

focus

A 21 DAY BIBLE READING PLAN
PREPARING HEARTS FOR EASTER

DAY 10:

The Good Shepherd and His Sheep

John 10:7-30



Many Teachers of the Law and Pharisees did not believe that Jesus could be the Messiah. So Jesus tried to explain it to them this way:

“You know about how shepherds take care of sheep. Every night they keep their sheep safe in a pen, and then sleep in the gate of the pen to keep robbers and predators out.”

“I am like that. I am the gate for the sheep. No robbers can come in because I protect my sheep. I keep my sheep safe, and happy. Robbers come to steal and kill and destroy, I come so that they may have life, and have it to the full.”





“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd dies for the sheep. A person who does not care for the sheep does not die for the sheep. If this person sees a wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. But I am like a good shepherd. I know the sheep and the sheep know me.”

“My Father has sent me to earth so that I could gather all the sheep together and keep them safe. Then I will die for the sheep. This why God, my Father, sent me, and this is why he loves me: so I could volunteer to die for the sheep, and then have the power to rise from the dead.”





The Pharisees that were listening to Jesus still didn't understand. Some of them said, "This Jesus is evil and crazy! We shouldn't listen to him!"

But others said, "The words he is saying do not sound evil and crazy. And could an evil and crazy person make a blind man see?"

Later, during a festival in Jerusalem, many people crowded around Jesus and asked, “Tell us the straight answer. Are you the Messiah?”



Jesus answered, “I already told you the answer to that question, but you didn’t believe me. Look at the things I have done. What do they tell you?”



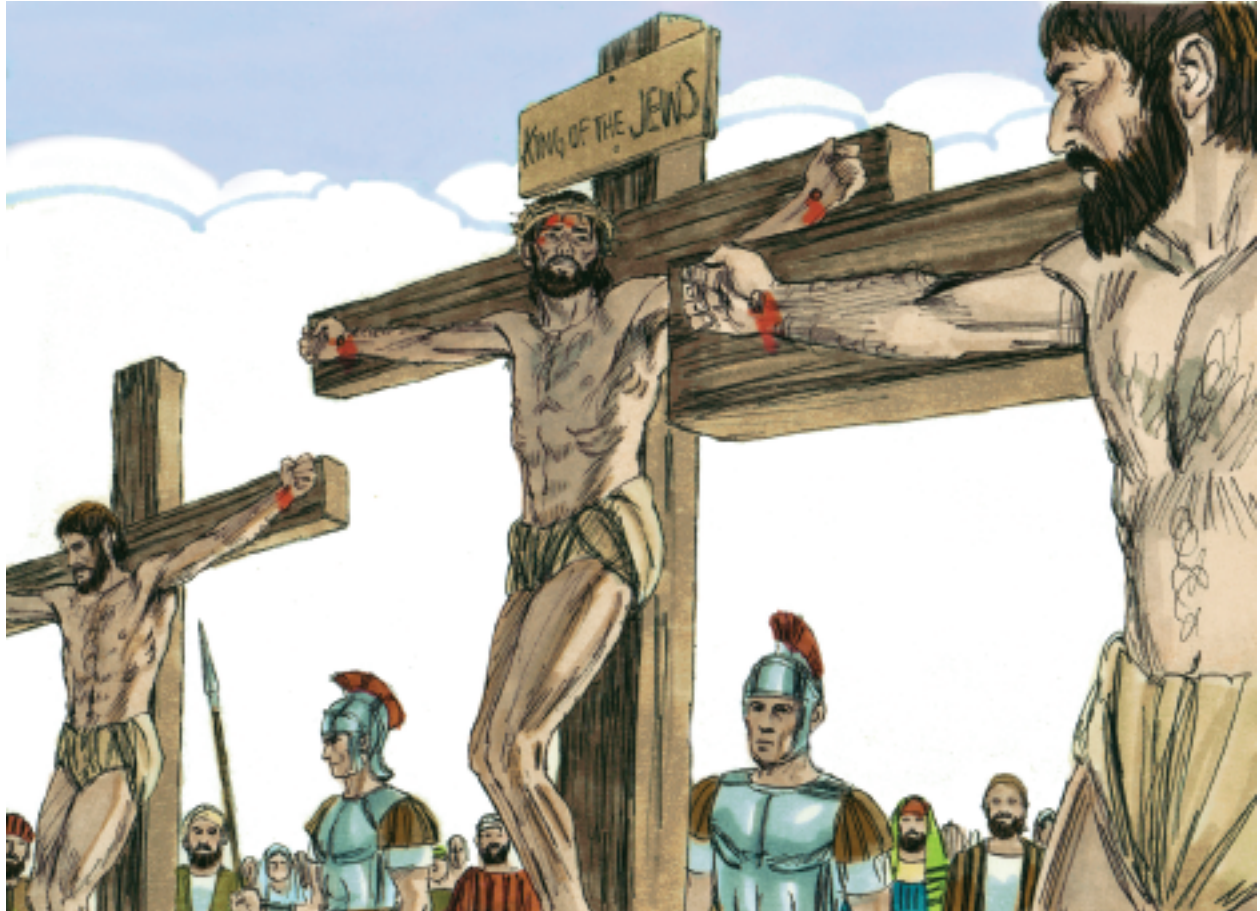
“Only my sheep will recognize the truth. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I will give them eternal life, and they will die. No one will be able to take them away from me.”

“My Father, who has given the sheep to me is greater than everyone else. No one can take these sheep out of my Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”

When Jesus's enemies heard them say this, they picked up stones to kill him. But Jesus said to them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father, like healing people and helping the blind see. Is this why you are going to kill me?"

"We are stoning you for those good things," they replied, "but because you said you are God."





The people listening to Jesus did not understand that he was God, so when he claimed to be “one with the Father” he was telling the truth.

Jesus is a good shepherd who is going to die for his sheep, but the people didn't understand that the Messiah would have die.

Why didn't the people believe Jesus?