

J. S. Gale, "Lotus Town Church, Seoul," Assembly Herald (Nov. 1908): 510.

This is what our Lord says. Is He right? Really now is an ordinary Korean better than a sheep? (All are awake, it is a live question this.) Let's place the man on this end of the platform and the sheep on that. Now judge for yourselves. What does the sheep stand for? What does he do for the world? With his wool he clothes the cold and chilly; with his flesh he feeds the hungry; without a word he accepts the loss, even death itself; besides, all the way through the Bible he points persistently to Jesus.

Now what does the average man stand for? Does he clothe the naked? Not he. Does he give his body in behalf of others? By no means. Is he gentle and submissive? You can hear him five blocks away. Does he point Godwards? Alas, no! Then how goes the case? Which would you rather have thrust on you to care for and live with, the average man or a sheep? Give me the sheep. Truly now, which would you rather be, the dirty, ignorant, average man or the sheep? I'd rather be the sheep. (Amens and nods in all directions.)

Then was the Lord wrong in his estimate? No, thank God, no. A sheep is a sheep and only a sheep now and evermore; but a man, yes, even this ignorant, selfish, degraded, sinful man by the grace of God can be lifted up and up to companionship with the Divine; even such as he, can by faith come into a life that is all the sheep's is and something more, clothe the naked, spare not his body, be all gentleness, point on and up forever, and what the sheep could never do, he can appreciate and talk with God. Jesus was right. We could say how much better may a man be than a sheep, but our Lord saw man already redeemed and He said, "How much then is a man better than a sheep." Thank God for the vision where poor Galilean driftwood is looked on as priceless treasure.

Transcribed by Sung-Deuk Oak