Weekly Word November 26, 2023

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46

When I read the Ezekiel passage, I can't help but think of Friday, May 14, 1948. The day Israel became a Nation.

GOD promised to gather all of His sheep from all of the countries of the world and bring them into their own land. Most importantly, He said that <u>He</u> would judge between sheep and sheep it's not our job. We are often busy judging the sheep and forget that we ourselves are likewise ... sheep.

Some of us are spotted, some dirty, some pure white, some black, some straggly, some half shaved, some scarred, some bruised, some hungry, some fat, some runty. All sheep!

Throughout the scripture sheep represent mankind and the leaders (Kings), as shepherds.

Jesus tells us that when He comes in His glory, all the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. The sheep on His right, and the goats on His left.

Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you blessed of the My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 'for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

Those on the right ask the question, 'When?'

The King's response should be the motivator to all of our actions as believers. It should be the heart check for how we live out this Christian walk.

The reminder to think before we speak, to consider before we turn away, to hear what's not being said and so on.

Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

Father, help us day today to hear and obey the prompting of the Holy Spirit when we meet our fellow human beings. You have called us to be light in darkness; to bind up the broken hearted, to set the captive free, to take the gospel in action, word, and deed to every nation! Beginning in our Jerusalem.