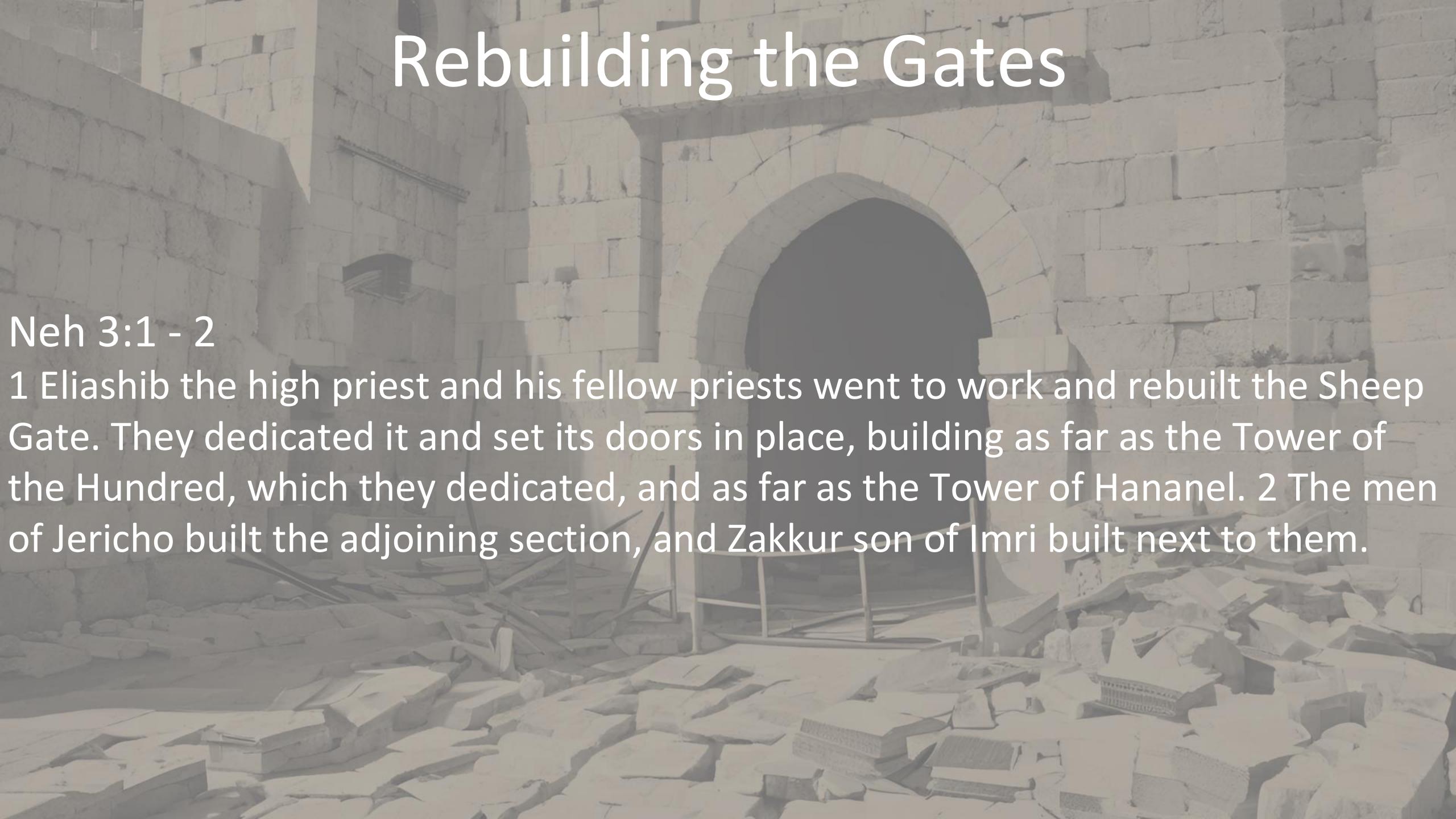


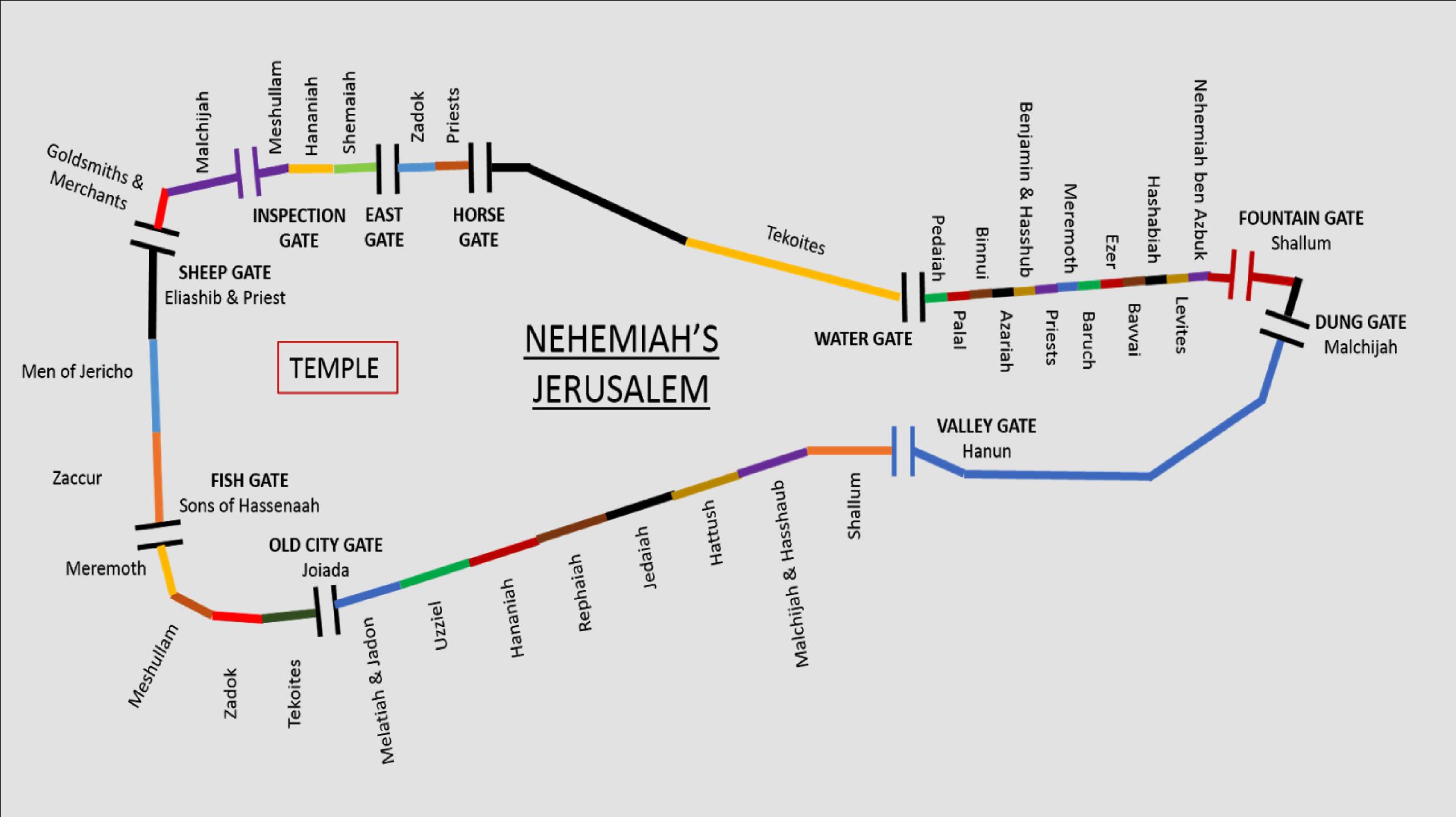
Rebuilding the Gates

Neh 2:17 - 18

17 Then I said to them, "You see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire. Come and let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer be a reproach." 18 And I told them of the hand of my God which had been good upon me, and also of the king's words that he had spoken to me.

So they said, "Let us rise up and build." Then they set their hands to this good work.





