John #164 "One Flock And One Shepherd"

John 10:14-16; Romans 1; Romans 2:17-29

Jesus Christ claimed to be God in a human body; nothing less than that.

The greatest polarizing figure in history will be confronted again after He makes profound reiteration of His claim to be God.

And unbelief is strange as it sometimes asks the right questions and receives the right answers and still

doesn't accept them!

But the sheep have only one hope for protection, the shepherd and they don't have it in these

religious leaders.

According to Jesus, the Pharisees are uninterested hired hands, strangers, thieves and robbers when it comes to shepherding God's flock and the main reason is they are unbelieving religious legalists who live like heathenistic Godless Gentiles in the vanity of their minds.

Ephesians 4:17-18 "So I tell you this and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. 18 They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts."

Their thinking is worthless, their spiritual comprehension is blacked out and their hearts are rebelliously evil.

<u>True Israel is composed of the children of God, rather than the children of Abraham, Gal</u> <u>3:26 "You are children of God through faith in Christ Jesus."</u>

This means the divine election of Israel is limited to racial Jews who've been born again through faith alone in Christ alone; in other words, genes do not save anyone. It was Isaac rather than Ishmael and Jacob rather than Esau who were true Israel; Ishmael and Esau refused to believe in Jesus Christ but Isaac and Jacob believed

It's not Abraham's DNA; it's following Abraham in regeneration through faith in Christ that counts.

Birth #2, not Birth #1 is the issue; while B#1 is the exclusive right of inheritance of the firstborn in a Jewish family; you cannot inherit anything from God due to Birth #1. You have to be a believer to inherit from God.

Isaac became the heir, not because of Birth #1 (he was the second son) but because he was the first son of the sons of Abraham to be born again and the same is true of Jacob, who was also a second son.

The true Jew, through physical birth has the genes of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and through regeneration possesses the God of Abraham, the Lord Jesus Christ.

For someone to love God, he must first know God and that is accomplished through learning, meditating on and applying biblical truth, God's Word or the mind of His Son, Jesus Christ.

The Father and Son have been happy forever and now all believers can get in on Their party!

Happiness is only shared through a relationship.

There is only one way to come to God's party and that's by way of His Son's cross. When the Lord Jesus says He will put His soul on the line, it means that His Father will judge

His perfect soul for our disgusting sins!

Love and capacity to love do not depend upon the body.

The body is an instrument for the expression of human love but it's not the basis for it. There must be a mental attitude love before the expression of love in the body is meaningful.

Once someone received the Lord Jesus Christ, he cannot lose his salvation.

God didn't save us because we were nice and God doesn't kick us out when we're not nice. Just because the scene changes from the Age of Israel to the Church Age, doesn't mean the green pastures will disappear.