

**THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND THE SHEEP**  
**Communion Meditation June 3, 2018 John 10: 11**  
**The Church of the Covenant**

I always remember in a former church of mine the large stained glass window with a picture of Jesus, as the Good Shepherd, cradling a little lamb in his arms. He has a both fierce and loving expression on His face, as in, I will not let anything in life or in death snatch one of my sheep out of my everlasting arms. It is the essence of **The Good Shepherd and the Sheep**. I hope some of you will stay after the service for the stained glass window tour because there is a far, far better sermon than the one you will hear today displayed in these stained glass windows for all to see...

Jesus says: *"I am the door of the sheep."* (John 10: 7). You cannot enter into the sheepfold of God but by this door, the portal, the entry point, the way provided by God, the door, who is Jesus. The Good Shepherd separates the sheep from the goats and bids the sheep of HIS pasture entry into the sheepfold of God. –The Good Shepherd and the Sheep.

Again Jesus says: *"I am the door...I came that they might have life and life abundantly."* (John 10: 10) He is the way and the truth and the life. Following the Good Shepherd is our assurance of the blessings of LIFE and of ABUNDANT LIFE. This is what the Good Shepherd provides for His sheep. –The Good Shepherd and the Sheep.

Jesus says, *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep."* (John 10: 11) I am the One who goes to the cross, who suffers and dies, who is sacrificed as the Lamb of God, so that my sheep will not perish but have eternal life. Calvary proves that this shepherd is the GOOD shepherd. –The Good Shepherd and the Sheep.

Jesus says: *"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me."* (John 10: 14) *"My sheep hear my voice"*, says Jesus. (v. 27) They see me, spiritually, they speak with me, in prayer, they see my hand at work in their lives. They know me personally; they have a personal relationship with me. I know them. They spend time in prayer and study and worship to know me. I know them by name and I know them by heart. Even the hairs on their head are numbered so do I know them. Not a sparrow falls in the life of my sheep that I do not know and care about. –The Good Shepherd and the Sheep.

Jesus says to you today: *"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me, and I give them eternal life and they shall never perish..."* (John 10: 27-28) When we follow the Good Shepherd, when we commit our lives to be sheep of His pasture and sheepfold alone, when we follow Him beside still waters and into green pastures, and through every valley of every shadow, including death itself, in this life, then, O then, HE gives us life, and abundant life, and eternal life and promises to His sheep that we will NEVER PERISH. Praise God! –The Good Shepherd and the Sheep.

Jesus says to you today, and indeed His sheep hear His voice: *“And no one shall snatch them out of my hand.” (John 10: 28)* Sometimes, O little lamb, the Good Shepherd may feel far away. Sometimes, O little lamb, His voice may even feel silent. Sometimes in life the trials and the difficulties come, and seek to lie to our heart that the Good Shepherd really isn't GOOD and that Jesus really doesn't care about us. Do not ever believe it. He has promised that NO ONE and NOTHING can ever snatch you out of His Almighty Hand.

The Good Shepherd lays down His life for you –at His cross and at every cross you face in your life. And no cross, and nothing in life or in death, can snatch you out of the Good Shepherd's hand. Follow the Good Shepherd. Come to this table. Enter by the door Jesus has provided. Enter into the safe and secure sheepfold of God through the Good Shepherd who is always GOOD, today and forever. Amen and Amen.

*By: The Reverend Dr. Stuart D. Broberg, The Church of the Covenant, Washington, PA  
IF THIS HAS BLESSED YOU, PLEASE PASS IT ALONG TO A FRIEND!*