



“Wicked Shepherds & Lost Sheep”
Ezekiel 34 & John 10

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Another Look at Jesus: Messiah & Rabbi of the Jews
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Jesus – the Jewish Rabbi

There are so many amazing parallels between the Old Testament scriptures and Jesus' teaching that we often fail to realize the depth of what He is saying! His call to discipleship is so radical and His claim to be Messiah is so unmistakable to anyone who will search the Old Testament prophets. Let's look at a few of these:

Luke 19:10 "For the Son of man is come to seek and save that which was lost."

Is a continuation of God's Words in to Israel in Ezekiel Chapter 34.

Ezekiel 34:11 "For thus says the Lord God: Behold I, even I, will both search my sheep and seek them out. 12. As a shepherd seeks out his flock that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

Ezekiel 34:16 "I will seek that which is lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which is broken, and will strengthen that which was sick:"

Matthew 18:11-12 "For the Son of man is come to save that which is lost. How think you? If a man has 100 sheep and one of them strays away, does he not leave the 99 and go into the mountains and seeks that which has strayed? "

Now how easy it is to contrast Ezekiel 34 – God's judgment of Israel's wicked religious leaders as shepherds with Jesus as "the Good Shepherd" in Luke 10:1-18!

Ezekiel 34:2 "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy and say to them, Thus says the Lord God to the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flock?

3. You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with wool, you kill them that are fed: but you feed NOT the flock. 4. The diseased you have NOT strengthened, neither have you healed those which are sick, neither have you bound up that which was broken, neither have you brought again that which was driven away; neither have you sought that which was lost: but with force and with cruelty have you ruled them. 5. And they were scattered, because there is NO shepherd; and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered. 6. My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and upon every high hill. Yes, my flock was scattered upon all the face of the earth and you did NOT search or seek after them. 7. Therefore you shepherds, hear the Word of the Lord. 8. As I live, says the Lord God, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field, because there was NO shepherd, neither did my shepherds search for my flock, but my shepherds fed themselves and did NOT feed my flock.

10. Thus says the Lord God, Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cease them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves anymore; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them."

Ezekiel 34:23 "And I will set up one shepherd over them, even My servant David; He shall feed them and He shall be their shepherd." (David has been dead for over 500 years, clearly this is Jesus, the Son of David – Rev 22:16)

Jesus - The Good Shepherd!

John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd, the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. 12. But he that is a hireling and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep, and flees: and the wolf catches them and scatters the sheep. 13. The hireling flees, because he is a hireling, and cares not for the sheep. 14. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of Mine."

Strong warning to pastors who fed off the sheep (\$\$\$) and do not feed the sheep! Jesus calls them "hirelings" who will flee in times of trouble.

False Shepherds (Hirelings) have These Qualities - John 10

1. They do not access the right door – Jesus – They come in on their own
2. They climb up to spiritual positions on other people's efforts – back door
3. They are thieves and robbers
4. They drive the sheep by force, intimidation or clever manipulation
5. They operate the same as the enemy – kill, steal and destroy peoples' faith
6. They are hirelings – think ministry is financial gain - more sheep = \$\$\$\$\$
7. They abandon the sheep when danger comes
8. They scatter the sheep, leaving them vulnerable to wolves and prey
9. They do not really care for the sheep – they separate themselves from the people

Wicked Shepherds have These Qualities – Ezekiel 34

1. They feed themselves; they do not feed the sheep
2. They eat the fat and clothe themselves with the wool – only the best for these leaders while the sheep are poor and needy
3. They eat the best and wear the most expensive clothes on other people's money
4. They do not strengthen the diseased, not heal the sick
5. They do not bind up those that are broken
6. They do not search after those that are driven away from church
7. They do not seek those who are lost – instead they scatter the people
8. They rule their flocks with total submission, intimidation and force, no accountability
'My way or the highway' "Touch not the Lord's anointed"
9. They tread down good people and muddy the pure waters (pollute)
10. They make them a prey to evil
11. They do not believe they will be judged by GOD!

