

## ***“Opening the Door – How to Accept Christ”***

### ***SALVATION’S DOOR – HAS BEEN OPENED (John 10:9)***

Originally at the beginning of the human race, Adam and Eve had complete access to God – there were no walls so they did not need any doors. But when Adam sinned, a barrier (wall) came between the human race and God, and there was no door for Adam to get through (Genesis 3:24).

There was a little opening made for Adam when God showed Him how to make a sacrifice (Genesis 3:21). But the door was swung completely open when the Lord Jesus sacrificed Himself at the cross – He had been punished by death for our sins, and He had paid for those sins completely. The sacrifice was over, and so *the door was fully open*. Now sinners can enter in through Jesus Christ!

### ***SECURITY OF THE DOOR***

We use doors in our houses to keep our house safe, especially if we use a lock. The context of John 10 is of a shepherd taking care of His sheep. During the day the sheep graze (feed) in the fields, and at night the shepherd gathers them together. He puts them inside a fold (pen) with stone walls, and the shepherd stands at the door to make sure that nothing comes in to harm the sheep. If a person goes through the Lord Jesus (the door), He promises them that they will be safe! He is the Good Shepherd who will not let anything come to harm His sheep. See John 10:28-29; Acts 16:30-31; Romans 10:9.

### ***HEAVEN’S DOOR – WILL BE OPENED (Revelation 4:1)***

The door of salvation (that was opened at the cross when the Lord Jesus died) will be closed someday in the future. It will close when the Lord Jesus Christ comes back, and we do not know when this will take place. Will you be ready for that day? On that day, the door of heaven will be opened, and all the saved ones will go Home to be with the Lord (1Thessalonians 4:16-17). The only way to be ready for that moment is to go through the open door of salvation now, because you will not be able to go through after Jesus comes (Luke 13:23-24).

### ***OUR HEART’S DOOR – SHOULD BE OPENED (Revelation 3:20)***

The people referred to in Revelation 3:20 were residents of a prosperous city called Laodicea. It was known for both its eye ointment business and its clothing/textile industry. But without the Lord Jesus Christ on the inside of their life, Christ says they are poor, blind and naked (verse 17), and tells them to get real (that is, spiritual) gold, clothing and eye ointment. He uses these 3 items as a symbol of the spiritual salvation that they needed.

Think of the door of your heart and life – some people try to get into your life and you let them in, other people are kept outside. The Lord Jesus stands outside the door of everyone’s heart and He is knocking, wanting you to let Him in. He could push Himself in because He is your Creator, but He has chosen not to do that – *He wants you to decide to let Him in*. When you let Him in He will save you (John 10:9) and He will change your life (2Corinthians 5:17). Will you let Him in?

**It is a definite event** – “If anyone *lets me in*” Opening the door to Christ is an event in life that you must do, Christ will not do it for you. You only need to do it once, since Christ will come in and stay with you once you let Him.

**It is an individual event** – “If *anyone* lets me in ...” This is something between you and God, a personal choice.

**It is a necessary event** – nothing else can replace letting Christ in. Baptism, being good, religion, and church membership are not valid substitutes. You need Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and Friend!

**It is an urgent event** – you have an opened door of opportunity to let Christ in as He knocks. But you must do it soon, or time will run out.