

False Shepherds

by John Henry Jowett

John Henry Jowett's sermon 'False Shepherds' warns against self-serving leaders who neglect their flock and fail to show compassion.

Scripture: Ezekiel 34:2-6, Luke 19:10, 1 John 3:16

Topics: "False Leadership", "Compassionate Ministry"

Description

John Henry Jowett delivers a powerful sermon on Ezekiel 34:1-10, exposing the characteristics of false shepherds who are self-seeking, feeding themselves instead of the flock, driven by carnal ambition rather than holy service. These shepherds lack sympathy, failing to strengthen the diseased or heal the sick, as selfishness numbs their ability to empathize. Without sympathy, there is no genuine quest to seek the lost sheep, highlighting the importance of sacrificial love and a heart that mirrors the compassionate pursuit of Jesus.

Transcript

EZEKIEL xxxiv. 1-10.

This word of the Lord puts before me the unlovely lineaments of the false shepherds.

They are self-seeking. They "_feed themselves_" but they "_feed not the flock_" They take up religion for what they can make out of it! It is a carnal ambition, not a holy service. It is used for getting, not for giving, for self-glorification and not for self-sacrifice. It is selfishness masquerading as holiness, the thief in the garb of the shepherd.

And, therefore, the false shepherds are devoid of sympathy. "_The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick_"

Selfishness always tends to benumbment. Humaneness is fostered by sacrifice. Our sympathetic chords are kept refined by chivalrous deeds. Drop the deeds and all our refinements begin to coarsen, and we make no response to our brother's cries of need and pain.

And because there is no sympathy there is no quest. "_My sheep wandered ... and none did seek after them._" How can we seek them if we have never missed them, if we have no sense that they are lost? Our Lord came in travail of soul to "seek that which was lost." And I must share His travail if I would share in the search.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/john-henry-jowett/false-shepherds/>

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