

The 3rd Sunday in Lent ~ Sunday, March 24, 2019

“Metaphors of the Messiah ~ I AM the Gate”

John 10:1-10

“I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:9-10)

thura =

In calling Himself the Gate, Jesus is _____ Himself with the Pharisees and other religious leaders of the day. Because of their unbelief and their harsh treatment of the blind man, Jesus accuses them of not properly _____ the people of Israel.

“mute dogs, unable to bark, dreamers lying down, who love to slumber...dogs who are greedy, and are not satisfied...shepherds who have no understanding; they have all turned to their own way, each one to his unjust gain...” (Isaiah 56:10-11)

4 THINGS ABOUT THE GATE/DOOR

#1. He is saying something about the _____ of the door.

Just as the shepherd lying down in the entrance to the sheepfold was the only way in or out, Jesus is the _____ way to enter the Kingdom of God. _____ doesn't work, believing in the existence of a god or being _____ doesn't work, being a _____ person doesn't work.

if all spiritual roads lead to the same _____; if we can get to heaven through a variety of different religious _____ and practices; if there was any other way to be _____, why did Jesus have to die on the cross?

Those who support a _____ approach to salvation, (= _____ gets into heaven) fail to understand the significant difference in how the various world religions understand the nature of God, _____, heaven, and _____.

_____ is completely incompatible with the Christian understanding of the cross, _____, and eternal life. These two beliefs are so _____ different they couldn't possibly lead to the _____ place.

“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

Even though world doesn't like His claim to be the only way to good, Jesus doesn't leave us any other _____.

Faced with this reality, we need to decide whose _____ we're going to keep and who we're going to _____: the world or Jesus?

#2. He is saying something about the _____ of the door.

2 SPIRITUAL DOORS

Door #1: _____.

“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it.” (Matthew 7:13)

This door is _____, and as a result, _____ take it.

This door is all about _____ or not doing; it's all about our _____ and our actions; it's all about us and not _____. This door is all about what we can use to get into _____:

The Bible is very clear that no matter how good we are or how hard we work, we can't _____ our way into heaven

“The people of Israel tried to gain God's approval by obeying Moses' Teachings, but they did not reach their goal. Why? They didn't rely on faith to gain God's approval, but they relied on their own efforts. They stumbled over the rock that trips people.” (Romans 9:31-32)

“We're all sin-infected, sin-contaminated. Our best efforts are grease-stained rags...” (Isaiah 64:6)

Door #1: _____.

“For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.” (Matthew 7:14)

This door is _____; and as a result, not _____ find it. Whereas the door of human accomplishment is all about doing and not doing; the door of divine accomplishment is all about _____!

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)

On the cross, Jesus paid the price that we couldn’t _____ to pay; He took the _____ for everything we’ve ever done wrong and everything we’ll ever do wrong.

“He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.” (1 John 2:2)

Atoning = *hilasmos* =

Atonement literally means _____ for damage done or _____ for an injury or offense. Atonement is all about the _____. It satisfies _____. On the cross, Jesus became the atoning sacrifice for our sins—He satisfied the law and God’s _____ justice

To enter through the door of divine accomplishment is _____—all we have to do is _____ what Jesus did for us on the cross. All we have to do is _____ of our sins, turn away from _____, and put all our _____ in Jesus, as the One Who has paid the price _____ to secure our salvation.

However, recognizing that we contribute nothing whatsoever to our salvation—except the sin that made it necessary—cuts against the grain of our natural _____ and _____.

In salvation, we get what Jesus paid for—it’s all _____.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9)

#3. He is saying something about the _____ of the door.
“Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.” (John 10:9)

Spiritually speaking, our adversity is the _____, who “...prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” (1 Peter 5:8-9)

When we enter the sheepfold through Jesus, the Gate, we find _____ and we are _____ secure in Him. We no longer have to fear death or the storms of life because we have the blessed _____ that we’re going to make it through, in Christ.

“But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him.” (2 Timothy 1:12)

Even though the enemy can’t _____ us away from the Lord, he does everything he can to try to _____ us out the door and away from the _____ of the sheepfold.

The thief comes to steal our first _____ for Christ, God; to kill our _____; and to destroy our God-given _____. He takes great pleasure in leaving _____ and devastation behind; and wants to do all he can to hurt, hinder, and _____ the sheep. Faced with this spiritual reality, we need to understand the _____ of the enemy, while remaining behind the Gate, if we are to enjoy spiritual _____.

“will go in and out” =

“The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.” (Psalm 121:8)

#4. He is saying something about _____ living.

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)

Abundant = *Perissos* =

Jesus didn’t come just to _____ life; or so His sheep could merely _____. He came so we could live abundantly—the way we were _____ to live from the beginning.

Jesus came to provide joy and _____. He came to provide peace and _____. He came that we might know Him and enjoy fellowship with Him.

We tend to think of abundance as something _____ this life, and assume it’s reserved for _____.

“Because Jesus was raised from the dead we’ve been given a brand new life. We have everything to live for including a future in heaven and that future starts now.” (1 Peter 1:3)



**Have you entered through the narrow door?
Have you entered into a relationship with God through Jesus?
Are you experiencing the abundant life that Jesus promises?**