

“WORD OF LIFE”

June 01, 2025

48. CHRIST IN HIS PERSON (28) – In the **Parables** of the New Testament

P – 32. The **Door** to Leave the Fold,
the **Pasture** to Feed the Sheep, and
the **Shepherd** in the Parable of the Sheepfold

Hymns: # 154 / # 221 / # 30

✚ “So that what was spoken through the prophet [Psa. 78:2] might be fulfilled, saying,
‘I will open My mouth in **parables**; I will utter things **hidden** from the foundation of the world’.” (Matt 13:35)

[Parable – Life shepherding-for the believers outside of religion]

Joh 10:9 - I am the **door**; if anyone enters through Me,
he shall be saved and shall **go in** and **go out** and shall find **pasture**.

Joh 10:10 - The thief does not come except to steal and kill and destroy;
I have come that they may have **life** and may have *it* abundantly.

Joh 10:11 - I am the good **Shepherd**; the good Shepherd **lays down His life** for the sheep.

✚ “...He taught them many things in **parables**... (Mark 4:2)
“...Why do You speak in **parables** to them? (Mat 13:10)
“...And His **disciples** came to Him, saying, Make the **parable** ... clear to us. (Matt. 13:36)

❖ Christ is the **door**, the **pasture**, and the **shepherd** (John 10:9, 11).

➤ Christ is the **door** of the Old Testament **sheepfold**.

- The sheepfold **signifies** the **law**, or **Judaism** as a religion of the law,
 - in which the sheep, God’s chosen people, were kept until Christ came.
 - God used the law **to keep** His chosen people and guard them in custody and ward until Christ came.
- All the Old Testament saints **entered** the **sheepfold** through Christ.
 - First, God’s people in the Old Testament **went into** the fold.
 - But when the Lord Jesus came, it was time for them to **go out** of the fold.
 - Christ as the **door** is both the **entrance** and the **exit** of the sheepfold.

➤ Christ is **also** the **pasture** to which **they are brought**.

- The pasture **signifies** Christ as the **feeding place** for the sheep.
 - To be in the **pasture** to enjoy its riches is final and permanent.
 - **Now**, since Christ has come, all God’s chosen people must **come out of the law** and come into Him to enjoy Him as their **pasture** (Gal. 3:23-25; 4:3-5).
 - The pasture is a **place** full of the **supply of life**.

➤ Christ is **not only** the **door** and the **pasture** **but also** the **Shepherd** (John 10:3).

- The sheep **know His voice and follow Him** (v. 4).
- Christ takes the sheep out of the fold through Himself as the **door** and to Himself as the **pasture**.
- The Lord Jesus says, (vv.10, 11)
“I came that they may have **life** and may have it abundantly,”
“I am the good **shepherd**; the good shepherd lays down His **life** for the sheep.”

✚ “And having the **same spirit of faith** according to that which is written,
“I **believed**, therefore I **spoke**,” we also **believe**, therefore we also **speak**,” (2Cor. 4:13)

✚ As a man the Lord Jesus has the psuche life, the human life, and as God He has the zoe life, the divine life. He **laid down His soul**, His psuche life, to accomplish redemption for us so that we may **share His zoe life**, His divine life, the eternal life, by which we may **be formed into one flock** under Himself as the one shepherd.

✚ Christ is our **door**, our **pasture**, and our **Shepherd**. As the door He is our **freedom**, as the pasture He is our **life supply**, and as our Shepherd He is **leading**, **guiding**, and **directing** us in the divine life.

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| <p style="text-align: center;">Hymn 154 Praise of the Lord – His Love</p> <p>1 It passeth knowledge, that dear love of Thine, My Savior, Jesus; yet this soul of mine Would of Thy love in all its breadth and length, Its height and depth, its everlasting strength, Know more and more.</p> <p>2 It passeth telling, that dear love of Thine, My Savior, Jesus; yet these lips of mine Would fain proclaim to sinners, far and near, A love which can remove all guilty fear, And love beget.</p> <p>3 It passeth praises, that dear love of Thine, My Savior, Jesus; yet this heart of mine Would sing that love, so full, so rich, so free, Which brings a rebel sinner, such as me, Nigh unto God.</p> <p>4 But though I cannot sing, or tell, or know The fulness of Thy love, while here below, My empty vessel I may freely bring; O Thou, who art of love the living spring, My vessel fill.</p> <p>5 I am an empty vessel—not one thought Or look of love to Thee I’ve ever brought; Yet I may come, and come again to Thee, With this the empty sinner’s only plea, Thou lovest me.</p> <p>6 Oh, fill me, Jesus, Savior, with Thy love! Lead, lead me to the living fount above; Thither may I, in simple faith draw nigh, And never to another fountain fly, But unto Thee.</p> <p>7 Lord Jesus, when Thee face to face I see, When on Thy lofty throne I sit with Thee, Then of Thy love, in all its breadth and length, Its height and depth, its everlasting strength, My soul shall sing.</p> <p>Rom 8:37 – But in all these things we more than conquer through Him who loved us.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Hymn 221 Praise the Lord – Remembrance of Him</p> <p>1 Lord, we thank Thee for the table, With the bread and with the wine; At this table we enjoy Thee As the feast of love divine. We partake the bread, the emblem Of Thy body giv’n for us; And we share the wine, the symbol Of Thy blood Thou shedd’st for us.</p> <p>Chorus: Lo, the holy table! With the sacred symbols; Its significance in figure Is unsearchable!</p> <p>2 By the death of Thy redemption, That Thy life Thou may impart, E’en Thyself to us Thou gavest That we share in all Thou art. By the bread and wine partaking, We Thy death display and prove; Eating, drinking of Thyself, Lord, We remember Thee with love.</p> <p>3 By this bread which signifieth Thy one body mystical, We commune with all Thy members In one bond identical. By this holy cup of blessing, Cup of wine which now we bless, Of Thy blood we have communion With all those who faith possess.</p> <p>4 Thou art our eternal portion, Here we take a sweet foretaste; We are waiting for Thy kingdom, And Thy coming now we haste. At Thy coming, in Thy kingdom, With all saints that overcome, We anew will feast upon Thee And Thy loving Brude become.</p> <p>John 6:47–50 Truly, truly, I say to you, He who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, that anyone may eat of it and not die.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Hymn 30 Worship of the Father – His Love</p> <p>1 What love Thou hast bestowed on us, We thank Thee from our heart; Our Father, we would worship Thee And praise for all Thou art.</p> <p>2 Thy heart Thou hast revealed to us, Made known th’ eternal will; Within the Son Thou hast come forth, Thy purpose to fulfill.</p> <p>3 Thou gavest Thy beloved Son In love to come and die, That we may be Thy many sons, As heirs with Him, made nigh.</p> <p>4 Through Him we have Thy very life And Thou our Father art; Thy very nature, all Thyself, Thou dost to us impart.</p> <p>5 Thy Spirit into ours has come That we may “Abba” cry; Of Spirit born, with Spirit sealed, To be transformed thereby.</p> <p>6 The many sons to glory brought Is Thine eternal goal, And to Thy Son’s own image wrought, Thou wilt conform the whole.</p> <p>7 Throughout Thy transformation work Thou dost direct each one, From glory unto glory bring Until the work is done.</p> <p>8 What love Thou, Father, hast bestowed; We’ll ever grateful be; We’ll worship Thee forevermore And praise unceasingly.</p> <p>1John 3:1–2 Behold what manner of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; ... Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet been manifested what we will be. We know that if He is manifested, we will be like Him because we will see Him even as He is.</p> |
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