text... (Hebrews 4: 12)

KJV ~ "For **The WORD of GOD** is quick..."

"For", a *preposition* (a function word used to indicate purpose); a governing word (It denotes 'authority' to do, act, demand) and usually precedes a *noun*, (used to identify a definite article).

Amplified Bible ~ "For **The WORD of GOD** [JESUS, The CHRIST] is living and active..."

Now, it's understandable why, many do not like; claim they do not understand; they do not believe, **The WORD of GOD is The Answer** ... It [HE—JESUS] is living and active...

- **The WORD of GOD is The Living Incorruptible Seed**  
"For you have been born again [that is, reborn from above—spiritually transformed, renewed, and set apart for HIS-JESUS purpose] not of seed which is perishable [but from that which is imperishable and immortal], that is, through **The Living and Everlasting WORD of GOD.**"  
For all flesh is like grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass.  
The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But **The WORD of The LORD** endureth for ever." (I Peter 1: 23-25 and Isaiah 40: 6-9)
- In Proverbs 6: 22, Solomon speaks of Lessons for Daily Life. He states, **The WORD of GOD**, "it [HE] moves, it [HE] stirs HIMSELF, it [HE] lives, it [HE] communes with living men as **The Living WORD.**"  
As you walk about, they (the godly teaching of your parents) will guide you; when you sleep, they will keep watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk to you.  
V. 23 says, "For the commandments is a lamp, and the teaching [of **The Law—The WORD of GOD**] is Light; and reproofs (rebukes) for discipline is the way of life."  
This means, "**GOD'S WORD**" ...
  - \*Wrestle with me (but always wins)
  - \*Smitten (overwhelms me—knocks me off my feet and seat)
  - \*Smiles on me
  - \*Frown on me
  - \*Clasp (holds) my hand and guides me
  - \*Warms my heart
  - \*Weeps with me and sings with me
  - \*Whispers to me
  - \*Preaches to me
  - \*Maps my way and holds up my going
  - \*It's **The Living BOOK**—All over (from "In" to "Amen.")
  - \*It's **The Gospel—The GOD'S News—The Living Gospel**

John 10: 11 Text...

**“I AM The Good SHEPHERD. The Good SHEPHERD giveth HIS Life [lays down] HIS (own) Life for the sheep.”**

This is **The Good SHEPHERD** and *sheep* passage... These words were spoken when our **LORD** was among **HIS** own people. BUT don't worry *nor* wonder. **HIS WORDS** remain true! Hear **JESUS** saying, *right now*, **“I AM The Good SHEPHERD!”**

What, you ask? What *assurance* do we have? I can quickly say, **“The Living WORD of GOD”** says, **“JESUS CHRIST** the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.” (Hebrews 13: 6)

But *added assurance* is in the text, **“I AM”** speaks in the *past*, the *present* and the *future*.

**“I AM”** (before there was a *‘when’* and a *‘where’*; **“I AM”** right now... before I go to Jerusalem, to **Calvary's Cross**, to the grave Joseph of Arimathea bought for the dead, that **I WHO** died—conquered *death* and the *grave* and *rosed* from the dead with Eternal Victory.

**“I AM Alpha and Omega, The Beginning and The Ending saith The LORD, which is, and which was, and which is to come, The Almighty.”** (Revelation 1: 8)

**“I AM The Good SHEPHERD. The Good SHEPHERD giveth HIS Life [lays down] HIS (own) Life for the sheep.”**

Why does **JESUS** compare us to *sheep*?

