## **JOHN 10 vs 22**



John, perhaps a cousin of Jesus, he was eye-witness to Jesus one of the original followers of the Lord; he is going to tell us about a December incident... the time of Chisleu 25, which would be Hanukkah, recalling the Maccabean rebellion in 165BC, when their history records that the lighted candlestand in the Temple was not extinguished for those eight days. It was a miraculous event.

<sup>22</sup> And it was at Jerusalem, during the Feast of the Dedication / John writes about Jesus in the Temple at Hanukah; notice: It was winter which means it was probably snowing. And that's not a time to find shepherds tending their sheep. GOOGLE: SNOW IN JERUSALEM ... and check it out!



<sup>23</sup> And Jesus was walking in the temple in the porch of Solomon.

<sup>24</sup> **So, the Jewish leaders gathered around Him** / they encircled Him... I seriously doubt that they were going to sing Christmas Carols to Him! They surround Him like stalkers,

and they asked Him, How long do You keep us in suspense? / remember, as we read in Luke 8: Jesus is the Sower, and the Seed. And we learn, He taught in such a way: not only to reveal, but also to conceal truth. These Jewish leaders wanted to know:

If You are the Christ / the Messiah, tell us plainly.

<sup>25</sup> Jesus sizing up the situation said to them, I told all of you, yet you did not believe:

the works I do in My Father's name / utilizing His resources; and representing Him,

they bear witness of Me.

<sup>26</sup> But you did not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you / and Jesus reminds the religious leaders yet another time, the same message He has given all the time.

<sup>27</sup> My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they join Me / in the way I am going; they do not lag behind... nor trudge along listlessly staring at His butt; they are walking alongside Him, eager to learn from Him: their good Pastor who is guiding them.

Check out: His sheep hear His voice and follow Him

<sup>28</sup> And I give to them eternal life / the life of God; and they will never perish, nor will anyone grab them out of My hand.

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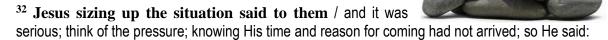
<sup>29</sup> **The Father of Me, who gave Me** / John wrote earlier, God so loved the world... that He gave the only Son born of God; Jesus is not speaking a new, unfamiliar message. He is not like modern preachers.

The Father of Me, who gave Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to grab them out of My Father's hand.

<sup>30</sup> I and the Father are one / 5 words: ego kai ho Pater hen... I and the Father one; and whether or not we understand this unity, it makes no difference. Obviously, Jesus understood, being the good Teacher, He used words His students could understand I and the Father are One! Two who are separate and distinct, = one: THEY are NOT divided. How that relation works, who can imagine? not me; but what is understood by this phrase is all we need to know for now... in eternity, maybe we will all have one, grand, metanoia moment... ending with a great sigh of relief: Ah! Got it!

And having heard Jesus...

 $^{31}$  The Jewish leaders / who gathered around Him, took up stones again to stone Him / it wasn't the first time.



Many good deeds I showed you from the Father;

for which of these deeds do you stone Me?

<sup>33</sup> The Jewish leaders answered Him,

For a good deed we do not stone You; but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God / the Jewish leaders were horrified by what Jesus just said. These religious folks were willing to kill him on the spot! It makes you wonder: what church is this? Doesn't it? But is Jesus intimidated by them, and fearful... ready to cower? NO!

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them / He stays in charge; and He fires back,

Is it not written in the law, I said, You are gods? / in the books they were to study; in the books where the Lord God spoke and preserved His word; in the psalms, in the prophets... many times we read: You will be called: sons of the Living God! They were the guardians, and caretakers and instructors in each generation... reminding the people of God... His word is a lamp to our feet; and a light to our path.

Is it not written in the law, I said, You are gods? / and you know, from our vantage point, we know Jesus is the Word of God. Jesus is not just quoting scripture. He knows what He said!

<sup>35</sup> If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came, and the scripture can't be broken;

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<sup>36</sup> what do you say about Him, whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world, / whom the Father has set apart, and ordained, and designated for His purposes,

You blaspheme; because I said, I am the Son of God? / obviously, Jesus was not making friends with these religious leaders. And John wrote they had taken up stones... to kill Him right there, on the spot! They were ready to go! But Jesus, turning up the heat... in this chilly atmosphere, continues...

<sup>37</sup> If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me.

<sup>38</sup> But if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works / believe what you saw, Jesus cared less that their envy blinded them from getting to know Him; they could still question for themself... who else performs these gracious miracles of healing of every disease, for the people?

that you may know, and believe, that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father.

And as He got them thinking, and disarmed them,

<sup>39</sup> So, they sought to seize Him: but He escaped out of their hand.

And where did He go?

<sup>40</sup> And again He went away beyond the Jordan to where John at first baptized; and stayed there / as an eye-witness, that's an interesting little detail recorded by this disciple whom Jesus loved... because that short distance -- about 2-days journey, is to the place called: Mahanaim... which is a much more temperate place. But it is also the place where we read in Genesis 32, Jacob wrestled one night with the Lord; and it's the same place where David fled to for safety, where he was able to muster strength and victoriously return and put down the rebellion in Jerusalem.

Jesus took them back to where they heard those marvelous words; when John the Baptist first preached the baptism of metanoia. Because Jesus knew: without a changed mind, there will be no changed heart and He came preaching the good news, saying those 2 beautiful words metanoeo... and believe.

Jesus took them to recall the wonderful truths He taught them; something, these religious hard heads, couldn't seem to do! Jesus was preparing them for their final exam.

<sup>41</sup> And many came to Him, and said, John did no miracle:

but everything John spoke of this Man is true.

<sup>42</sup> And many believed on Him there.

Salvation is His Name | His sheep hear His voice and follow Him