



## Wolves Among The Sheep

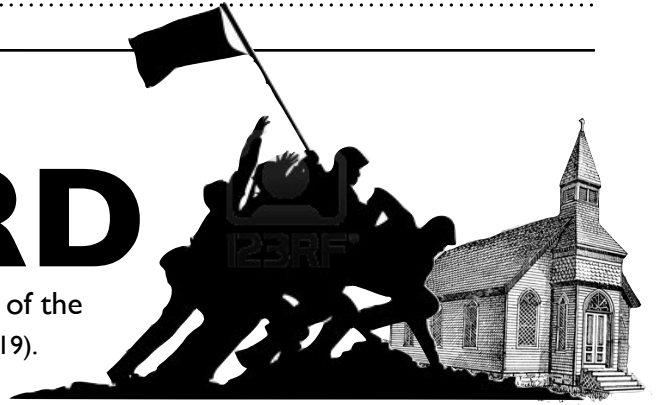
Four Minute - Audio Message

Plain And Simple Series

[\(Click Here\)](#)

# Lifting Up The STANDARD

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

Issue 7 - February 17, 2014



**For  
Information  
Concerning  
Fairhavens  
Baptist  
Church**

[Click Here](#)

**All  
Materials  
On Our  
Website  
Are  
Available  
For  
Download  
Free of  
Charge**

## Tending His Sheep In The Midst of The Wolves

### “My Sheep”

**John 21:15-17,**

“So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed **my** lambs. 16 He saith to him

again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed **my** sheep. 17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed **my** sheep.”

### They Are Not Your Sheep!

Those of us who have the privilege of being pastors can fail to remember whose sheep we are the shepherds of. When I refer to the church that I pastor as “**my** church” I offend and insult Christ. In Matthew 16:18 Jesus said, “I will build **my** church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”



[Other Side?](#)

[No Need For  
The Battle](#)

[Laodicean  
Fundamentalism](#)

[I DO Need To  
Understand](#)

[Judgment  
Must Begin](#)

[Understanding  
The Word of God](#)

[The Shadow of  
The Cross](#)

Continued on page two.

Continued from page one.

Pastor, if it is your church you can count on the gates of Hell prevailing against it. Jesus warned the pastor at Ephesus saying "I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove **thy** candlestick out of his place, except thou repent" (Revelation 2:5).

The phrase "my sheep" occurs ten times in the Word of God. The phrase "**my** flock" occurs fifteen times. Eight of those times the phrase "my flock" is found in Ezekiel chapter thirty-four.

### **Ezekiel 34,**

#### **Verse 6,**

*"My sheep wandered...my flock was scattered upon all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek after them."*

#### **Verse 8,**

*"My flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field...neither did my shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not **my** flock."*

#### **Verse 10,**

*"I will require **my** flock at their hand."*

### **The Chief Shepherd**

The pastor is commanded to "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" (First Peter 5:2-5).

### **The Word Pastors**

The word "pastors" only occurs one time in the New Testament where we read "And he gave some..pastors." The Greek word is poimen. It has been translated "shepherd" seventeen times.

### **Not Just Throwing A Bit of Food In The Direction of The Sheep**

A shepherd is someone who feeds and tends to a flock "taking the oversight." The Greek word for the phrase "taking the oversight." is episkopeo. It has been translated "looking diligently" in Hebrews 12:15.

The command is to diligently take care of His sheep. It means much more than throwing a bit of food at them twice on Sunday and then catching a plane to preach at another big Baptist preacher's meeting. Paul appreciated his position; however, his heart was wrapped up in God's people. It was not his position or the church program he focused on. Paul loved the people.

Continued on page three.



**A.W. Tozer**

"Humble shepherds remember that even the Great Shepherd of the sheep patiently endured the misunderstanding, scolding and fleshly second-guessing of His slow-to-learn sheep (cf. Matt. 16:22; Mark 4:38; 1 Pet. 2:21-23).

Prideful shepherds, however, react to every real or perceived slight to their 'noble personage'. How unlike their Master!

Shepherds must learn that they cannot be conformed to the image of Christ as long-suffering and forgiving unless they are first 'long-bothered' and wronged.



**Sheep Are Lead**



**Goats Are Driven**

Continued from page two.

In verse eight he said, “we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us.” Being absent from them he wrote, “But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire.”

### “As A Father His Children”

Paul said, “we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children” (v.11). A father does more than preach to his children twice on Sunday and once on Wednesday.

I have travelled from coast to coast in Canada more times than I can remember. I have preached in most of our independent Baptist churches. The majority of them are small in number. They were small twenty years ago and if Jesus does not return for another twenty years they will still be small; however, God’s under shepherds have faithfully tended to God’s sheep “even as a nurse cherisheth her children.” They can honestly look into the faces of the people they are responsible for and say. “ye are dear unto us.” That is what God is looking for in His pastors.

