

## Jesus, the Door

### Text: John10:17-18

#### Introduction:

- 1- Jesus described Himself as "the door." ***"I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture" (John 10:9).***
- 2- Jesus teaches this lesson in the context of caring for sheep. The religious teachers of the day (scribes and Pharisees) were destructive thieves and robbers (vs. 1,10). Yet, Jesus is different. He is the exclusive passageway in and out of God's secure sheep fold.
- 3- He is the key to spiritual security and satisfaction. He proved His ability to fulfil this promise by His loving willingness to lay down His life for us and His divine power to take it back up again **(John 10:17-18).**

#### Illustration:

Talking about doors, years ago there was a TV game show called "Let's Make A Deal." Monty Hall would sometimes offer the participants the choice of two doors, and, depending on the choice made, the player would receive either a valued prize or be "zonked."

#### Transition:

Our lives are very much like that game show: life is made up of choices, and, depending on which door to life that we choose, we will either receive a blessing or be "zonked."

#### Discussion:

- I- **Jesus Is The Only Divinely Authorized Door .**
  - A- Jesus said, "No one comes to the Father, but through Me" (John 14:6). The one who enters through Jesus, "he shall be saved" (John 10:9).
    - 1- Then, it is Jesus who sets the divine standard that determines who is saved. Monty Hall would give a player some money which he could trade for a door.
    - 2- To get the door, the player would have to follow Monty Hall's instructions.
  - B- We all recognized that to get the door, the instructions would have to be followed. In the same way, Jesus said, "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). Therefore, to choose the door which leads to salvation, Jesus' instructions will have to be followed, because "he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 7:21).
- II- **Offering Jesus' Door To Others.**

- A-** After Paul's first evangelistic journey, "they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles" (Acts 14:27).
  - 1- Paul, during his third journey while at Ephesus, noted, "for a wide door for effective service has opened to me" (1 Corinthians 16:9).
  - 2- Jesus opens the door of opportunity to speak to someone in His name. We need to constantly watch for that open door.
- B-** First, we need to be "praying that God may open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ" (Colossians 4:3). After praying for the door to open in someone's life, we need to watch for it to open.
  - 1- Typically, in anyone's life, there are certain times when the door opens to Christ (perhaps marriage, birth, death, moving, etc.).
  - 2- . Constantly watch for the door to open in someone's life because life situations change.
  - 3- We must take advantage of that open door, we must not be distracted with other things. Our job, money, family, hobbies, etc., can distract us from taking the opportunity. We need to be ever vigilant. Even Paul was once distracted.
    - a- He "came to Troas for the gospel of Christ and when a door was opened for me in the Lord, I had no rest for my spirit, not finding Titus" (2 Corinthians 2:12-13).

### III- The Door of Blessings.

- A-** Jesus said, "I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly" (John 10:10).
  - 1- This is the greatest quality of life known to man. It is life at its best. The beer, "Miller High Life" offers no real life at all, only a temporary diversion from the grind of life.
  - 2- The Lord has wonderful blessings for us in store, as we follow Him. "Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father" (James 1:17).
- B-** Even for Israel, God "rained down manna upon them to eat, and He gave them food from heaven" (Psalm 78:24).
  - 1- Yet they complained about that blessing (Numbers 11 :6). Would we really be thankful for the blessing of many conversions?
  - 2- New people could bring potential problems associated with growing pains.
  - 3- Brethren are intended to be a blessing to one another. Do we frequently "complain against one another" (James 5:9) because of some trivial thing that we don't like?
- C-** "We know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God" (Romans 8:28). Are we looking for those things that "work together for good," or are our eyes fixed on something else? What makes **the following quote so powerful is not only what it says, but who said it: "When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at**

**the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us" (Helen Keller).**

**IV- The Door of Escape From Temptation .**

**A-** In following Jesus, we may need to turn to Him and flee through His way of escape from temptation. We need to always know where that exit is located.

1- "No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also" (1 Corinthians 10:13).

2- Some consider themselves very strong, not in danger to falling to certain types of temptation. We are actually strong when we recognize the source of strength in our weaknesses. The man who will not ask directions because that supposedly makes him look weak is almost a proverb.

**B-** In Genesis 39, Joseph was strong because he knew where the door of escape was located. When Potiphar's wife "caught him by his garment, saying, 'Lie with me!," he left his garment in her hand and fled.

**Conclusion:**

***The Open Door to Heaven***

- 1- If we miss this door, then we've really been "zonked." John looked and saw "a door standing open in heaven" (Revelation 4:1).
- 2- Yes were opened to see the beauty of heaven, where the 12 pearl gates (doors) to the city "shall never be closed" (Revelation 21:25). There is no fear of invasion from evil there.
- 3- We need to always be spiritually looking for this door. Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus is that door. He shows us the right way to lasting peace, purpose and joy. We will only be able to enter in on that Last Day unless we hear, "Well done, good and faithful slave . . . enter into the joy of your master" (Matthew 25:21).
- 4- Jesus invites you to enter His open door of salvation this morning, won't you come?

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