RUSSELL SANDERS 11-20-2023 THE DECEIVERS OF THE SHEEPFOLD

In John 10:1 Jesus, our Great Shepherd, said, (NKJV), "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." The parable goes on in verses 2-5.

The gatekeeper only allows in the true shepherd, and the sheep know his voice and follows him. The discerning sheep will not follow anyone else.

What is the warning in verse one? Well, the sheepfold is the church, made up of the true believers. However, there are many voices, or thieves, who try to pull away a believer. It may be a preacher or teacher who brings a false or twisted message to deceive believers. They twist the scripture. They teach a "new gospel." It can even be an entire denomination that is perverting what the bible says.

If you know the word of God and are in tune with Holy Spirit (the gatekeeper), you will not be deceived. Unfortunately, there are many who claim to be believers who do not know the written word and are not led by Holy Spirit. These are the ones that are susceptible to being drawn away by the religious robbers (false teachers).

Be true to your Great Shepherd. Study your Bible - don't just read it. Pray often and worship and adore him. This will keep you in tune with the voice of Jesus through the Holy Spirit, who will not let you be led astray by a preacher or teacher who "sounds good."

Let the Holy Spirit guard the door (gate) of the sheepfold to your heart.