

CHRIST THE DOOR

JOHN 10:9 • TV052A

A television broadcast sermon delivered
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH, 1977

By

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Transcribed, edited and published
AUGUST 23RD, 2018

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John 10:9

“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”

I’m going to read from the book of **John chapter 10:9**, one verse of Scripture and then speak to you on the subject: **“CHRIST THE DOOR.”**

If you have your Bible I’d like for you to open to this Scripture and just keep the Scripture open during the entire message. Our Lord said, *“I am the door, by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved and shall go in and out and find pasture.”*

Do you know what we desperately need in this day more than anything else? We need a message from the Lord. We need a word from God.

Now, it doesn’t take a wise man to discover that what we’re hearing from the average pulpit today is not from God; it’s from man. Old Dr. J.R. Graves use to say, “If my voice is the only voice you hear, nothing of any eternal value or any spiritual value will be accomplished by you.”

Christmas Evans was heard to pray one day, “Lord, I’ve gone into the pulpit by myself for the last time. If you don’t go with me today I’m not going.” The apostle John could say, *“This is the message that we have heard from Him and declare unto you.”*

And the old prophets began their messages with these words, *“Thus saith the Lord.”* We’re desperately in need today in our churches to hear a message from the Lord, a message from God.

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Now there are many people who are content to walk down an aisle and shake a preacher's hand and give mental agreement to some facts about heaven and hell, about death, judgment, and about the resurrection.

But for those who are seeking the Lord they want more. And there are some people who are content to play church, engage in building a strong religious organization with contests, socials, ballgames, and fleshly enthusiasm. There are some people who are content with that.

But those who are seeking the Lord want more. There are some people who are content to adopt a denominational program or a denominational system of doctrine or a faith handed down to them by their parents or perhaps one that fits their social pattern.

But those who are seeking the Lord want more. There are those who are content to study the Bible in order that they might be orthodox, in order that they might be exact in their practice and in their creed. And they find their security in being sound in doctrine.

But those who seek the Lord want more. They want to hear from God. They want to hear a message from the living God. It's not our words that God has promised to bless. It is His Word.

Listen to **Isaiah 55:11**; *"So shall my Word be that goeth forth out of my mouth. It shall not return unto me void but it shall accomplish that which I please and my Word shall prosper (perform the thing) whereunto I sent it."* My friend; it's by the Word of God that men are born again, not by our words, not by our logic, not by our argument, not by the presentation of our doctrines; it's by the Word of God that men are born again.

Listen to **1 Peter 1:23**; *"Being born again not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible by the Word of God which liveth and abideth forever."*

It's the Word of God that the Holy Spirit uses to quicken dead sinners. It's the Word of God that the Holy Spirit uses to convince men of sin. It's the Word of God that the Holy Spirit uses to reveal Christ, not our words, God's Word.

And then listen to **Romans 10:17**; It's by the Word of God that faith comes, *"Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."*

Also, it is by the Word of God that we're sanctified. When our Lord prayed in Gethsemane's Garden, **John 17**; listen to what he said, *"Sanctify them by thy Word; thy Word is truth."*

Then it's by the Word of God that men grow in grace. Peter writing to the church says: *"As newborn babes desire the sincere milk of the Word that you may grow thereby."*

It's by the Word of God that we have assurance. John wrote in **1 John 5:13**: *"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God that you might have life."*

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This is why we desperately need a message from God. This is why we desperately need a word from God because it's by the Word of God that men are born again.

It is by the Word of God that men are convinced of sin. It is by the Word of God that Christ is revealed. It is by the Word of God that we are sanctified. It is by the Word of God that we receive comfort and assurance. And it's by the Word of God that we grow in grace.

Now, when we realize the importance of God's Word, the power of God's Word, and the necessity of God's Word, we'll never be content with anything else. We'll never be content with listening to the words of men, the reasoning's of men, and the arguments of men.

We will pray, oh God give us a word from thee. That's what we need desperately in this day. We need a message from God.

Now here's a word from our Master. I've selected this as my text. I believe it's appropriate for our day. I believe it's a word from our God for this day, for any day. Our Lord said, "*I am the door.*" This is a word from Him, "*I am the door, by me if any man enter in he shall be saved and he shall go in and out and find pasture.*"

Now let me divide that up and speak to you on that subject, "**CHRIST THE DOOR.**"

First of all: He said, "*I am the door.*"

Now, when our Lord speaks to us about Himself, He comes down to where we are. He comes down to a common place. He comes down and speaks of things that we understand. That's right; when the Master speaks of Himself, He comes to a common place, and speaks in everyday things that we can understand.

You know, most preachers with their high sounding phrases and their deep theology and their big words cannot communicate with real people, but Christ could. He communicated with people. They gathered around Him to hear Him.

