

into a common fold, which was a walled enclosure, with a strongly barred door. Here the sheep rested until the morning, guarded by a porter. Early in the day the shepherds would return and knock at the door for the porter to open to them. Then each shepherd would call his own sheep. The sheep knew their own shepherd's voice and would come out and follow him; but the voice of a stranger they would not heed.

The porter, too, would recognize the voice of a stranger, and would not open to him. A robber, therefore, would not knock at the door, but would try to come in some other way, as by scaling the wall, thus to lay hold of the sheep. Knowing these facts, the imagery of the allegory is much more distinct.

Our Lord says, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him; for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him; for they know not the voice of strangers."

John X.: 1-5.)

What more beautiful illustration could there be of the mutual relations of our Lord Jesus Christ and His faithful followers!

As the shepherd of the East went before His flock, avoiding dangerous places, so does the Good Shep-