Bible/College Class Notes - From John's Gospel - Lesson 41

The 'I AM' Sayings of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This week we continue lessons which teach the almighty saving power of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the good Shepherd; the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep". John 10v11.

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

| Day | Bible Reading | Tick When Read |
|-----------|--|----------------|
| Sunday | John 10v1-18 (I AM The Good Shepherd) | |
| Monday | John 10v19-30 (My Father gave Me My 'sheep') | |
| Tuesday | John 10v31-42 (Many believe in Christ as Saviour) | |
| Wednesday | Matthew 18v1-14 (Rejoice! The lost sheep is found) | |
| Thursday | Psalm 95 (He is our God, we are His sheep) | |
| Friday | Ezekiel 34v7-16 (Do not follow unfaithful shepherds) | |
| Saturday | Psalm 23 (The Lord is my Shepherd) | |

<u>Important Lesson for us Today</u>: Many scriptures liken us to sheep. Sheep are rather silly animals who often wander away from safety into danger. One sheep will readily, thoughtlessly, follow another which reminds us of the danger of following others in the fashions, pleasures, and entertainment of this World. Once lost and in danger they cannot find their own way back to safety. **They, like us, need a Good Shepherd.**

Many scriptures liken the Lord Jesus Christ to an eastern shepherd. One who lived with, and cared for his sheep, knowing each of them by name. His sheep know the shepherd's voice, and they follow him as he leads them in safety to green pastures and by still waters. The Father has given the Shepherd His sheep. He died to save us and calls us to follow Him. Have you heard His call to repentance, and faith? Have you been rescued by Him?

Hymn 438 - tells of The Lord Jesus Christ – The Shepherd of our souls: -

| 1. | Jesus my Shepherd is; | 4. I was a wandering sheep, | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| | 'Twas He that loved my soul, | I would not be controlled; | | |
| | 'Twas He that washed me in his blood, | But now I love my Shepherd's voice, | | |
| | 'Twas He that made me whole; | I love, I love the fold. | | |
| | 'Twas He that sought the lost, | I was a wayward child, | | |
| | That found the wandering sheep, | I once preferred to roam; | | |
| | 'Twas He that brought me to the fold, | But now I love my Father's voice, | | |
| | 'Tis He that still doth keep. | I love, I love his home. | | |
| EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet | | | | |

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

Jesus Christ Said, 'I AM the Good Shepherd'

• The Eastern Shepherd – A Wonderful Picture of The Lord Jesus.

- Tough, courageous, resilient, capable with their sheep all the time.
- The Lord, as well as being The All-knowing, All-Powerful Creator God, is likened to a Good Shepherd Who loves, protects, and cares for His sheep.

• What is The God of The Bible like?

- He is Unique not like any man-made god of any man-made religion.
- $\circ~$ False gods have no kindness, love, and mercy no power to save a sinner.
- The true God makes Himself known to us through His Son, Jesus Christ, as a Good Shepherd with loving care and feeling towards lost sinners.
- The Good Shepherd Cares for His Sheep.
- $\circ~$ When They Are: -
- Lost He seeks us out, rescues us from danger, returning us to safety.
- Hungry He feeds us daily Giving spiritual food from His Word, The Bible.
- Diseased Our sin will bring death to us He heals our sickness, restores life.
- Injured We so easily go astray He heals our wounds, comforts us.
- **Devoured** Satan hunts like a wolf uses this World to steal us away. The Lord, as our Shepherd, is much stronger than Satan – Victorious.

• The Shepherd's Call.

- We must realise that we, like lost sheep, cannot find the Shepherd. The Lord Jesus must search us out and find us. **(See Luke 15v4-5).**
- $\circ~$ Often, we are far away in our unbelief and rebellion, but He will find us.
- He calls us to believe that He died on the Cross to save us. We recognise His voice as He calls us to repent of our sin, and obediently turn from it.

• Life Abundant.

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- Once saved by The Good Shepherd you will discover Life Abundant: -
- Greater joy, happiness, fulfilment, satisfaction, and know peace with God.
- Knowledge of good things along with better friends and pleasures.
- Daily strength to live for your Saviour and witness to His goodness.
- Completely confident in His promise that He will never leave you nor forsake you, knowing that none can pluck you from His hand.
- Enjoying the Lord's Help, Protection, and Guidance, through this life.
- One day He will take you, as promised, to His Eternal, Heavenly Home.

Isaiah wrote, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities." Isaiah 53v5 and 11.