

THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

GFT-27 "OUR SECURITY IN THE SHEPHERD"

Geof W. Jackson, Instructor HomeChurch Bible Class

geofj@homechurchok.com

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JOHN 10:28-29 *I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.* ²⁹ *My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.*

Jesus' confrontations with the Jewish Leaders were not going to end... *even after His death and resurrection*. No matter what He answered, they "**would not believe**". But Jesus had a more important audience than those harassing opponents. He was speaking to the people who stood by. Although they would later follow the coercion of the Leaders and join in the cries for Jesus' death, after the Day of Pentecost, multitudes would be reminded of Jesus' words and works... and become Believers.

Plus... Jesus was speaking to us today. Even as the controversy remains. We do our best to bring people to the Truth, but not ALL will believe. We use His words, and the record of His works but they are rejected or dismissed on the basis of people's own "**logic**".

What Jesus wanted the people of Jerusalem, and us, to know is: **IF we are His Sheep, HE gives us Eternal Life, and WE are forever Secure in Him.**

JOHN 10:27-30 *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.* ²⁸ *I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.*

²⁹ *My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.* ³⁰ *I and the Father are one."*

THEIR LIFE

➤ 10:27) "My **sheep hear** my voice, and **I know them**, and **they follow me.**"

- Jesus made it clear in the first part of JOHN 10 that HIS sheep are the ones who "**hear His voice**"
- HE is the "**Door of the Sheepfold**" - No one enters except by Him...
- HE is the "**Good Shepherd**" ... laying-down His life for them...
- He **knows** them... He **calls** them... and **they follow** His voice...

Notice:

- It is "**His Sheep**" not The Sheep or Some Sheep
- This is about Leading His OWN / Caring for them through Life... NOT bringing them to Salvation
- They are **already** HIS sheep - he is not calling them to become His... the ARE His
- The verbs **Hear**, **Know**, and **Follow** are all in a present tense ...
 - They **ARE Hearing** His continual comforting, guiding, and correcting voice...
 - He **IS Knowing** them - he continually knows about them, their condition and what they need...
 - They **ARE Following** Him as He leads daily through their lives...

All of these convey an ongoing continuing action that has already been started...

➤ 10:28a) "**I give them Eternal Life...**"

- **I give...** "ETERNAL LIFE" -
- "**I am giving...**" HE is the continual source of the Life they receive... It can NEVER come to an end... **FOR HE will NEVER come to an end...**

- NOT “will give...” as if in the future – THIS is a “present possession / reality” – they have this NOW
- It is NOT temporal... subject to time / change / condition
 - Temporal Life would be no different than the condition of believers BEFORE the Cross:
 - In the OT the people would offer sacrifices to “atone for” their sins, but they were only “covered” until they committed another sin... THEN they would need to return to the Altar and offer another sacrifice...
 - THAT was “Temporal Salvation”
 - Jesus would give “Eternal” Life / Salvation - a life that had NO ending... it was NOT Temporal
2 TIM 2:9-10 “*[God] who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,¹⁰ and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel...*”
 The “Life” he gives is “immortal” – not subject to death...
- Some say, “Everlasting Life...” It HAS a beginning (*when you believed*) but it has NO ending...

THEIR PRESERVATION

➤ 10:28b “...and they shall never perish...”

The fact of their “Eternal Life” should stand on its own... but Jesus knowing the tendency of humans to want further assurance continues with a “negation” of their supposed fear...

This is understandable in light of the growing tendency of the Jewish Leaders who were forbidding people to attend Synagogue or to visit the Temple

○ Shall never... – “Shall” brings a stronger tone to the statement... It is not just that they “will not” as if they had some control over it... They have NO control... Their Life is given over to the Shepherd

○ This is a unique Verb form preceded by a double negative – “Not ... Never” which intensifies the power of the verb – “It can NOT ... NEVER be able to be done...” –

This does not fit our English grammar rules, so it is difficult to express in a straight-forward translation... To us, a double negative becomes a positive... or plain nonsense...

In Greek a double or triple negative intensifies the verb – to prohibit even the possibility of happening...

○ This verb is in the Greek “Middle Voice” ... something that is done for ones own benefit (*which here makes no sense*) OR that which “is done TO oneself”

○ Perish... – “Apollumi” – to perish, to be lost, ruined, destroyed – this is a very strong word for destroy... carrying the emphasis that it is a total, utter destruction – NOT to be recovered from...

○ His Sheep, who have Eternal Life, can “NOT never at all” ... bring / cause themselves to come to a place of destruction, ruin, or be lost... NOT NEVER... –

HIS Sheep can NEVER become NOT HIS Sheep

THEIR SECURITY

JOHN 3:16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have Eternal Life.*

JOHN 3:36 *Whoever believes in the Son **HAS Eternal Life**; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.*

"Has..." – *The possession of something as a present reality that was initiated in the past - this is an ongoing status **granted at a time in the past** that **is NOT subject to change** BECAUSE the **past cannot be changed***

JOHN 5:24 *Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **hears** my word and **believes** him who sent me **HAS Eternal Life**. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.*

1 JOHN 5:11-12 *And this is the testimony, that God gave us Eternal Life, and this Life is in his Son.*

¹² **Whoever has the Son has Life**; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

PHIL 1:6 *And I am sure of this, that **HE who began** a good work in you **will bring it to completion** at the day of Jesus Christ.*

JUDE 24 *Now **to Him who is able**... "of sufficient power of Himself"*

1) **to keep you from stumbling**

2) **and to present you blameless** before the presence of His glory with great joy...

➤ 10:28c *"...and no one will snatch them out of my hand."*

- Unlike the habit of the Jews, they cannot be taken **"away from the fold"** (God's people)
- **NO ONE** has the power to remove those who belong to Christ...

NOT the World... NOT Man... NOT Satan

➤ 10:29 *"My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand."*

"You are in MY hand... and I am in THE FATHER'S hand..."

COL 3:1-4 *If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For **you have died**, and **your life is hidden with Christ in God**. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.*

➤ 10:30 *"I and the Father are one..."*

- There is **NO** difference... What belongs to Jesus belongs to the Father...
- What Jesus protects... the Father protects...
- The word **"One"** used here indicates that they are **"One in purpose / One in function / One in union..."**
- **NOT: "One Person / the Same Person / the Same"**