

## THE LORD'S SHEEP ARE SECURE

John 10:27-30

(Not entirely original with me)

**Introduction:** Some of the characteristics of sheep are that they are weak, helpless, defenseless, having little if any strength to withstand attacks by enemies. They get lost, turned around very easily and have little means to fight off sickness. They are not very fast and cannot escape danger. They must depend upon their shepherd for survival. The Bible reveals that those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ are called, in some places, His sheep. The Psalmist wrote a beautiful piece in the 23rd Psalm about the Lord being his shepherd, describing how the shepherd cared for his sheep. Having the Lord Jesus Christ as the believer's Shepherd, the believer is absolutely secure and it is not possible for any true believer in Jesus Christ to ever perish because the believer is kept, preserved by the Shepherd and the Grace of God. The security of the believer is assured, "they shall never perish..."

### I. THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS ARE DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE ELSE

1. *"...My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me..."*
2. Those who believe in the Lord Jesus are known by Him.
  - He knows WHO they are.
  - He knows WHERE they are.
  - He knows WHAT they are.
  - He knows ALL that they have done and been.
  - He knows WHAT He will make of them.
  - He knows WHEN He will bless them.
  - He knows HOW to bring them "home."
3. Those who believe in the Lord Jesus have been purchased by Him.
  - Jesus offered Himself voluntarily as a sacrifice for their sin.
  - Jesus died as their substitute, suffering the penalty of God's law for His "sheep."
  - Jesus accomplished redemption for His sheep as their Savior.
4. Those who believe in the Lord Jesus have been called by Him.
  - The good Shepherd calls His OWN sheep, not those who are not His.
  - The good Shepherd knows His OWN sheep and calls them by their names.
  - The good Shepherd leads them at all times, never learning them.
    - Out of darkness into light, out of bondage into freedom, out of death into life.
  - They follow Him and no one else.

### II. THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS ARE GIVEN A HEAVENLY GIFT

1. *"...I give unto them eternal life..."*
  - No one has eternal life by nature.
  - It does not work its way out of a person's sinful heart in some form of evolution.
  - It is given graciously from the heart of God.
  - There is nothing in a person's heart or by his/her conduct which causes God to give eternal life.
  - There is nothing in a person's heart or conduct which will cause God to take away His gracious gift.
  - It is contrary to the nature of God to take away His gifts so freely given.
  - To those whom have been given eternal life are eternally secure in the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. A believer's life is eternal because he/she is united with the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - Joined with Jesus Christ means as long as He lives, the believer lives.
  - Believers are "married" to Jesus Christ.
  - Believers are members of the Lord Jesus' body, called His Church.
  - If a single believer was ever lost, then the body of Christ would be incomplete.
3. The believer's life is eternal because he/she is kept, preserved by the power and grace of God and the Holy Spirit.
  - The Holy Spirit calls and preserves those who believe in Jesus Christ.
  - The Holy Spirit seals the believer for all eternity.

### III. THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST ARE GIVEN A PROMISE

1. **"...I give unto them eternal life..."**
  - Jesus makes an unconditional promise, considering all times, circumstances, contingencies, events, and all possibilities.
  - Jesus gives eternal life to ALL His sheep and they shall never perish.
    - No matter if their faith is weak.
    - No matter if they are young and their passions strong.
    - No matter if they are tempted.
    - No matter if they are tested, tried.
    - No matter if "all hell breaks loose against them.
    - No matter if they sin.
    - No matter if they fall.
    - No matter how often they fall.
  - Jesus' promise is not to just an elect few, but it is to all His flock.
2. Believers in Jesus shall never perish because:
  - The promise of God must be fulfilled. (**2 Timothy 2:19; 1 John 3:19**)
  - The purpose of God cannot be changed or confused. (**John 6:37-40**)
    - God's covenant, agreement cannot be changed or nullified.
    - God's purpose in giving eternal grace cannot be overturned.
    - The power, reign of the Lord Jesus Christ cannot be defeated or changed.
3. The redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ cannot be done away with.
  - Jesus paid all debts of those who believe in Him - they have no debt to pay.
  - Jesus bore all the punishment due those who believe in Him - there is no punishment left for them.
  - Jesus satisfied all offended justice of God for those who believe in Him - there is nothing left for the believer to satisfy.
4. The justification of those who believe in Jesus Christ (by God's grace) cannot be reversed.
  - Believers in Jesus Christ have been legally (in God's court) justified.
  - God will not impute sin to those who believe in His Son.
  - God has put away the sins forever of those who believe in His Son.
  - Believers in Jesus Christ are accepted by God because of their belief in His Son.

5. What God's Grace does can never be changed or defeated.
  - God is willing to complete His work in the believer.
  - God is wise enough to complete His work in the believer.
  - God is strong enough to complete His work in the believer
6. Jesus' intercessory work for the believer will continue.
  - The indwelling, the seal of the believer by the Holy Spirit cannot be broken. (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)

#### **IV. THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST ARE DIVINELY SECURED**

1. **"...Neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand..."**
  - The hands of the Lord Jesus Christ are those that were pierced to redeem those who believe.
  - The hands of the Lord Jesus Christ are those with omnipotent power.
  - The hands of the Lord Jesus Christ hold the reins of dominion everywhere.
  - The hands of the Lord Jesus Christ holds the believer in his/her life.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

1. **"...MYSHEEP..."** a divine distinction among mankind.
2. **"...I GIVE UNTO THEM ETERNAL LIFE..."** a divine gift to those who believe in Jesus Christ.
3. **"...THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH..."** a divine promise to those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. **"...NEITHER SHALL ANY MAN PLUCK THEM OUT OF MY HAND..."** a divine security.
5. How does one receive such grace and security from God?
  - Any one who trusts Jesus Christ alone as Lord and Savior in all sincerity is given eternal life.
  - If you trust Him, it is for YOU.
6. All who have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ are given by the grace of God, eternal life.
  - Have you believed in the Lord Jesus Christ? If you have, then YOU have eternal life and you shall never perish.