Rebuilding the Gates

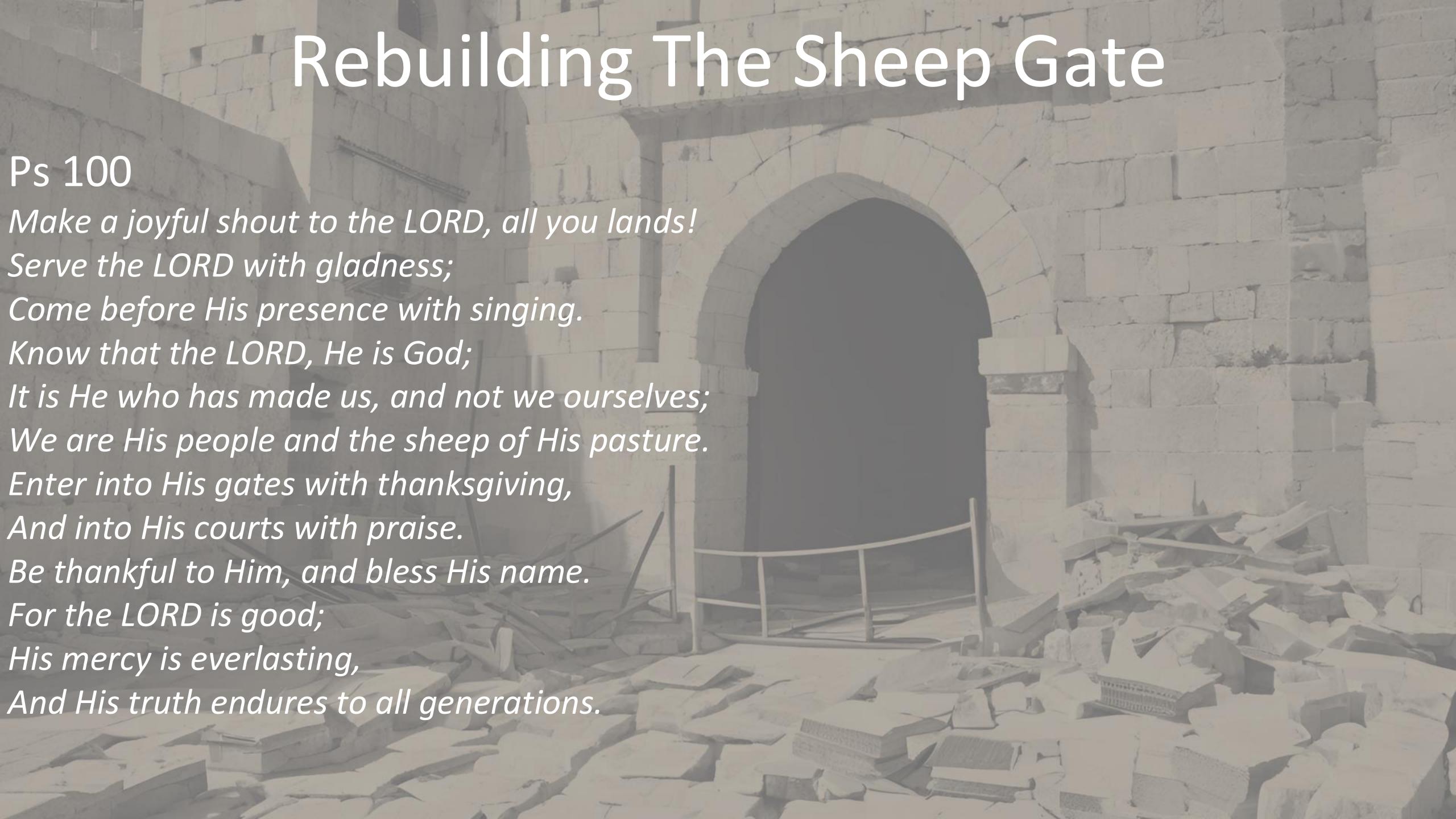
The Gates:

- Restore Authority
- Gen 24:60, "May your descendants possess the gates of those who hate them." Gen 34;20, "And Hamor and Shechem his son came to the gate of their city, and spoke with the men of their city, saying:"
- Rebuild the Entry points to the Kingdom.
- Remind the Church of purpose.
- Deut 6:9 and 11:20, "You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." Gen 28:17, "And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!"