And when He spoke of Himself He said, "*I am the water. I am the water of life. Ho everyone that thirsteth, come to the water.*" You know what it is to be thirsty. The people who listen to our Lord knew what it was to be thirsty and He spoke to them about water.

He said, "*I am the water of life.*" When He talked to the woman at the well He said, "*I'll give you living water.*" You come to this well and you draw day after day and your thirst is never fully and completely quenched. "*But if you ask of me I'll give you living water and you'll never thirst again.*"

Our Lord said, "*I am the bread of life.*" The table is spread. "*Come and dine.*" Our Lord said, "*Though your sins be as scarlet; I'll make them as white as the snow.*"

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We know what it is to be thirsty. We know what water will do for a thirsty throat. We know what it is to be hungry. We know what bread will do for those who are hungry.

We know how beautiful the snow covers, even these cold, dark, mountains of ours, and makes them white and beautiful. The hand of God just completely covers every blemish and every mark and every stain.

And here in our text our Lord says, *"I'm the door."* Now, I know what a door's for. I know what a door can do and you do too. I know that I need a door. I know by passing through this door over here that I can come into this room.

If I'm on the outside of that door and I want in; that door is the way that I can come into this room. And even so, our Lord Jesus Christ is saying this: *"I am the door."* I am the door into the fellowship of God; I am the door into the kingdom of God. I am the door into communion with God. I am the door into fellowship with God. I am the door to eternal life. *"I am the door and by me if any man enter in he shall be saved."* I am the way of life.

How does a person come into this room? He comes through that door over there. Everyone who enters this room must come through that door. And all who enter the kingdom of God must come through Christ.

He said, *"I am the door. I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to God but by me."* Thank God He has given us a door. By our fall in Adam we are outside. By our sins of the flesh we're outside.

And without a door someone said, "The house of mercy would be a house of misery. *"Our sins have separated us from God."* Our sins like the clouds have separated us from God. What hope would we have if we didn't have a door?

What hope would we have if God had not provided a door? What hope would we have, what way back to God if He hadn't of said, *"I am the door?"* There is a door and Christ is that door.

And listen to this, Christ is the only door. He said, *"I am the door, (not a door, not one of the many doors) I am the door."* "Is there not some other way preacher, perhaps, you know, the law, perhaps maybe the church, perhaps maybe the ordinances, perhaps maybe the doctrines?" No, Christ said; *"I am the door."*

Our Lord Jesus Christ over and over again expresses this and emphasizes this; He says, *"You go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature and he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. And he that believeth not shall be damned."* It's just that clear.

John said in **1 John 5:11**; *"This is the record that God hath given us eternal life and this life's in His Son."* It's not in the law, it's not in the ordinances, it's not in the church, it's not in the altar, it's not in the church roll book, and it's not in the pool; it's in Christ.

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“This life’s in his Son and he that hath the Son of God hath life and he that hath not the Son of God shall never see life.”

Christ is the door and the only door. Peter said; *“We know that we are not redeemed with corruptible things such as silver and gold from our vain conversations, received by tradition from our fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ.”*

And the apostle wrote, *“Other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, Christ the Lord. There is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.”*

Christ Jesus is the door. Do you want into fellowship with God; you’ll have to come by Christ. Do you want into communion with God; you’ll have to come by Christ. You want into the kingdom of God; you’ll have to come by Christ. He said, *“I am the door.”*

Second: Now watch this, *“By me if any man enter in.”* This is a word from God. This is what we need. This is what we need our preachers to do, is give us: *“Thus saith the Lord,”* not what he thinks, not what he supposes, not what he studied at the Seminary, not what somebody told him, what God said.

Christ said, *“I am the door.”* There’s no room for argument there; *“Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness. God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of the angels, preached to the Gentiles, and believed on in the world, received up to glory.”* There’s no controversy to it; this is what He said.

And He said, *“By me if any man enter in.”* Now I want you to note three things and I divide this up into three things that you might understand it better that I might understand it better.

First of all: He says: *“By me if any man enter in he shall be saved.”*

It’s not by your works; it’s by His works. It’s not by your life; it’s by His life. It’s not by your sacrifice and your submission and your death; it’s by His death. *“It’s by me if any man enter in he shall be saved.”*

Listen to **Philippians 3:8 and 9**; Paul said, *“That I may win Christ and be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness which is by the law but the righteousness of God which is by the faith of Christ, that I may win Christ.”* It’s by Him that we enter in.

Listen to **1 Timothy 2:5**; *“There’s one God, one mediator between God and men and that’s the man Christ Jesus.”* Now get this, God will not speak to nor be spoken to by any sinner except through Christ.