### “Take Heed”

The warning is plain. “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God” (Acts 20:28).

The command is to take care of **His** sheep.

### “Even As A Nurse”

Paul could honestly write the people at Thessalonica saying, “But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children” (First Thessalonians 2:7). A nurse personally takes care of the one under her care. She does not simply get on the P.A. system three times a week and command everyone to get better.

Paul knew his position as an under shepherd was a tremendous God-given privilege. In First Thessalonians 2:4 he said, “we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel.”

## Tending The Sheep In The Midst of The Wolves?

**John 10:11,**

“The good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.”



**C.H. Spurgeon**

“Brethren, you have to feed Christ’s sheep. Our Lord says, ‘Feed! Feed! Feed!’ He begins with, ‘Feed My lambs.’ My little lambkins, or young Believers — these need plenty of instruction. ‘Feed My sheep’ comes next.

Feed the middle-aged, the strong, the vigorous — these do not require only feeding — they also need to be directed in their Christian course and to be guided to some field of earnest service for Christ — therefore shepherd them.

Then in the last, ‘Feed My sheep,’ you have the gray-headed Believers in Christ. Do not try to govern these, but feed them! They may have far more prudence and they certainly have more experience than you have and, therefore, do not rule them, but remind them of the deep things of God and deal out to them an abundance of consoling Truths.

There is that good old man. He is a father in Christ. He knew the Lord 50 years before you were born—he has some peculiarities and in them you must let him take his own course—but still feed him. His taste will appreciate solid meat.

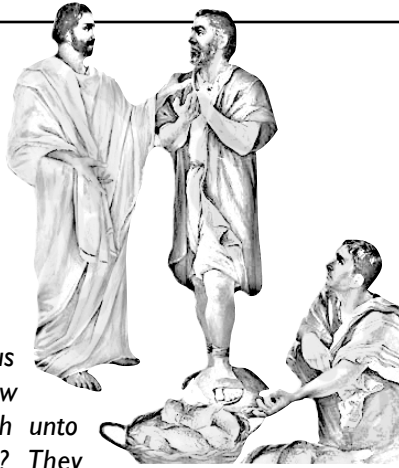
Continued on page four.

## If You Love Me, Feed My Lambs And Feed My Sheep

### A Challenging Question

**John 21:4,5,**

*“When the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.”*



This question was asked to help them to understand the reality of going against God's will. Jesus had met with them for forty days following His resurrection. He had given them His will for their lives. Peter's response was to turn his back and walk away. Jesus stood on the shore all night and then in the morning He asked them how things were working out for them when they followed their own will rather than His. He said, *“Have ye any meat?”*

**John 21:6,**

*“And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.”*

They obeyed and found out that when they obeyed they got what they were not able to get while seeking to do things their way. We also have our plans, our promotions and our programs. We work as hard as the disciples worked all night. Let us ask the question, how is that working out for us?

### No Choice But To Choose

**John 21:15-17,**

*“Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, **Feed my lambs.** He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, **Feed my sheep.** He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, **Feed my sheep.**”*

Peter was a slow learner; however he finally got the message and later in his message to pastors Peter said, *“Feed the flock of God which is among you”* (First Peter 5:2). Sometimes those of us who are pastors are also slow learners. Let us determine to **feed His lambs** and **feed His sheep**.

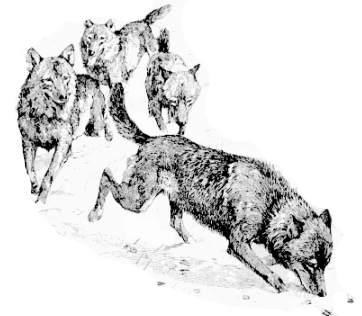
Continued from page three.

He knows a field of tender grass when he gets into it. Feed him, then, for his infirmities require it. Feed all classes, my Brothers—that is your main work—mind that you not only get good food for the sheep, but feed them with it!

A farmer one day, after he had listened to a simple sermon which was the very opposite of what he generally heard, exclaimed, ‘O Lord, we bless you that the food was put into a low crib today, so that Your sheep could reach it!’ Some Brothers put the food up so high that the poor sheep cannot possibly feed upon it.

I have thought, as I have listened to our eloquent friends, that they imagined that our Lord had said, ‘Feed my giraffes.’ None but giraffes could reach the food when placed in so lofty a rack! Christ says, ‘Feed My sheep’—place the food among them. Put it close to them.”

C.H. Spurgeon



The Wolves Are On The Trail of  
Our Young People.