

Lesson 14: Discourse on the Good Shepherd

March 31, 2021

John 10:1-21

THE JEWS SEEK TO STONE JESUS AT THE FEAST OF DEDICATION. John 10:19-42

John 10:26-29 – “But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep.”

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know **them**, and **they** follow me:

and I give unto **them** eternal life; and **they** shall never perish, and no one shall snatch **them** out of my hand.

My Father, who hath given **(them)** unto me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch **(them)** out of the Father's hand.”

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John 10:26-29 – “But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep.”

The doctrine of “once saved always saved” is not taught in Scripture.

- A believer will “never perish” nor can any “pluck them out” of the Lord's hand, **if** they continue believing and following the voice of the Lord. (cf. Romans 8:31-39)
- However, one may choose to turn from righteousness. (Ezekiel 18:24; 2 Peter 2:20-22; Colossians 1:21-23; Hebrews 3:12-14; 4:1,11)
- Saving faith is an obedient faith. (James 2:14-26; cf. John 5:24) **A BELIEVER CAN CEASE BELIEVING!**

Man's freedom of choice is taught throughout the scriptures.

John 7:17, “If any man willeth to do his will he shall know of the teaching whether it is of God or whether I speak from myself.”

Revelation 22:17, “And the Spirit and the bride say come. And he that heareth, let him say, come. And he that is athirst, let him come: he that will, let him take the water of life freely.”

Matthew 11:28, “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls, For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Psalms 119:30, “I have chosen the way of faithfulness, Thine ordinances have I set before me”

Erroneous Conclusion:

- “By the decree of God, for the manifestation of his glory, some men and angels are **predestinated** unto everlasting life, and others foreordained to everlasting death” (Presbyterian Book Of Confessions, Chapter 3:6.016)
- “These angels and men, thus **predestinated** and **foreordained** are particularly and **UNCHANGABLY** designed; and their number is so certain and definite **that it cannot be either increased or diminished.**” (Presbyterian Book Of Confessions, Chapter 3:6.017)

If That Be True, It Would Be Impossible For Man To Err.

- How could God give blessings if He had unchangeably decreed death? Jonah 3:4, 10; 2 Kings 20:1, 5-6
- How could God bless or curse a nation if it is unchangeably decreed? Jeremiah 18:7-10; Deuteronomy 28; Joshua 24; 23:16ff
- How could God destroy the world if man's destiny was unchangeably decreed? Why did God “grieve” over their wickedness. Genesis 6:6

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10:30-33 – Jesus and the Father are one.

- **The Jews understood His claim and took up the stones to stone Him.**
- Jesus was not claiming that he and the father are one person (cf. Matthew 3:13-17; Matthew 28:19), but that both possess the nature of God-hood. (Philippians 2:6-7; John 1:1-3)
- The Jews accuse him of blasphemy understanding that he claimed to be God. (John 5:17-18; 8:24, 58-59; 17:20-21)
- If Jesus was not who he claimed to be then he was guilty of blasphemy and should have been stoned. (Leviticus 24:16)

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10:34-36 – Jesus boldly claimed to be the Son of God. He never renounced His claim to be God.

- Moses was **like God** to Aaron his brother and prophet (Exodus 4:16).
- Jesus reasoned that if judges, who **represented God** in their appointed office, could be called “*gods*,” “*sons of God*” in the Hebrew Scriptures (cf. Exodus 22:28; Psalms 82:6), then it would not be blasphemy for Him, who has been sent into the world to be called “*God*.”
- The Scriptures cannot be broken, set aside, or made void at will.

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10:37-42 – The Father confirmed who Jesus is by the works or “*signs*” which he did. (cf. John 20:30-31)

- Jesus departed out of their hands. (We are not told how. cf. John 8:59; Luke 4:30)
- Jesus went where John was baptizing at the first. (cf. John 1:28)
- Many came to Him and believed on Him. (John 7:31)
- John had prepared the way for Christ and many in this area had been receptive to His teaching. (John 1:27-34)
- John did no miracles even though he was “*filled with the Holy Spirit*.” (cf. Luke 1:15)

Lesson 14: The Mission and Return of the Seventy

March 31, 2021

Luke 10:1-24

The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

His Face Set Toward Jerusalem **The Son of Man's Resolve:** – Continued (9:51-19:27)

- Luke has told us of the journey through Samaria to Jerusalem.
- John has told us what occurred at the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem [October] (John 7:1).
- John also told that Jesus was at the Feast of Dedication [December] (John 10:22).
- Only Luke (possible reference in Matthew 9:37-38) tells of the mission of these 70 to evangelize in Judea (and perhaps southern Galilee and the Perea trans-Jordan area) as the 12 did in Galilee.

