

the DOOR OF THE SHEEP

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"Truly, truly, I say unto you, he who does not enter by the door into the sheepfold, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber. But he who enters in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name, and leads them out. And when he puts forth his own sheep, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him; for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him; for they know not the voice of strangers." This parable spoke Jesus unto them; but they did not understand what these things of which He spoke unto them. Then Jesus said unto them again, "Truly, truly, I say unto you, I am the Door Of The Sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not hear them. I am the Door; by Me if any man enters in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief does not come, except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I came that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the Good Shepherd; the Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But he who is a hireling, and not the shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep, and flees; and the wolf catches them, and scatters the sheep. The hireling flees, because he is a hireling, and does not care about the sheep. I am the Good Shepherd, and I know My sheep, and My own know Me. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep." (John 10:1-15)

Door: from the Greek word *thura* which means: "door, doorway, or gate, or entrance"

In the context of these verses Jesus is clearly saying that He is both: **The Door, or entrance**, through which people enter in and are saved; and He is the Good Shepherd who gives, and lays down His life for the sheep, so that they might be saved; and so that they may go in and out, and find pasture (a mentor!). (read psalm 23)

It is through Jesus, **the Door of the Sheep**, that the world, that is mankind, is able to enter in and be saved, and have everlasting life. The means by which Jesus laid down His life for His sheep was through His crucifixion on the Cross. Through His death on the cross Jesus became the Door by which people enter in and are saved. Those people who hear the voice of the Good Shepherd, and believe in Him, are His sheep, and they enter into His Kingdom and have everlasting life. It is as Jesus has said:

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must **the Son of Man** be lifted up; so that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have Eternal Life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:14-17)

Consider also this admonition and warning from Jesus:

"Enter you in by **the narrow gate**; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and many are those who go in by it; because small is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads unto life, and few are those who find it." (Matthew 7:13-14) (also read Matthew 25:1-13).

Gate: from the Greek word *pule* which means: "a gate, i.e. The leaf or wing of a folding entrance; a door; (literally or figuratively).

The **Narrow Gate** provides entrance into the Kingdom of God, and everlasting life; and only a small portion of humanity will find this gate, the Door of the Sheep – **JESUS**! The wide gate leads into destruction, and most of humanity will follow the thieves, and robbers, and hirelings through the "gates of hell" and into the lake of fire that was originally reserved for satan and his demons.

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Consider these statements of Jesus, the Door of the Sheep:

And He (Jesus) went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. Then someone said unto Him, "Lord, are there only a few who will be saved? And He said unto them, "Strive to enter in at the narrow gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the Master of the house has risen up, and has shut the door, and you begin to stand outside, and to knock at the door, saying, "Lord, Lord, open unto us;" and He shall answer and say unto you, "I know you not where you are from." Then you shall begin to say, "We have eaten and drank in Your presence, and You have taught in our streets." But He shall say, "I tell you, I do not know where you are from; depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the Kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out. And they (those few who are saved) shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the Kingdom of God. And, behold, some are last who shall be first, and some are first who shall be last. (Luke 13:22-30)

Consider this well known Psalm:

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yes, even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me.

Your rod and **Your** staff they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; and my cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: **and I** will dwell in the house **of the LORD forever**. (Psalm 23)

Jesus is ...

The Door of the Sheep ...

through whom people enter in and are saved;
through His death on the Cross;
and through whom our soul is restored;

Through Him we find comfort;
and through Him we find abundant pasture in His Kingdom;
and through Him we shall enjoy His goodness and mercy all the days of our lives!

When we enter through the Door of the Sheep – Through Jesus,
into the Sheepfold of God,

Then
we shall dwell in the House of the LORD our GOD forever, and ever!
Always, and always!

Thank You, Thank You,
Thank You Jesus!!