

Notes: Shabbat – September 27, 2014

Start: 10 am

Order of Service:

Meet and Greet
Introduction (if new people)
Announcements
Open in Prayer for service
Liturgy – Shema
Praise and Worship Songs
Message
Time of Prayer
Aaronic Blessing
Kiddush
Oneg

Introduction: Characteristics of Sheep

Why does Yeshua identify Himself as the Great Shepherd and us as sheep?

- If sheep have a shepherd – they know their shepherd and the shepherd is most effective in calming them.

So when we read John 10:1 – we are reading about sheep that have a shepherd, not shepherd less sheep.

As a Shepherd for the lost sheep of Israel, He is their shepherd:

- John 10:1 – 15

Joh 10:1 "Yes, indeed! I tell you, the person who doesn't enter the sheep-pen through the door, but climbs in some other way, is a thief and a robber.

Joh 10:2 But the one who goes in through the gate is the sheep's own shepherd.

Joh 10:3 This is the one the gate-keeper admits, **and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep, each one by name, and leads them out.**

Joh 10:4 **After taking out all that are his own, he goes on ahead of them; and the sheep follow him because they recognize his voice.**

Joh 10:5 **They never follow a stranger but will run away from him, because strangers' voices are unfamiliar to them."**

- timid, fearful, easily panicked
- gullible, dumb, stupid
- vulnerable to fear

Joh 10:6 Yeshua used this indirect manner of speaking with them, but they didn't understand what he was talking to them about.

Joh 10:7 So Yeshua said to them again, "Yes, indeed! I tell you that I am the gate for the sheep.

Joh 10:8 All those who have come before me have been thieves and robbers, but the sheep didn't listen to them.

Joh 10:9 I am the gate; if someone enters through me, he will be safe and will go in and out and find pasture.

Joh 10:10 The thief comes only in order to steal, kill and destroy; I have come so that they may have life, life in its fullest measure.

Joh 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Joh 10:12 The hired hand, since he isn't a shepherd and the sheep aren't his own, sees the wolf coming, abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf drags them off and scatters them.

Joh 10:13 The hired worker behaves like this because that's all he is, a hired worker; so it doesn't matter to him what happens to the sheep.

Joh 10:14 I am the good shepherd; I know my own, and my own know me —

Joh 10:15 just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father — and I lay down my life on behalf of the sheep.

There are more sheep from another pen, not of Israel that He identifies:

- John 10:16

Joh 10:16 Also I have other sheep which are not from this pen; I need to bring them, and they will hear my voice; and there will be one flock, one shepherd.

Some additional characteristics of a sheep:

- easily influenced by a leader – the shepherd
- vulnerable to mob psychology
- cannot defend themselves
- jealous
- competitive for dominance
- little discernment in choosing food,
- stubborn – will insist on their own way
- creatures of habit
- easily cast (thrown down), flipped over on their back
- look for easy places to rest
- require the most care of any livestock
- need to be on the move, having a per-determined plan for grazing
- totally dependent of the shepherd for every need
- require “rod and staff” guidance

Kefa (Peter) has a few things to say:

- Past tense observation by Peter - 1 Peter 2:25 (quoting Isaiah 53:6)

1Pe 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the stake, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness — by his wounds you were healed.

1Pe 2:25 For you used to be like sheep gone astray, but now you have turned to the Shepherd, who watches over you.

- Peter's instruction to the congregation and leaders: 1 Peter 5:1 – 10

1Pe 5:1 Therefore, I urge the congregation leaders among you, as a fellow-leader and witness to the Messiah's sufferings, as well as a sharer in the glory to be revealed:

1Pe 5:2 shepherd the flock of God that is in your care, exercising oversight not out of constraint, but willingly, as God wants; and not out of a desire for dishonest gain, but with enthusiasm;

1Pe 5:3 also not as machers domineering over those in your care, but as people who become examples to the flock.

1Pe 5:4 Then, when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive glory as your unfading crown.

1Pe 5:5 Likewise, you who are less experienced, submit to leaders. Further, all of you should clothe yourselves in humility toward one another, because God opposes the arrogant, but to the humble he gives grace.

1Pe 5:6 Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that at the right time he may lift you up.

1Pe 5:7 Throw all your anxieties upon him, because he cares about you.

1Pe 5:8 Stay sober, stay alert! Your enemy, the Adversary, stalks about like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

1Pe 5:9 Stand against him, firm in your trust, knowing that your brothers throughout the world are going through the same kinds of suffering.

1Pe 5:10 You will have to suffer only a little while; after that, God, who is full of grace, the one who called you to his eternal glory in union with the Messiah, will himself restore, establish and strengthen you and make you firm.

1Pe 5:11 To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The seeds are out there for what I talked about on Yom Kippur...

With the rise in anti-semitism in Europe to the point where Jewish people are hiding their identity and avoiding publicly attending synagogue for the High Holidays, we may not be too far from this happening here.

A seed that was brought to my attention through the Rabbi's forum could have an affect on this country, dependent upon who takes hold of its information.

<http://www.framingtheworld.com/m2z.html>

http://www.texemarrs.com/042011/protocols_article.htm

Shabbat Shuvah literally means "Sabbath of Return," but it is also a play on the phrase "Shabbat Teshuvah" (Sabbath of Repentance).

It is the Shabbat that occurs between [Rosh Hashanah](#) and [Yom Kippur](#) and is a time for reflection leading up to the atonement of Yom Kippur.

Given the many lies that are going to be transmitted by this movie towards the Jewish people. I tell you this because you have taken on this mantle, being in a Messianic Jewish Synagogue.

Shabbat Shuvah has two special [haftarah](#) readings, one dealing with the importance of heartfelt repentance (Hosea 14:2-10) and one praising the Creator's mercy (Micah 7:18-20).

Speaking of Adonai's mercy we read...

Mic 7:18 Who is a God like you, pardoning the sin and overlooking the crimes of the remnant of his heritage? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in grace.

Mic 7:19 He will again have compassion on us, he will subdue our iniquities. You will throw all their sins into the depths of the sea.

Mic 7:20 You will show truth to Ya`akov and grace to Avraham, as you have sworn to our ancestors since days of long ago.

Speaking of the importance of a heartfelt repentance...

Hos 14:1 (14:2) Return, Isra'el, to Adonai your God, for your guilt has made you stumble.

Hos 14:2 (14:3) Take words with you, and return to Adonai; say to him, "Forgive all guilt, and accept what is good; we will pay instead of bulls [*the offerings of*] our lips.

Hos 14:3 (14:4) Ashur will not save us, we will not ride on horses, and we will no longer call what we made with our hands our gods. For it is only in you that the fatherless can find mercy."

Hos 14:4 (14:5) "I will heal their disloyalty, I will love them freely; for my anger has turned from him.

Hos 14:5 (14:6) I will be like dew to Isra'el; he will blossom like a lily and strike roots like the L'vanon.

Hos 14:6 (14:7) His branches will spread out, his beauty be like an olive tree and his fragrance like the L'vanon.

Hos 14:7 (14:8) Again they will live in his shade and raise grain; they will blossom like a vine, and its aroma will be like the wine of the L'vanon.

Hos 14:8 (14:9) Efrayim [*will say*], 'What have I to do any more with idols?' And I, I answer and affirm him; I am like a fresh, green cypress tree; your fruitfulness comes from me."

Hos 14:9 (14:10) Let the wise understand these things, and let the discerning know them. For the ways of Adonai are straight, And the righteous walk in them, but in them sinners stumble.