

## Notes on Last Sunday's Message

### John 10 THE GOOD SHEPHERD

"Jesus' Providential Care"

**I AM The Good Shepherd...and we are the sheep of His pasture.** "I am the gate for the sheep...those who come in through me will be saved. Wherever they go, they will find green pastures. The thief's purpose is to steal, kill, and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness."

• **Life is no longer random or accidental but purposeful and providential because Jesus is in our world.** He cares for us like a shepherd cares for his sheep. We shall not be harmed. He keeps us in a safe place. He protects us from the predators of life. He leads us into the green pastures of life in all its fullness.

• *The sheep hear his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them and they follow him because they recognize his voice.*"

He cares for us in our pilgrimage through this life and brings us into the heavenly sheepfold, the Father's house. All things work out for our good.

• *Psalm 121 "The Lord keeps you from all evil and preserves our life. The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go, both now and forever."*

• **Jesus laid down his life to save us from the greatest predator on the earth - the devil - who had the power of death.**

*"I am the Good Shepherd, I know my sheep and they know me, just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. And I LAY DOWN MY LIFE for the sheep..... No one will SNATCH them away from me, for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. So no one can take them from me. The Father and I are one."*

• **The call for us is to become familiar with the voice of the Good Shepherd and follow Him ...** in a world of voices. Voices of talking heads on TV. Voices of people who really do not care for us. Voices of people who are fools, who don't know what they are talking about. Voices of people who are for us but can't help us.

• *The sheep hear his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them and they follow him because they recognize his voice.*"