



5784/2024 the Year of the Open Door - How to take Advantage of The Open-Door Pt. 4

Sunday Sermon – 12/3/2023

Bishop Steven A. Norman, Pastor

Revelation 3:7-9 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, 'He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens': 8 "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

Let's continue to look at the year of the Open Door 5784

The Number 84

80 –Pey in Hebrew- which means it is the decade of the voice, words, decrees, mouth.

4 - Dalet in Hebrew is pictured as a tent door.

Doors in biblical symbolism are used to identify portals, openings, admittance points that allows what is in one realm or level to access what is in another realm or level.

The door now stands open and Jesus says no one can shut it. The greatest and most effective open door is the door that gives us the opportunity to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ.

It was the ability to hear the Gospel that led to our salvation! **Romans 10:8-9, 17 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach).**

Hearing the Word of God preached/taught, is the opportunity that Father God grants us, to get His Word in our hearts so we can speak it by faith with our mouths.

9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved... 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

When the Word of God goes into an open, receptive heart it produces faith.

Faith is the main resource of the born-again believer's life. The more Word we hear, the more substance we have to live an abundant life.

Hebrews 10:38-39 Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him." 39 But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.



Faith not only saves us, but faith puts us in right standing with God. **Galatians 3:10-11 (NLT)** So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life."

It is the Zoe (God kind of life) that Jesus came and died for us to have. **John 10:9-10** I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Notice Jesus says here not only will you be saved, but you will find pasture as well.

He is comparing people to sheep. Sheep want good green pasture. That's the desire of their heart. As born-again believers, we have a right to desire the good things of life and there is nothing wrong with that, as long as you stay in the will of God.

And God says, in **Psalms 37:4-5** Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. This doesn't necessarily mean that he will give you what you desire, it means is that God will put the right desires in your heart, so that you will have a desire for that.

5 Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.

The "it" here, is the desires of our heart, but we must commit our way of doing things to Him.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Jesus Christ is the door of salvation. *No one can get to the Father without going through the door which is Jesus Christ.*

But once we get into Christ, there are many other doors that Jesus Christ will set us before.

1. These doors lead to opportunities to offer salvation to others.
2. Opportunities to help enhance the lives of others. *Providing physical resources, wisdom, and setting a good example on how to live a Christian abundant life.*
3. As well as doors that lead to opportunities for life more abundantly for us.

The second greatest and most effective door is the opportunity to share the glorious gospel of the Kingdom of God. The gospel that Jesus Christ saves and offers (Zoe) the abundant life.

Open Doors to receive and share the Gospel.

Jesus is Lord~Assembly of Love
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The first kingdom door that opened for us was when we got saved. **Colossians 1:13 (Amplified Version) [The Father] has delivered and drawn us to Himself out of the control and the dominion of darkness** (this whole world is under the control of darkness, satan's rule)

From entertainment, to politics, to the educational system and even identifying with oneself, it's all under the sway of satan's rule. **1 John 5:19-20 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.**

The more we, the church (born-again believers) lower our standards and morals, the more room we give to satan to exercise his rule and power in the earth.

Judgment begins in the House of the Lord. The church (born-again believers) are the ones that holds back darkness, the evil of this world, and the anti-christ from taking over.

2 Thessalonians 2:6-8 (NLT) And you know what is holding him back, for he can be revealed only when his time comes. 7 For this lawlessness is already at work secretly, and it will remain secret until the one who is holding it back steps out of the way. 8 Then the man of lawlessness will be revealed, but the Lord Jesus will kill him with the breath of his mouth and destroy him by the splendor of his coming.

Ephesians 2:1-2 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, (we were born this way) 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air,