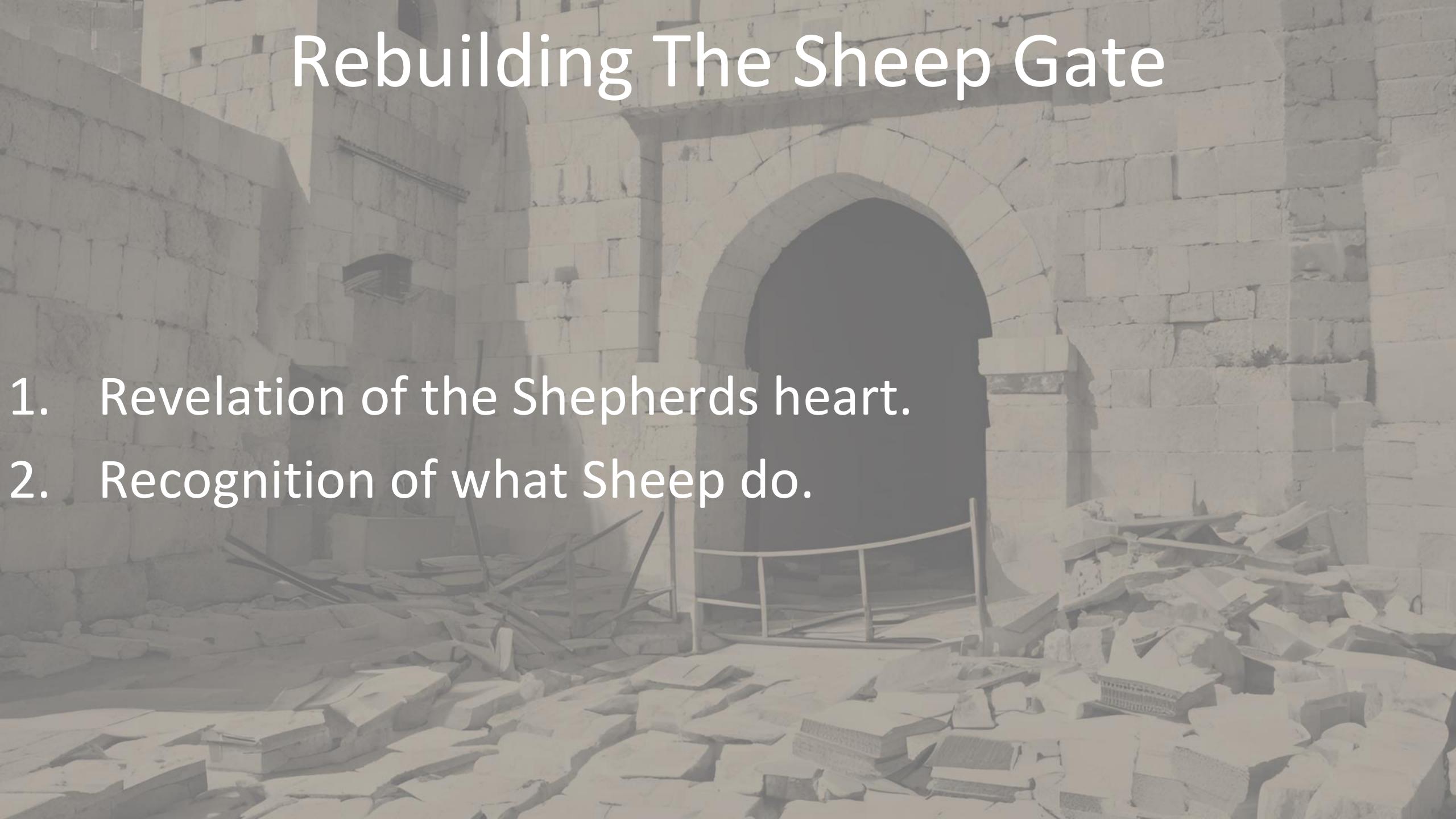






Heb 13:20 - 21

Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.





- 1. Revelation of the Shepherds Heart
- B. For Sheep.

Matt 9:35 - 38

35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. 37 Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. 38 Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."





The N.T. says the following about shepherds:

- Shepherds are moved with compassion (Matt 9)
- Shepherds seek out lost sheep (Matt 10:6, Matt 15:24)
- Shepherds give purpose to His Sheep (Matt 10:5 16)
- Shepherds lift sheep out of pits (Matt 12:11)
- Shepherds rejoice greatly in restoration (Matt 18)
- Shepherds teach the sheep (Mark 6:34)
- Shepherds appoint other shepherds to care for and feed the sheep (John 21:17)

John 10:1 - 16

1 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

John 10:1 - 16

- 6 Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them.
- 7 Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

John 10:1 - 16

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. 12 But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. 13 The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. 15 As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. 16 And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

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THE GOOD SHEPHERD:

- The Good Shepherd CALLS His own sheep by name.
- The Good Shepherd LEADS them out.
- The Good Shepherd GOES before them.
- The Good Shepherd *OPENS* the way / entrance point.
- The Good Shepherd PROVIDES access to food.
- The Good Shepherd PAYS the price necessary for us to have eternal life.
- The Good Shepherd GIVES His life for the sheep.
- The Good Shepherd KNOWS his sheep personally.
- The Good Shepherd SEE'S danger coming, and DOES NOT FLEE.
- The Good Shepherd brings in other sheep and BUILDS community life.

