

THE DOOR STANDING OPEN IN HEAVEN

Scripture: Revelation 4:1-2

Introduction

When the outlook is bleak, and every earthly door is closed, rejoice!! For there is a door standing open in heaven. You may be surrounded on every hand by the forces of Satan marshalled against you. Then look up. There is an open door of access into the throne room of the Almighty.

I. John saw this vision on Patmos, not at Ephesus

Revelation 1:9 NIV I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the testimony of Jesus.

- A. Ephesus was in the midst of a great revival
- B. Patmos was a place of adversity
- C. The limited power of the Roman government
 - 1. Could exile John from Ephesus to Patmos
 - 2. Could not keep him from being in the spirit on the Lord's Day

II. John saw a limit set to domineering might and adverse circumstances

Job 1:12 NIV The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger.

- A. John's adversity opened a door to a new ministry
- B. Job's trial came because God had confidence in him
- C. Daniel went from the lion's den to a place of honor

III. When every earthly door is closed, there is a door standing open in heaven

Revelation 4:1-2a NIV After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here "

Hebrews 4:16 NIV Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in our time

of need.

- A. Open door is earth's entrance to heaven
- B. Jacob witnessed the open door at Bethel
- C. Open door provides access to the Almighty

IV. The door that is open to the Christian is closed to the unbeliever

John 9:31 NIV We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will.

- A. Sin separates from God
- B. Repentance and a new birth are the conditions of entrance into God's presence