

The Door Is Open

Matthew 1:18-25

12/23/2018

I think I did it four times in a couple of months. I became proficient at sliding a coat hanger through the door seal and unlocking my car door. I had an extra door key made and put it in my wallet and then never used it because I never locked myself out again.

We hear stories of people breaking a window in their own house to get in because they were locked out and didn't have their key.

A friend of mine showed up for work and found his name plate gone from the door and the lock rekeyed. After all those years he was locked out of his own office.

I don't like the feeling of being locked out. One time I found my office door locked and the extra key missing from the file cabinet in then Paula's office...so I climbed on the counter and through the sliding window between he office and mine. I felt foolish and hoped nobody saw me in the act!

We have been looking at some of the amazing things worth celebrating at Christmas.

- The Blessing Is Here
- The Barrier Is Gone
- The Door Is Open

This morning we are going to look at how Christmas is a celebration of the birth of the only one who could unlock heaven's door for us.

- I. The door was closed because of sin (Genesis 2:16-17, 3:1-11 & 22-24; Romans 5:12)
 - A. God's instruction was reasonable
 - B. Satan's intrusion was despicable
 - C. Adam's involvement was tragic
 - D. God's intervention was reasonable
- II. The door is open because of Him (John 10:1-30)
 - A. He is the eternal Son
 1. A different kind of begetting
 2. A different kind of baby
 - a. Every other baby is a new creation
 - b. This special baby is the Creator
 - Jesus is His name
 - Christ is His position
 - Immanuel is who He is
 - B. He is he spotless Lamb
 - C. He is the risen Lord
 - D. He is the coming King

So What?

- A locked door is a crisis since we have no means of unlocking it ourselves.

*If I say, 'I will forget my complaint,
I will put off my sad face, and be of good cheer,'
I become afraid of all my suffering,
for I know you will not hold me innocent.
I shall be condemned;
why then do I labor in vain?
If I wash myself with snow
and cleanse my hands with lye,
yet you will plunge me into a pit,
and my own clothes will abhor me.
For he is not a man, as I am, that I might answer him,
that we should come to trial together.
There is no¹⁰ arbiter between us,
who might lay his hand on us both.*

- Jesus came to unlock heaven's door, so we can spend eternity with Him.
- An unlocked door is no better than a locked door if we don't step through.