

IV. Profile of a Good Shepherd (Jn 10:11-18)

¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. ¹²But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. ¹³The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own ¹⁵[just as] the Father knows Me [and] I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. ¹⁸No one 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 command I have received from My Father.”

A. Shielding the Sheep

First, faithful shepherds _____ the sheep from harm. A huge crowd comes out to arrest Jesus. These are the wolves; the wolves are bearing down on the sheep. When the wolves arrive, Jesus draws their attention to Himself and away from His sheep (8). A good shepherd shields those who are entrusted to him from harm.

B. Correcting the Sheep (Eph 6:4; Col 3:21; Heb 12:9-10)

Second, faithful shepherds _____ the sheep when they go astray. Peter pulls out his sword and lops off Malchus’ ear. What does Jesus do? He corrects Peter and brings Peter back to the plan of God. “Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?” (11)

As fathers, our task is to correct our sheep when they wander astray. Paul commands fathers, “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord” (Eph 6:4). Again, he writes, “Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged” (Col 3:21). Finally, he writes, “Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness” (Heb 12:9-10). All this leads us to the same conclusion: _____ are to correct their kids.

C. Dying for the Sheep

Finally, faithful shepherds _____ for their sheep when necessary. Jesus’ sacrifice for His people is completely voluntary. He didn’t have to die. He died for us because He loves us. Note John 10:17-18

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V. Conclusion