“It’s by me if any man enter in. I’m the door, (the only door).” Thank you God there is a door. It’s the door unto the fellowship with God. It’s the door to pardon and mercy but Christ said; *“I am the door and by me,”* (by His efforts and His strength and His merit and His goodness and His righteousness, by Christ alone we enter in).

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Now watch this. *“If any man enter in.”* Now the same way to God is available and required of every man the same way. There’s not one way of salvation for Moses and another for me.

There’s not one way of salvation for the moral woman and another way for the harlot. There’s not one way of salvation for the preacher and another for the drunkard. There’s not one way of salvation for the honest and another for the thief.

There’s only one way. Christ said, *“By me, if any man.”* I don’t care if he’s in the Whitehouse or the prison. It doesn’t matter whether he’s in the pulpit or the gutter. It doesn’t matter whether he’s in the church or in the world.

It doesn’t matter if he’s an Atheist, an Agnostic, a skeptic, an infidel, a Pharisee, a Sadducee, a Scribe, a religious person, an old man or a young man. It doesn’t matter if he’s educated or uneducated, if he’s in the depths of Russia or the heart of New York, *“If any man enter in by me he shall be saved, (Jew or Gentile, Catholic or Baptist, Atheist or religious) by me if any man enter in.”*

Now watch the next word. Our Lord said, *“I’m the door by me,”* not by your works, not by your decision, not even by your faith. He said, *“By me if any man enter in.”*

Don’t make a Saviour out of your faith. Don’t make a Saviour out of your experience. There’s just one Saviour and that’s Christ. Don’t make a Saviour out of your confession. There’s just one Saviour, Christ.

Salvation is not something you do for God it’s something that God does for you. It’s a work that God performs in His power and by His grace through His Son in you and for you. Christ said, *“By me, if any man enter in;”* now that’s mighty important.

A man is not saved by studying the door but by using the door. That’s right! It’s not enough to study the door; it’s not enough to admire the door.

Nicodemus admired Jesus Christ; he said, *“No man could do the miracles you do except God be with him.”* But Nicodemus can’t be saved by admiring Christ; he’s got to receive Christ.

What does the Word say? *“To as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God.”* Not those that studied Him or admired Him or spoke well of Him, or thought highly of Him, *“Those who received Him;”* that’s the way of salvation, it’s to receive Christ.

It’s not to talk about the door. I can stand outside this room for 30 years and never enter it, and look at the door and admire the door and talk about the door and know of the existence of the door, but I’ve got to use the door.

Do you see that? I’ve got to enter in: *“As many as received Him, to them gave He the power, (the right, the privilege) to become sons of God.”* Listen to **Romans chapter 10:9 and 10:** *“If*

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thou shalt confess with thy mouth Jesus to be Lord and believe in thine heart God hath raised Him from the dead; thou shalt be saved.”

But you’re going to have to believe it and you’re going to have to receive it and you’re going to have to confess Him, a person, that’s right. Listen to **1 Timothy 1:12**; Paul said, *“I know whom I have believed and I’m persuaded that He’s able to keep that which I have committed unto Him.”*

How about you? Have you used the door? “Oh I think a lot of Christ. Yea; I think He’s a fine prophet and a great preacher and a great healer. I admire Him and He’s one of the greatest prophets.” That’s fine; have you believed on Him, have you received Him?

“I know the door is there preacher.” Have you used it? Have you entered in or are you just standing outside talking about the door and admiring the door or have you used it?

“By me if any man enter in” willingly, lovingly, deliberately, intelligently; Christ is my way to God.

Third: Now watch this: *“He shall be saved.”* Isn’t that a beautiful word?

“I am the door.” That’s a word from God, *“I am the door.”* He leaves no doubt about it. He mentions no other way. *“I am the door by me, if any man he shall be saved,”* delivered, forgiven, pardoned, justified, accepted and embraced by God, an heir of God and a child of God.

You know, when we talk about salvation; I don’t think we can improve on the definition used by the old-timers. This is a definition used by the old writer’s back four, five, seven, eight hundred years ago, a four-fold salvation in Christ.

First of all: There is deliverance!

Salvation means deliverance. It means to be delivered. There’s deliverance from the penalty of sin. All of our sins are paid for and put away. Isn’t that beautiful? Isn’t that wonderful?

