

# **MY SHEEP FOLLOW ME**

John 10:27c

Introduction:

## 1. What Happens at Salvation

### A) In Relationship to our Position

- > At the moment we are saved we are Justified (Titus 3:4-8)
- > At the moment we are saved we become a New Creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- > At the moment of salvation we receive the Holy Spirit and are Adopted by God (Rom 8:9-17)

### B) In Relationship to a Process

- > We are born again and must grow from immaturity to maturity
  - Babe in Christ to adult (1 Peter 2:1; Hebrews 5:12-14)
  - Carnal or worldly behavior to Christ-like behavior (1 Corinthians 3:1-4)
- > God's commitment to this process – discipline
  - He will discipline His children to make them holy (Hebrews 12:5-11)
  - He will administer discipline through His church (Matthew 18:15-20)
- > God's children may stumble but they do not fall away
  - God's forgiveness and cleansing (1 John 1:8-10)
  - God's forgiveness administered by His people (2 Corinthians 2:3-11)

### C) In Relationship to our Practice

- > Jesus' statement, "My sheep hear my voice ... and follow"
  - They "hear" His voice
  - They follow His voice (John 10:27)
  - They follow His example (1 John 2:3-6)

> The practice of our lives, not the profession of our mouths, reveals the character of our heart

Jesus' clear teaching in Matthew 7:21-23

John's clear teaching in 1 John 3:4-9

> The end of our faith reveals more about the character of our faith than the beginning

The Parable of the soils (Luke 8:11-15)

The warning in Hebrews 3:12-14

## 2. Paul's Expectations for Jesus' Sheep

A) Paul expects that their pattern of obedience

> He is writing to the "saints" in Philippi (Phil. 1:1)

The saints whom he loves (Phil. 2:12a)

> Their pattern of obedience

As you have always obeyed (Phil. 2:12b)

B) Paul exhorts these "saints" to work out their own salvation

> Word study

See the idea of the word used in other contexts (2 Cor. 7:9-10; James 1:2-3)

> "Work out" is a present tense imperative verb

C) Paul's command includes an attitude – with fear and trembling

> Not a fear of God's impending judgment ... there is "no fear in love"

> Rather, an understanding and assumption of the necessity to persevere (1 Cor 9:24-27)

D) Paul's encouragement to the saints in Philippi is God's faithfulness to His people (Phil. 2:13)

> It is God who works in you

To will and to do for His good pleasure (Philippians 1:6)

\* The security of the Jesus' sheep and the perseverance of the sheep are not in conflict with each other

They remind us of the power of the gospel and the glory of God