

Chapter 9 & 10 – End of Feast of Tabernacles & the Feast of Dedication (Chanukah)



Aqueduct Discovered Last Week in Jerusalem (1st century AD)



Ch. 9 in 5 Minutes: An Example of Jesus Curing Blindness (Physical and Spiritual)

Why was the man born blind (v.3)?

Why don't the Pharisees believe this miracle is from God?



How does the healed man react?

Ch. 9 in 5 Minutes: An Example of Jesus Curing Blindness

Why was the man born blind (v.3)?

There is a mistranslation of v. 3-4 in English:

NOT - *“Jesus answered, ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned but in order to show the works of God in him. It is necessary to work the works of the one who sent me until it is day.’”*

In the Greek this is a specific grammatical construct better read as:

“Jesus answered, ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned. But in order to show the works of God in him, it is necessary to work the works of the one who sent me until it is day.’”

God did not make him blind to show his glory. Instead Jesus has been sent to show God’s glory by healing him.

Introduction

Read Ch. 10: 1 - 21



Coins from Reign of Simon Maccabeus
(135 BC)

Background of the Feast of Dedication

Culture Clash: Antiochus Epiphanes vs Judas
Maccabeus – 165 BC

A Festival Tied to Questions of Leadership –
Ezek. 34: 2 – 10 read during this festival

The people ask themselves during the Festival, “How
were we led astray by our leaders? What will happen
with the Romans? Will we give up our Jewish
heritage?”

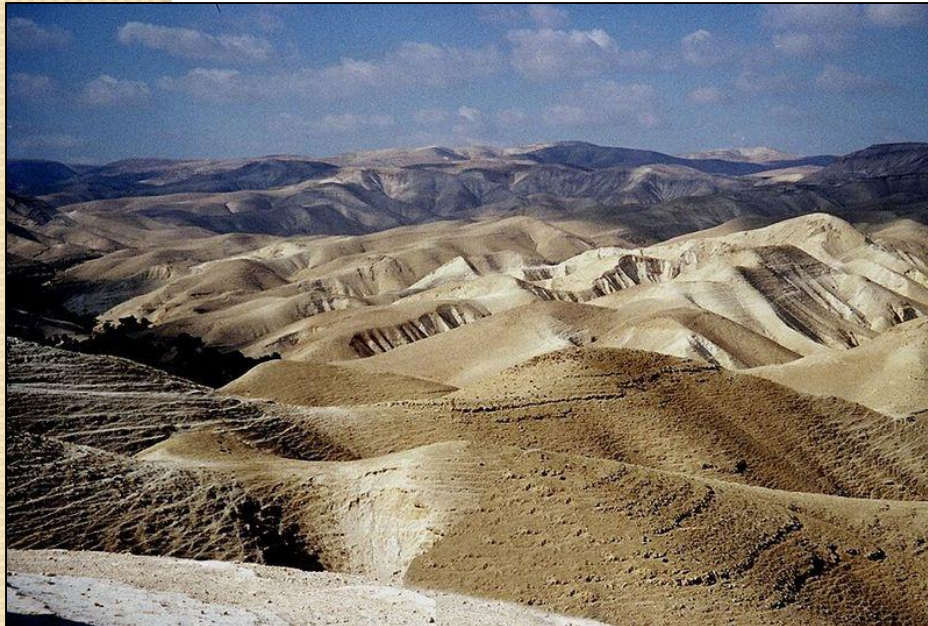
What is a Shepherd?

Where else does the Bible reference shepherds?

What is the desert like?

How do shepherds spend their time?

Judean Desert in Summer



Judean Desert in Spring



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What is a Shepherd?

What is the difference between a “good” shepherd and a “bad” shepherd according to Jesus (vv. 11 – 16)?

Why do the sheep know the shepherd’s voice?



Sheep Pen in Israel
- 1995

What is a Shepherd?

How does Jesus describe this “flock” (v. 16)? Why is that important?



Shepherd's Fields Outside of Bethlehem - 1995

By whose authority does Jesus take on this position as shepherd? How does Jesus take it on (v. 17-18)?

How does the crowd react to Jesus' assertion?

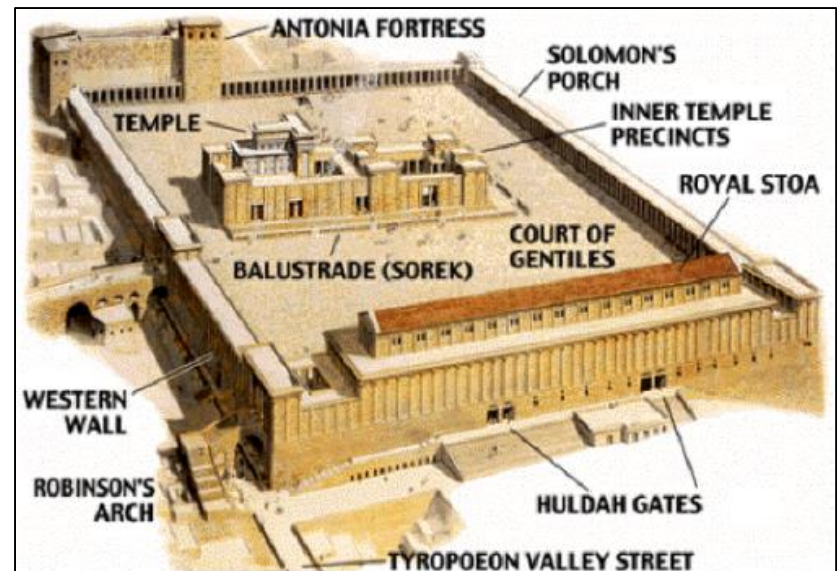
Playing to the Crowd vs True Leadership

Read 10: 22 – 42

What is the crowd asking of Jesus? How does he respond?

Why does Jesus tell them they don't understand (v.26)?

What is the crowd's reaction?





Playing to the Crowd vs True Leadership

Jesus quotes Psalm 82: 5 – 7 and does spiritual judo

Applies Midrashic Interpretation Style with 3 Meanings:

- “gods” – applied to Hebrew law judges; therefore not blasphemy
- “gods” – vehicles of the word of God – like *logos*
- Reference to Sinai – Jesus as judge *par excellence*

How would you describe the crowd’s reaction to Jesus’ interpretation? Why do they react this way?

What does Jesus do after his confrontation (v.40)?

What Does This Mean to Me?



What makes up good spiritual leadership? What does a good shepherd provide in a desert?

How do we know the difference between “good shepherds” and “robbers and thieves”?

What is our responsibility as sheep to listen?

Who are the other “sheep” for us?