



Daily Verse and Comment

[Revelation 3:20](#)

(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.

[Song of Solomon 5:4](#)

(4) My beloved put in his hand by the hole of the door, and my bowels were moved for him.

[Luke 12:36](#)

(36) And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately.

King James Version

The [letter to Laodicea](#) ([Revelation 3:14-21](#)), the Parable of the Faithful and Evil Servants ([Luke 12:35-40](#)), and the fifth chapter of the Song of Songs all picture [Jesus Christ](#) standing behind a door, [waiting](#) for His people to respond. The symbol of a door is used in several ways in Scripture, but the commonality in these passages is that the door represents something that separates people from [God](#). Mankind became separated from Him in the Garden of Eden when [sin](#) entered [the world](#), and the way to the Tree of Life (and, by implication, to God) was blocked. As [Isaiah 59:2](#) says, "Your iniquities have separated you from your God."

In God's dealings with ancient Israel, there was a "door of the tabernacle," and inside that, there was a "veil"—another door—both of which granted sequential access into God's dwelling place. God was not walled in; those He

designated could go through the doors and approach Him as long as they did so according to His instructions.

Under the New Covenant, the way to the Father has been opened by Christ's sacrifice ([Hebrews 10:19-20](#)), yet only those the Father calls have the door to the Son opened to them ([John 6:44](#)). Thus, if the Father has called us, we have access to Christ and ultimately to the Father Himself. A door has been made where an impenetrable barrier once stood.

In all three passages above, Jesus is pictured behind a closed door. The separation is not permanent, though—a door, by definition, can open, but the impetus to open it lies with the individual.

This is in contrast with the [letter to the church in Philadelphia](#), where Jesus tells them, "I have set before you [an open door](#), and no one can shut it" ([Revelation 3:8](#)). This open door—held open by the Creator of the universe—is a reward for the Philadelphians' [faithfulness](#) in keeping His Word and not denying His name, despite having only a little strength. They have also kept His command to persevere (verse 10). The picture that emerges is of a people who have little power yet devote all they have to pleasing their Master. He is their highest priority and the object of their attention and affection. Because of their unreserved response to the opportunity to know Him, Jesus guarantees that no one will close that door.

Yet, Christ is still uncertain how much the [Laodiceans](#) really desire what He has offered them. Other things are competing for their attention and affection, and the competition is close enough that He asks them to demonstrate where their hearts truly and fully are. Will they open the door?

— David C. Grabbe

To learn more, see:

[The Relationship Deficit \(Part Two\)](#)

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[Letter to the Seven Churches](#)

[Metaphor of Veil](#)

[New Covenant](#)

[Parable of the Faithful and Evil Servants](#)

[Song of Songs](#)

[Veil has been Lifted from Our Minds](#)