

ASSURANCE #1

We can learn much about a Christian's relationship with Jesus from the parable of the Good Shepherd. One very comforting benefit that it tells us we have as a member of His flock is the sense of security provided to those under His care. In John 10:27-28 Jesus says this, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand."

The last phrase of this passage assures us that no one, including Satan himself, has the ability to forcibly remove us from the fold of Christ. Even though the devil is a powerful enemy that will be the downfall of the majority of mankind, He can't take anyone away from the Lord, against their will. And just as Satan can't make us leave our Savior and participate in sin, the Lord won't compel us to stay with Him and do what is right either. We determine our eternal destiny by how we exercise our God given free will. If we allow Satan to persuade us to turn away from God, we'll lose all that our heavenly Father has made available to us. But as long as we choose to listen to the Lord and to follow his teaching nothing can separate us from our Good Shepherd now or keep us from our destination of heaven to be with Him eternally.