- *Sheep* has no sense of direction (at all) ...  
They will follow *whoever* is leading... “So, if so-in-so, jumps off the cliff, *sheep* will follow too?” (Picture 100 *sheep* and the Shepherd leaves them unattended... the proverbial, “the blind leading the blind.”  
Isaiah said, “All we like *sheep* have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and **The LORD** hath laid on **HIM** the iniquity of us all.” (Isaiah 53: 6)
- *Sheep* are defenseless...  
They can not defend themselves. They do not growl, show their teeth, bark, bite, run fast, shoot quills, pull out claws, spray you with fowl, fur.  
Okay, you can... BUT what can you do with Ephesians 6: 12...  
“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this [present] darkness, against the spiritual [forces] of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) *places*.”  
**JESUS** said, “When **HE** saw the crowds, **HE** was moved with compassion for them, because they fainted [so harassed, *dispirited*, *distressed*, *discourage*] like *sheep* without a **SHEPHERD**.” (Matthew 9: 36)
- *Sheep* can not get up without Help...  
When *sheep* get “*turned-over*” on their backs, with their legs in the air— “*cast-down*,” (How often have you been “*cast-down*?” If **The SHEPHERD** does not *lift* the *sheep* up and put it back on its feet, it will die. BUT **JESUS**,  
“**HE** will protect **HIS** flock like a **SHEPHERD**, **HE** will gather the lambs in **HIS ARM**, **HE** will gently *and* carefully lead those nursing their young. (Isaiah 40: 11)

- *Sheep* are emotional and recognize **The SHEPHERD' Voice...**  
Oh, sheep have the ability to build *acquaintances* they call *friendships*... they stick-up and stick-together (flock) for each other until 'the right fight is own...'  
The breakdown is **JESUS'** Comparison to ours...  
"MY sheep hear MY VOICE, and I know them, and they follow ME." (John 10: 27)
- *Sheep* are not meant to carry burdens... Loads [heavy weights] on their backs...  
"Cast your burdens on **The LORD**, and **HE** will sustain you." (Psalms 55: 22)
- *Sheep* will settle for less... When thirsty, *sheep* will stop at a dirty ditch (a puddle of *sin*), right in front of them, instead of going for the clean, still waters 20 feet ahead of them.  
"The LORD is my SHEPHERD [HE feeds, HE guides, HE shields me], I shall not want.  
HE lets me lie down in green pastures; HE leads me beside the still and quiet waters."  
(Psalms 23: 1, 2)
- *Sheep* are Valuable...  
Lamp Chops... Milk... Wool... if you have sheep, you are considered wealthy.  
"The next day John seeth **JESUS** coming unto him, and saith, Behold **The LAMB of GOD**, which taketh away the *sin* of the world." (John 1: 29)
- *Sheep* can not care for themselves when wounded...  
Other animals *lick* their wounds until it heals, not *sheep*.  
"HE [The LORD JESUS] heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds."  
(Psalms 147: 3)
- *Sheep* are innocent...  
In the Bible, *sheep* represent *purity* and *innocence*. Like 'the lamb' without spot or blemish, is sacrificed before **GOD** on the Altar at Passover. **JESUS** represented "The LAMB of GOD" —flawless, pure, and HOLY. Not a *goat* or any other animal, but **The LAMB of GOD!**  
"And before **HIM** shall be gathered all nations: and **HE** shall separate them one from another, as **The SHEPHERD** divideth **HIS sheep** from the goats: And **HE** shall set the *sheep* on **HIS right hand**, but the goats on *the left*. Then shall **The KING** say unto them on **HIS right hand**, Come, ye blessed of **MY FATHER**, inherit **The KINGdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world... Then shall **HE** say also unto them on *the left hand*, Depart from **ME**, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels... And these shall all go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." (Matthew 25: 32-34; 41, 46)

None but The Righteous

None but The Righteous shall see **GOD**; you *must* be Holy, you gotta live right I say,  
If you want to see **JESUS** over there; Get right Church, Get right Church I say,  
Get right Church and let's go home.

Shall a man enter **The KINGdom** if his heart ain't right; Well you gotta live Holy,  
You *must* be pleasing in **HIS Sight**.

I've got a Message, a Message for you my friend, Marvel not, you *must* be Born Again.

None but The Righteous shall see **GOD**; you *must* be Holy, you gotta live right I say.

Get right if you wanna see **JESUS!** Get right if you wanna see **JESUS!**

Get right, Get right, Get right, Get Right!