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THE VOICE OF THE SHEPHERD

In John 10 we see Jesus sharing about the sheepfold. We learn that Jesus is the door into the sheepfold. John 10:7 says, ***“Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.”*** He goes on to say that all that came before him [religious dogma and teachers] were thieves and robbers where the sheep do not hear the shepherd’s voice.

In John 10:4 it says, ***“And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.”*** Again, in John 10:27, ***“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”***

I have often heard people say that God does not speak to them. This is a lie. If one is a sheep, which happens at salvation, then they will hear God speak. It may not be an audible voice, but God speaks through His word. If you do not read the word of God and study it, chances are you will not hear God speaking.

In John 10:10 Jesus speaks about a thief. It says, ***“the thief cometh not but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”*** Satan is the thief. He robs the word of God every chance he can if the ground it falls on is not good ground.

We learn from Psalm 23 that the Lord leads us. He does not push us. He does not force us. He will lead when we allow it. How are we led? We are led by his voice, either through that inner witness or through the word of God.

Jesus will lead us into green pastures. This means that he will take us to places that feed us. He does not want us to go without. He is our provider. Like any shepherd, he takes his sheep beside still waters and into the place where they are safe. He keeps us safe from the enemy [Satan] who wants to kill us, steal from us, and destroy us. The way we are safe from these three things is to let God lead us.

The Holy Spirit is our guide and our comforter. In John 16:13 it says that ***“... he will guide you into ALL truth...”*** Never doubt that God has a good plan for you. Listen to the voice of the shepherd and you will not go astray.

If you have gone astray then repent, and the Good Shepherd is right there to bring you back to the flock!