

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1231

September 2, 2018

Revelation 3:20, “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”

The above verse paints a very vivid image. Many actual paintings have been made from this verse. Jesus is at the door and knocking. Note that Jesus did not say He will stand or has stood. It is present tense. He is standing at the door and now knocking.

I’m sure we all have had people come to the door of our house and knock. Then, for whatever reason, we don’t go to the door and open it. The knocking will persist for a bit, but after a little time the person knocking will turn and go away. They leave because no one answered the door.

We have two things we need to do when Jesus knocks. We first of all have to hear His voice. Many have heard, and are hearing the voice of Jesus now by their reading, attendance, etc. But hearing Jesus is not enough.

Not only is it not enough to hear, we have to open the door. Just as

we would not expect a visitor at the door of our house to open the door on their own and come on in uninvited, Jesus will not come into us unless we open the door for Him.

If we don’t open the door, He will leave. The knocking will not continue endlessly. There will be opportunities to open the door to Jesus, but with time they will cease.

The door is a metaphor for what stands between us and Jesus. That needs to be removed by opening the door.

What happens if we do indeed open the door when Jesus is knocking? He first of all will come into us. There is no wondering if Jesus will come into us when we open the door. He will. We open this door by obeying the LORD by the steps of our belief, repentance, and confession leading up to baptism. Baptism then washes away our sins and at that point we have let Jesus in.

Jesus will then sup with us and we with Him. This indicates having a meal together. To have someone in our homes and eat with them is a close communion. A guest might eat and then leave. Family does not.

There is no mention of Jesus ever leaving or the closing of the door. Jesus has this close communion with us eternally. The only way Jesus will leave is if we ask Him to by our becoming unfaithful.

The next time we see a door is three verses later in Revelation 4:1. John saw a door opened in Heaven. This door did not have to be opened. It was already open. Part of the imagery here could easily represent that once we open the door to Jesus, it then makes the door into Heaven always open for us.

It was not a window John saw. It was a door. This permits entrance. We will be granted entrance through this door if we open the door to Jesus now and let Him always sup with us.

—Marty Edwards❖

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Jean Coffey, Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Shirley Parson, and Erin Davis. Leon Seaton**, the father of Steve Seaton has lung cancer. **Frances Kidd**, the mother of Vicki McDaniel, was recently admitted to the nursing home in Horse Cave. **Breanna Riffle** has discovered she has an irregular heartbeat and will be seeing a cardiologist.

—Congratulations to **Elaine Reynolds** on the birth of her great-grandson, **Chase Avery Garrison**, who was born on her birthday, August 27. The mother is **Mylaka Quigley**, who attended here a few years ago as a child.

☆☆☆

Psalms 119:105, “*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*”

We are now in September and the days are getting much shorter. The morning light comes later and darkness comes much earlier. This will continue until the shortest day of the year. At some latitudes the days become so short that there is very little to no light during the day.

We live in times where sin is all around us. It always has been, but Paul wrote in II Timothy 3:13, “*But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.*” People will become worse as time moves on. Not only are they worse, but with mass media and instant communication, we see the works of darkness instantly and all about us.

Just as we need to use lights for a longer portion of the day as winter approaches, we need to burn spiritual lights more and more to shine in the darkness that is becoming more prevalent.

Times are dark indeed, but we have a light to guide us through these dark times. As the Psalmist wrote, the word of God is a lamp unto our feet and a light for our path.

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| Sunday, August 26, 2018 | | |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| Classes | 10 | Hebrews 2:16-18 |
| Preaching | 17 | Matthew 5:1-12 |
| Contribution | \$574.00 | |
| Evening | 15 | Malachi 1:1-14 |
| Wednesday, August 29, 2018 | | |
| Classes | 20 | I Chronicles 8:1-40 |

Bible Quiz

The name of the LORD would be great among the Gentiles from where to where?

Last Week's Answer— Living waters (Zechariah 14:8)

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Just as walking in darkness will cause us to fall if we do not use a light, we will fall spiritual if we fail to use the light of the Gospel. It will guide us through the darkest paths and the darkest of times. It will guide us to Heaven where God and the Lamb are the light. There will be no sin and darkness. There will be no night there.

—Marty Edwards❖

—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)