

## I Am the Door—John 10:7-10

- **Intro:**
  - **Doors:**
    - Life presents many different doors into many different lifestyles and journeys.
    - Where we are today, to some degree, is the cumulative effect of doors we've walked through...decisions we've made!
    - **Ultimately only 2 doors—door to LIFE and the door to DEATH**
      - **Door to Death**—presents itself in TONS of forms and ways but ultimately only leads to emptiness and destruction.
      - **Door to Life**—only in ONE form...Jesus Christ!
  - **Context:**
    - **Chapter 9—Jesus heals the man born blind and it literally INFURIATES the Pharisees!**
    - **Chapter 10—v.1-5 = Jesus using language of sheep and a shepherd and that God shepherds the flock of his people and knows them by name! He then says that if anyone tries to enter by any other way, you are thieves and robbers—this is the Pharisees!**
- **Jesus ANNOUNCES that he is the MEANS of having relationship with God.**
  - **Jesus is an EXCLUSIVE Savior—He's the ONLY ONE who can perform that function!**
  - The Pharisees saw themselves as the gatekeepers of righteousness and the managers of the people of God. Their Law-keeping and moral living made them able to oversee and manage what they thought to be the true people of God.
    - **Matthew 23:14—Jesus condemns the Pharisees for being wicked gatekeepers of the kingdom.**
  - Yet, Jesus is saying that indeed HE is the Door. HE is the means by which people enter into and enjoy relationship with God.
  - Jesus is ANNOUNCING in clear day, the GOSPEL of Jesus Christ, not the Law-Keeping system of the Pharisees is the means of entering relationship with God.
    - **Pharisees—multiple DOORS to get to the Presence of God—had to go through multiple layers to get to the Holy of Holies.**
    - **Jesus—in the gospel, through Christ, the DOOR directly to the presence of God is wide open!**
  - **Sad Truth—the Pharisees were so consumed with their own prestige, power and glory that they literally missed the King of Glory standing right in front of them!**
- **Jesus INVITES people into relationship with God through Himself**
  - **Jesus offers all ALL-INCLUSIVE invitation!**
  - Jesus is standing RIGHT IN FRONT OF THEM SAYING...."enter by me." Yet, the Pharisees miss him!
  - **For the Pharisees—their own system of religious observance and Torah-Keeping, their glory and prominence as religious elite and gatekeepers, the perceived neediness kept them from accessing the Door of Christ and his gospel.**
    - **What is keeping you from engaging Jesus? Rule Keeping? Rule breaking? Career pursuits? Unhealthy relationships? What idolatrous pursuit is preventing you from entering into and enjoying vibrant relationship with the Father through Jesus?**
  - **Ultimately 2 Groups of Sheep—Those saved and cared for by Jesus and those lost and consumed in sin and darkness!**
  - **The Door is a PERSON**

- The Door is not a system; the Door is not a list; the Door is not a Major; the Door is not a job; the Door is not a political party; the Door is not a drug...the Door is Jesus!
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- Jesus PROMISES salvation and joy to all who enter by him.
  - Jesus SAVES! This is the promise attached to the abandonment of empty idols!
    - SAVED FROM SIN'S—Penalty, Power and Presence
  - This is a bit of the freedom we talked about last week—inside of this promise is the ability to “take pasture” with Jesus. Sound weird? This is simply the reality that inside of relationship with Jesus is joy. It’s freedom. It’s pasture. Free-range pasture is the opposite of slavery, shackles, constriction!
  - Jesus SATISFIES
    - In the pasture, the Shepherd supplies ALL the needs of the sheep!
      - Comfort? Rebuke? Encouragement? Hope? Joy? He gives ALL we need!
    - Philippians 4:19—my God will meet ALL YOUR NEEDS according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus!
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- Conclusion:
  - Entering through the Door of Jesus in THIS LIFE enables you to enter the Door of Glory in the next!
  - The only hope and justification we will have for being able to enter the eternal rest and joy of eternity will be Door of Christ!