The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

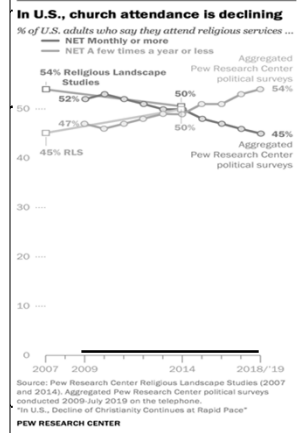
- Luke 10:1 – He, “sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself was about to come.”
- Some believed in Jesus who followed Him everywhere.
- Some made excuses (Luke 9:57-62).
- The seventy were in addition to the twelve and were also sent out “two by two” with similar instructions (Matthew 10:7-16; Mark 6:7-12).

The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

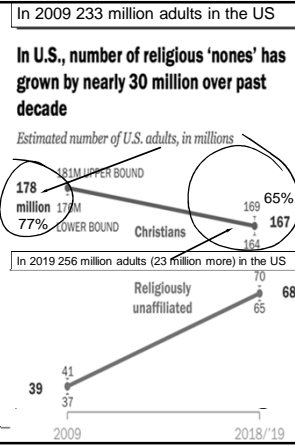
Luke 10:2, "And he said unto them, *The harvest indeed is plenteous, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth laborers into his harvest.*" (cf. Matthew 9:37-38; John 4:35-38).

1. Those who have never heard the truth. "Go preach ..." Mark 16:15ff; 1 Timothy 3:15; Acts 8:4 "... in season, out of season" 2 Timothy 4:2
2. Those who have heard it and not obeyed. "Exhort them ..." Acts 2
3. Those who have obeyed and then erred from the truth. "Restore ..." Galatians 6
4. Do not become "Weary ..." Galatians 6:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:13; Hebrews 12:3; Revelation 2:3.

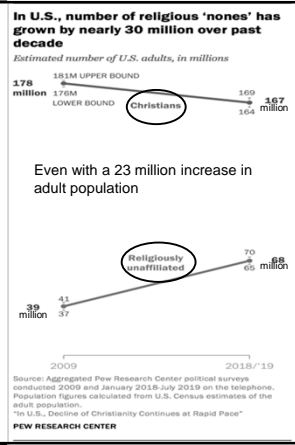
- Question: "Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? More than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?"
- 54 % of Americans say they attend religious services a few times a year or less.
- 45% say they attend at least monthly.



In 2009, there were approximately 233 million adults in the U.S., according to the Census Bureau. Pew Research Center's RDD surveys conducted at the time indicated that 77% of them were "Christian," which means that by this measure, there were approximately 178 million Christian adults in the U.S. in 2009. In 2019 there are roughly 23 million more adults in the U.S. than there were in 2009 (256 million as of July 1, 2019). About two-thirds of them (65%) identify as Christians, (according to 2018 and 2019 Pew Research Center RDD estimates.) This means that there are now roughly 167 million Christian adults in the U.S.



Meanwhile, the number of religiously unaffiliated adults "Religious Nones" in the U.S. grew by almost 30 million over this period. (39 million to 68 million).



The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

- The laborer's are those entrusted to take God's message which will convict and convert them to God's spiritual way of thinking and living.
- If their work was successful, many other workers would go out because each disciple has an obligation to go "everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8:4; cf. 2 Timothy 2:2; 4:2; Acts 6:7).

The Mission and Return of the Seventy (Luke 10:1-24)

- **Our job – not to convert, but teach.**
 "In Season and Out of Season." 2 Timothy 4:2
 - Command is to teach. Mark 16:15
 - Even if they don't listen – we still need to do our job! Ezekiel 2:8ff ;3:16-21; Isaiah 50:4-9; Jeremiah 9:1ff
 - Jesus taught – many turned away. John 1:11-12
 - Crowds rejected the apostles. Acts 13:45; 17:32; cf. 2 Corinthians 11:23ff