Ezekiel 34 - "The Wicked Shepherds & Lost Sheep"

1. And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,
2. Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say to them,
Thus says the Lord God unto the shepherds;
Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves!
Should not the shepherds feed the flocks?
3. You eat the fat, and clothe yourselves with the wool,
you kill them that are fed: but you feed not the flock.
4. The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick,
neither have ye bound up that which was broken,
neither have ye brought again that which was driven away,
neither have ye sought that which was lost;
but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.
5. And they were scattered, because there is no shepherd:
and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered.
6. My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and upon every high hill: yes, my flock
was scattered upon all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek after them.
7. Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord;
8. As I live, says the Lord God, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock
became meat to every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, neither did my
shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock;
9. Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the Lord;
10. Thus says the Lord God; Behold, I am against the shepherds;
and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock;
neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more;
for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them.
11. For thus says the Lord God;
Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.
12. As a shepherd seeks out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep
that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places
where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.
13. And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries,
and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel
by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.
14. I will feed them in a good pasture & on the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be:
there shall they lie in a good fold,
and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel.
15. I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, says the Lord God.

16. I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away,
and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick:
but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.
17. And as for you, O my flock, thus says the Lord God;
Behold, I judge between cattle and cattle, between the rams and the he goats.
18. Seem it a small thing unto you to have eaten up the good pasture,
but you must tread down with your feet the residue of your pastures?
and to have drunk of the deep waters, but you must foul the residue with your feet?
19. And as for my flock, they eat that which you have trodden with your feet;
and they drink that which ye have fouled with your feet.
20. Therefore thus says the Lord God unto them; Behold, I,
even I will judge between the fat cattle and between the lean cattle.
21. Because ye have thrust with side and with shoulder,
and pushed all the diseased with your horns, till ye have scattered them abroad;
22. Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey;
and I will judge between cattle and cattle.
23. And I will set up one shepherd over them, and He shall feed them,
even my servant David; He shall feed them, and He shall be their shepherd.
24. And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them;
I the Lord have spoken it.
25. And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease
out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.
26. And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing;
and I will cause the shower to come down in his season;
there shall be showers of blessing.
27. And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase,
and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the Lord,
when I have broken the bands of their yoke,
and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.
28. And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land
devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid.
29. And I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed
with hunger in the land, neither bare the shame of the heathen any more.
30. Thus shall they know that I the Lord their God am with them,
and that they, even the house of Israel, are my people, says the Lord God.
31. And you My flock, the flock of my pasture, are men,
and I am your God, says the Lord God.

Ezekiel 34:23 "And I will set up one Shepherd over them,
and He shall feed them, even **את** My servant David,
and He shall be their Shepherd."

"The Aleph Tav **את** Code for the Messiah JESUS "

is found here in Ezekiel 34:23 – Clearly naming Jesus as the
Son of David, who will sit on the throne of God forever!

The untranslated **את** are the first and last letters of the
Hebrew alphabet and signify the Alpha and the Omega –
Identifies Jesus as Messiah in Revelation 1:8: 2:8: 21:6: 22:13

34:23 **את** אֶתְהוֹן וְרֹעֵה אֶחָד רֹעֵה עֲלֵיהֶם וְהִקְמַתִּי
לְרֹעֵה: לָהֶן וְהוּא־יְהִי אִתָּם יִרְעֶה הוּא דָוִד

Masoretic Text

English (KJV) [?]	Reverse Interlinear		Root Form (Hebrew)
		Strong's	
And I will set up	PHR	h6965	קוּמַתְּ quwm
one		h259	אֶחָד 'echad
shepherd		h7462	רֹעֵה ra`ah
over them, and he shall feed	PHR	h7462	רֹעֵה ra`ah
them, <i>even</i> my servant	PHR	h5650	עֶבֶד `ebed
David;		h1732	דָּוִד David
he shall feed	PHR	h7462	רֹעֵה ra`ah
them, and he shall be their shepherd.	PHR	h7462	רֹעֵה ra`ah

1. Verily, verily, I say to you, He that enters not by the door into the sheepfold,
but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.
2. But He that enters in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
3. To Him the porter opens; and the sheep hear His voice:
and He calls His own sheep by name, and leads them out.
4. And when He put forth his own sheep,
He goes before them, and the sheep follow Him: for they know His voice.
5. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him:
for they know not the voice of strangers.
6. This parable spoke Jesus unto them:
but they understood not what things that He spoke to them.
7. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say to you,
I am the door of the sheep.
8. All that ever came before Me are thieves & robbers: but the sheep didn't hear them.
9. I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved,
and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
10. The thief comes not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:
I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.
11. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.
12. But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not,
sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees:
and the wolf catches them, and scatters the sheep.
13. The hireling flees, because he is an hireling, and cares not for the sheep.
14. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.
15. As the Father knows Me, even so know I the Father:
and I lay down my life for the sheep.
16. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring,
and they shall hear My voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.
17. Therefore doth My Father love me, because I lay down My life,
that I might take it again.
18. No man takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I
have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of My Father.
19. There was a division therefore again among the Jews for these sayings.
20. And many of them said, He has a devil, and is mad; why hear Him?
21. Others said, These are not the words of him that has a devil.
Can a devil open the eyes of the blind?
22. And it was at Jerusalem the Feast of Dedication (Hanukkah), and it was winter.
23. And Jesus walked in the Temple in Solomon's porch.
24. Then came the Jews round about Him, and said unto him,
How long do You make us to doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.
25. Jesus answered them, I told you, and you believed not:
the works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me.

