

## The Door; John 10:7-9

- I. Amen, Amen
  - A. John 10:7 (ESV); So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.
  - B. “The double amen”
    1. “Strong affirmation of what is stated”
      - a) As an expression of faith — let it be so, truly
      - b) An assertive particle, truly, always — beginning a solemn declaration but used only by Jesus” <sup>1</sup>
    2. The focus of this strong affirmation is on the Jesus as the door — of the sheep
  - C. We are the sheep
- II. The Door
  - A. John 10:1 (ESV); “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber.
  - B. John 10:10 (ESV); The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.
  - C. Security and Safety
  - D. “Steal, kill, and destroy”
    1. Triads in Paul’s writings
      - a) Faith, hope, love
      - b) 1 Thessalonians 1:3 (ESV); remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.
      - c) Turn, serve, wait
      - d) 1 Thessalonians 1:9–10 (ESV); <sup>9</sup> For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.
    2. Triads in Jesus’ sayings
      - a) Way, truth, life
      - b) John 14:6 (ESV); Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
      - c) Ask, seek, knock
      - d) Matthew 7:7 (ESV); “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.
    3. “The use of a triad such as “steal and kill [better “slaughter”] and destroy” (10:10) is a typical biblical way of emphasizing either positive or negative qualities.” <sup>2</sup>
    4. “Here the triad sets the context of the powerful nature of the evil opponents of Jesus who threaten the security of the flock.” <sup>3</sup>
  - E. A door is protection
    1. Keep your bedroom door closed at night
    2. The closed door delays flames in case of a fire
    3. It also keeps the air clear for a longer period of time, helping you breath and plan your escape
    4. Jesus likens himself to a guardian — In Arabic the word Bāb (“gate”) is used to refer to Muslim leaders. This name implies that they are regarded as the gates to wisdom.

---

<sup>1</sup> William Arndt et al., A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 53.

<sup>2</sup> Gerald L. Borchert, John 1–11, vol. 25A, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1996), 332.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, 333.

5. Shepherds, after they herd the flock into the pen, will lie across the doorway for the night — to keep the predators out and the sheep in
  6. Jesus is our protection against those who want to “steal, kill, and destroy”
- F. A door is an entrance
1. In Alaska, one of my duties was to control entry into the Alaskan North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD)
  2. People would have to present their credentials before I allowed them to access NORAD
  3. If they presented the correct credentials, I opened the door for them
- G. In John 14:6 Jesus is very clear that He is the only way — the one who controls entry — to the Father
1. We must present the correct credentials to Him to be allowed access
  2. Ephesians 1:13 (ESV); In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,
  3. We are given the Holy Spirit after our belief and our baptism
  4. Acts 2:37–39 (ESV); <sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” <sup>38</sup> And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”
  5. Luke 13:24 (ESV); “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.
  6. Matthew 7:13–14 (ESV); <sup>13</sup> “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. <sup>14</sup> For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.
- III. Life Abundantly
- A. “The Greek means “that which goes way beyond necessity.” John wanted all his readers to know that the gift of Jesus is life beyond our wildest dreams.” <sup>4</sup>
  - B. The comparison is between those who are here to steal, kill, and destroy and Jesus who is here to give extraordinarily (life)
  - C. It is life versus death
    1. The world promotes death through unbelief
    2. Jesus promotes eternal life through faith in Him
    3. The world would mislead us — would trick us into believing that we are our own gods
      - a) ‘I can be a good person without Jesus’
      - b) ‘I don’t need God to give to those in need’
      - c) But the ways of man lead only to death
      - d) Proverbs 14:12 (ESV); There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.
      - e) The way of Jesus leads to eternal life
      - f) John 20:30–31 (ESV); <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
- IV. I Am The Door
- A. Jesus is the Door
  - B. We are the sheep
  - C. Strive to enter through the narrow door

---

<sup>4</sup> Ibid