

## THE DOOR IS STILL OPEN IN HEAVEN

*Rev 4:1 After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.*

When Lucifer believed that he could be equal with God, he and the angels who rebelled with him discovered to their horror that the door to heaven was closed upon them. “For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit” (Isaiah 14: 13-15). Since then, Lucifer has only lived with one purpose in mind: to ensure the door to heaven is closed upon humans too. “Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matthew 25:41).

When Adam and Eve sinned against God, the way back to the Garden of Eden and the intimate presence of God was closed. “So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life” (Genesis 3:24). How painful that must have been for Adam and Eve. They spent the rest of their lives agonizing over this closed door. Perhaps they often went back to this same spot hoping that maybe God has had mercy and opened the door back; sadly, the door was always closed. Years later, God commanded Moses to build a tabernacle in the desert. The veil that divided the rest of the tabernacle from the holy of holies signified that the door to heaven was still closed for humans. “And thou shalt hang up the vail under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the vail the ark of the testimony: and the vail shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy” (Exodus 26:33).

But God loves us humans more than we can understand. God was determined to open the door to heaven which we had closed through our sins. So, his word was made flesh and he dwelt among us. He bore our sins in his body and through this body opened the door to heaven. “Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent” (Matthew 27: 50,51). The flesh of the Lord was the veil that separated us from the presence of God. His body is the door the door to heaven.

**John 10:7** *Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.*

**John 10:8** *All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.*

**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.*

Consider the ark of Noah. The door was tall enough for the giraffes to enter and wide enough for the elephants too. However big or small our sins, the mercy and grace of Jesus is always bigger. The children of Israel applied the blood of the lamb upon the door posts of their houses. And then every Israelite: children, adults and the elderly, all went out through the same doors with the blood. “And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it” (Exodus 12: 7). Only God knew when the last creature would enter the ark before he closed the door. Perhaps the cheetahs were the first and the snails were the last – perhaps God first gave the message to snails so the scripture would be fulfilled, “But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first” (Matthew 19:30). But we can be sure of one thing: the door to the new world was open until the creatures who should be saved had entered. Not all the animals were saved – in fact, the majority did not survive. Similarly, let us be careful, for the Lord warned: “So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen” (Matthew 20:16).

Saints of God, there may be many doors closed to us in this world. The doors of some of your dreams appear shut – never to open again in this life. Some of you may even have family members who have shut the door of love and reconciliation. Yet others have to live with the painful fact that they can never return to their countries for various reasons. We live in a world where many doors are shut, and it appears they will never open again. There is one door, however, that is still open – it is the door in heaven. This door is Jesus. The last memory of the drowning people in the days of Noah was perhaps the door that was open and then shut. Do not wait while the door is open. Enter in! Believe that Jesus is the one God who came in his own flesh and blood to redeem us from our sins. Believe that your sins are washed through the shedding of his blood. Believe and be baptized in Jesus name and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). The door is still open in heaven indeed!