26. But you believe not, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you.
27. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me:
28. And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish,
neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand.
29. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all;
and no man is able to pluck them out of My Father's hand.
30. I and My Father are one.
31. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him.
32. Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shown you from My Father;
for which of those works do you stone Me?
33. The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone You not;
but for blasphemy; and because that You, being a man, make Yourself God.
34. Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your Law, I said, You are gods? ****
35. If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came,
and the scripture cannot be broken;
36. Say you of Him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world,
You blaspheme; because I said, I am the Son of God?
37. If I do not the works of My Father, believe Me not.
38. But if I do, though you believe not Me, believe the works: that you may know,
and believe, that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.
39. Therefore they sought again to take Him: but He escaped out of their hand,
40. And went away again beyond Jordan into the place where John at first baptized;
and there he abode.
41. And many resorted to Him, and said, John did no miracle:
but all things that John spoke of this man were true.
42. And many believed on Him there.

'You are Gods ' - Jesus is quoting PSALM 82:6 - Talking about Magistrates and Rulers

The whole point of Psalm 82 is that earthly judges must act with impartiality and true justice, because even judges must stand someday before the Judge. Verses 6 and 7 warn human magistrates that they, too, must be judged: "I said, 'You are gods; you are all sons of the Most High.' But you will die like mere men; you will fall like every other ruler." This passage is saying that God has appointed men to positions of authority in which they are considered as gods among the people. They are to remember that, even though they are representing God in this world, they are mortal and must eventually give an account to God for how they used that authority.

Now, let's look at how Jesus uses this passage. Jesus had just claimed to be the Son of God (John 10:25-30). The unbelieving Jews respond by charging Jesus with blasphemy, since He claimed to be God (verse 33). Jesus then quotes Psalm 82:6, reminding the Jews that the Law refers to mere men—albeit men of authority and prestige—as "gods." Jesus' point is this: you charge me with blasphemy based on my use of the title "Son of God"; yet your own Scriptures apply the same term to magistrates in general. If those who hold a divinely appointed office can be considered "gods," how much more can the One whom God has chosen and sent.

The True Church of Jesus Christ in the Final Days

As we read the judgment of God over Israel's spiritual leaders who had corrupted His ministry and abused His people – We clearly see the overwhelming love of the Father for the sheep. Jesus came the first time to minister to the Jews and to proclaim Himself as their Messiah. The Word tells us that He wept when He saw that they did not recognize the day of His visitation. We also see in His words what the true Church of Jesus Christ is called to do - even more so as we sense by the Spirit of God that the End of the Church Age is drawing to a close.

1. Present Jesus Christ as the ONLY DOOR to salvation and to eternal life.
2. Understand we can know His voice – that we are to be LED by the Holy Spirit.
3. Others will come in ministry roles that are hirelings and wolves.
4. Partner with and serve in a trustworthy, Word inspired, Holy Spirit led Church.
We have been given the gift of discernment – Trust the Holy Spirit!
How leaders handle the WORD will be a critical discernment!
5. The True Church has an Urgent Message and Mission:
 - * Seek Those that are Lost – Heart for the Unsaved, Unchurched
 - Feed the Sheep – Strong Word Teaching, training in Godly principles
 - Heal the Sick – Lay Hands on the Sick and Pray for Healing in Jesus' Name
 - Bind up the Broken- Hearted
 - Strengthen the Weak - Be an Encourager
 - Look for those who have been Scattered or driven away from Church
 - Minister with Love, Mercy and Compassion, not force, cruelty, and intimidation

“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, may give to you the Spirit of wisdom and understanding in the knowledge of HIM: that the eyes of your understanding being enlightened, that you may KNOW what is the HOPE of His calling, and what the riches of the Glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the EXCEEDING greatness of His POWER toward us who believe, according to the working of His MIGHTY POWER, which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set HIM at His own right hand in heavenly places – far above every principality, and power and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in the world to come. And He has put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the HEAD over all things in the Church, which is HIS BODY, the fullness of Him that fills us all in ALL. ” Ephesians 1:17-23