And you who have sinned against God and you know it and you feel it and you mourn over it and grieve over it; can’t you rejoice that God has put away all your sins by the blood of His Son? That’s what it says in **Galatians 3:13**: *“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law being made a curse for us.”*

Romans 8:1: *“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ. Who is He that condemneth? (Who is He that can condemn?) Who can lay anything to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth.”*

So we are delivered. We’re saved from the penalty of sin, no judgment, no condemnation, no wrath, no damnation, and no hell; that’s right, in Christ. *“I am the door. By me if any man enter in he shall be saved (he shall be delivered from the penalty of sin).”*

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Second: But further; listen, He shall be saved from the guilt of sin. In **Colossians chapter 1:22** the Scripture says, *“In the body of His flesh He presents you holy, unblameable, unproveable in God’s sight.”*

Now you think about that. Can you think of anything richer than that? Can you think of any blessing greater than that? Can you think of any gift more valuable than that, to be presented in the sight of God, holy, as holy as Christ, *“unblameable, and unproveable?”* But that’s what we have in Christ: *“By me if any man enter in he shall be saved”* from the penalty of sin and from the guilt of sin, totally delivered.

Listen to **Jude 1:24**; *“Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling and to present you unblameable, (holy) faultless, before the presence of His glory, (absolutely faultless); that’s what He’s saying.*

Listen to David, *“Happy is the man to whom God will not charge sin,”*. There is no charge. There’s nothing on my account in the presence of God, nothing, saved from the guilt of sin.

But more than that; *“I am the door. By me if any man enter in he shall be saved,”* not only from sin’s penalty, not only from sin’s guilt; his slate is wiped clean, just as pure and clean, Christ said, *“As the (driven) snow.”*

Thirdly: Saved from the power of sin.

“Sin shall not have dominion over you.” We’re not in Satan’s kingdom any longer. We’re not under Satan’s reign any longer. We’re not under Satan’s rule. We’re not under Satan’s dominions; we are under Christ’s reign.

Christ is our Lord, and Christ is our King, and Christ reigns over us and rules over us. *“And sin shall not have dominion over you.”*

Fourthly: And thank God; we’re saved. *“I am the door. By me, if any man, enter in he shall be saved”* not only from sin’s penalty and sin’s guilt and sin’s power but someday from sin’s very presence.

That’s right; not yet, I know that. I know we have a battle with sin. I know we have a conflict. I know we have a warfare in which we are engaged and there’s no discharging this war. But I’ll tell you this; *“Behold what manner of love God hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God. And it doth not yet appear what we shall be but when He shall appear, when He, (our Lord) shall appear, we shall be just like Him. And he that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself.”* That’s right!

Paul wrote over there in **1 Corinthians** and said: *“This corruptible is going to put on incorruption. And this mortal is going to put on immortality.”* And this weakness is going to put on the strength of God. And this flesh is going to take on the very glory of God almighty one of

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these days. And because of what Christ did for me I'm going to be set free, totally, completely set free.

Thanks be unto God who giveth us the victory in Christ our Lord, from all sin. Then shall be brought to pass the saying Paul wrote; *"Death is swallowed up in victory. O death where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?"*

Now in closing our Lord said; this is a word from God, this is what we need today. We need some preachers to get in the pulpit and on the radio and on the television and preach, *"Thus saith the Lord."*

And quit preaching about the Gospel and start preaching the Gospel, and quit preaching about the Bible and start preaching the Bible, and quit preaching about the Word of God and start preaching the Word of God.

"I am the door by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved."

Now watch the last line, *"And he shall go in and out and find pasture."* What's pasture to the sheep? It's a place to graze, it's a place to feed, it's a place to lie down, it's a place of protection, it's a place of provision, and it's a place of rest.

And that's what our Lord is saying here, he shall find satisfaction. You'll never find it in the bottle, no sir. You'll never find it in pleasure, no sir. *"There's pleasure in sin for a season."*

You'll never find it rebelling against God. You'll never find it in business. You'll never find it in entertainment. You'll never find it in this world. You will never find satisfaction. It can only be found in a right relationship with the living God through Christ.

Listen to **Jeremiah 31:14**; *"My people shall be satisfied with my goodness."* And they are; they are satisfied. David wrote in **Psalms 103**; *"Bless the Lord O my soul and all that is within me bless His holy name. Bless the Lord O my soul and forget not all His benefits, who forgiveth all thine iniquities. Who healeth all thy diseases, who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth thee with loving kindness, who satisfieth thy mouth with good things."*

Yes sir; I'll tell you this; there's real satisfaction in Christ. *"He that entereth in shall go in and out and he shall find pasture"* and he shall find protection. He shall find joy, rest, and food for his soul. He shall find comfort and assurance. He shall find all things in Christ. All things are yours in Christ. That's right, everything.

Now watch the last thing. Satisfaction in Christ, yes, but do you know when we'll have total satisfaction? David wrote it; David said this, *"I shall be satisfied when I awake with His likeness."*

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It's all Christ though; that's where it starts and that's where it's continued and that's where it's completed, in Christ. We never leave Him. We find everything in Him. And our total satisfaction will be that day when we become just like Him!