

# FEASTING ON THE FAITHFULNESS OF *JESUS*

## The Faithful Door

John 10

INTRODUCTION: As I take you back into the gospel of John this morning, we are going to see Jesus take for Himself a rather unusual name. This is the name of something that is sometimes a thing and sometimes a place, and this name is used often as significant in a number of places in the Bible. See if you can guess it without whispering it to your neighbor.

- Abraham was sitting by this when the Lord appeared to him.
- When a Hebrew slave was offered freedom by his master according to God's law, the slave could choose to serve his master forever. If he made that choice, the slave's ear was pierced while he stood in this place.
- When Aaron and his sons were consecrated as priests to the Most High God, they were ceremonially washed in this place.
- When Moses went into the tabernacle, the pillar of cloud with the glory of the Lord descended from the sky and stood in this place.
- When God showed Ezekiel a picture of the future temple, living water flowed from under this to give life to all it touched.
- The blood of the Passover lamb was applied above and alongside of this.
- When Jesus said, "I am this" He was talking about a man who sat in the only entrance to a rock pen that served as a coral in which one or more flocks of sheep were kept for the night.

I'm sure you have guessed it by now! Jesus said, "I am the door ..."

Jesus is the fulfillment of each picture of the door I just mentioned. First,

### **JESUS IS THE DOOR OF THE SHEEP.**

**John 10:7-9 NKJV** 7 Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who *ever* came before Me are thieves and robbers, but

the sheep did not hear them. 9 I am the door. **If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.**

- **Sheep enter the fold through the door.**
  - Sheep enter one by one!
  - Jesus states clearly He is talking about salvation, being a part of God's fold, God's family.
- **Sheep are fed by going through the door.**
- **Sheep are kept in the fold by the door.**

John 10:27-30 NKJV 27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. 30 I and My Father are one."

- Sheep are not protected by their own power but by the power of the Shepherd.

Jesus not only said, "I am the door of the sheep," but also, "I am the door," taking up the other significant statements about the door in Scripture.

When God showed Ezekiel a picture of the future temple, living water flowed from under the temple door to give life to all it touched.

**FROM JESUS THE DOOR, FLOWS THE LIVING WATER WHICH BRINGS LIFE OUT OF DEATH AND QUENCHES OUR THIRST SO THAT WE NEVER THIRST AGAIN.**

When Jesus was talking with the woman at the well, He said to her,

John 4:13-14 NKJV ... "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

On the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, Jesus cried out to the crowd,

John 7:38-39 NKJV 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” 39 But **this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; ....**

- As believers and followers of Christ, we have the Holy Spirit in us, who can flow from us to bless others.
  - Giving your testimony, sharing the gospel
  - Praying for the sick or hurting
  - Counseling those who need direction from the Scriptures. If you will counsel people from the Word of God, you don't need a degree or certification.
    - What a powerful combination:
    - Spirit-inspired Word,
    - Spirit-illuminated mind,
    - Spirit-empowered explanation and application!

When Aaron and his sons were consecrated as priests to the Most High God, they were ceremonially washed at the door of the tabernacle.

The outer fence surrounding the tabernacle was white linen as were the robes worn by the priests, a testimony to the holiness of God.

As there was only one door to the sheepfold, so also there was only one door into the courtyard of the tabernacle. But my, oh my, what a door it was.

Erected on the beige/brown sand of the desert, it would have glowed with brilliant color.

- It too was woven of pure white linen, pointing to the holiness of God, but it also was
- Woven with the blue of heaven
- And with the purple of royalty

- And with the scarlet of blood.

Each of those proclaiming the Lord Jesus Christ, who would later declare, "I am the door!"

And at the door of the tabernacle, Aaron and his sons were washed, anointed with oil, and clothed as priests to represent men to God and God to men. Now, ...

## **JESUS IS THE DOOR TO OUR BECOMING PRIESTS OF GOD.**

1 Peter 2:4-5 NKJV 4 Coming to Him as *to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,* 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Folks, listen, now we are the ones, we who have trusted in Christ,

- We get to represent God to people.
- We get to lift up people to God with the certainty that as His children we can 24/7/365 enter His throne room and the Almighty hears us as our loving Heavenly Father who delights in giving good gifts to His children.

Let me close by explaining one more of the biblical references to the door that pictures the work and ministry of the Lord Jesus, our faithful door.

When a Hebrew slave was offered freedom by his master according to God's law, if he or she loved their master and his family, the slave could choose to serve his master forever. If he made that choice, the slave's ear was pierced while he leaned against the doorpost.

## **WE ARE SAVED WHEN BY FAITH WE CHOOSE JESUS TO BE OUR LORD AND MASTER FOREVER.**

Romans 10:9 NKJV ...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.

CONCLUSION: My friend, do you want

- To enter God's forever family and have Him care for you and keep you in His family forever? Jesus is the door!

- To have the Spirit of God living in you, leading you, guiding you, helping you understand the Word of God, and blessing you and those around you by His Presence? Jesus is the door.
- To be one of God's modern day priests, someone who has direct access to God through our High Priest, the Lord Jesus? Jesus is the door.

All of this is yours, if you will recognize the love Jesus showed for you by dying on the cross for your sins, and in gratitude and faith you surrender your life to Him, saying, "I want You to be my Lord and Master forever." Jesus is the door.