

John 10:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

Analysis

The 'door' metaphor emphasizes exclusivity: Christ is THE door (definite article), not A door among many. This confronts religious pluralism. As the door, Christ is both the entrance to salvation and the protector of His sheep. In ancient sheepfolds, the shepherd literally became the door, lying across the entrance. This 'I AM' statement claims divine authority—only God can be humanity's exclusive way to life.

Historical Context

Palestinian shepherds used temporary fold enclosures with a single entrance. The shepherd's body served as the door, protecting sheep from thieves and predators. This would resonate with Jesus' audience familiar with shepherding practices.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does Christ being the 'only door' challenge contemporary views of multiple paths to God?

2. What does it mean that Christ not only opens the door but IS the door?

Interlinear Text

Εἶπεν	οὖν	πάλιν	αὐτοῖς	ό	Ἰησοῦς	ἀμὴν	ἀμὴν	λέγω
said	Then	again	unto them	G3588	Jesus	Verily	Verily	I say
G2036	G3767	G3825	G846		G2424	G281	G281	G3004
ὑμῖν	ὅτι	ἐγώ	εἰμι	ή	θύρα	τῶν	προβάτων	
unto you	G3754	I	am	G3588	the door	G3588	of the sheep	
G5213		G1473	G1510		G2374		G4263	

Additional Cross-References

John 14:6 (References Jesus): Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Ephesians 2:18 (Parallel theme): For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

John 10:1 (Parallel theme): Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

John 10:9 (Parallel theme): I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Ezekiel 34:31 (Parallel theme): And ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, are men, and I am your God, saith the Lord GOD.

Psalms 79:13 (Parallel theme): So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks for ever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations.

Psalms 100:3 (Parallel theme): Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Psalms 95:7 (Parallel theme): For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice,

Isaiah 53:6 (Parallel theme): All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

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