

FIFTH AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

SERMON NOTES – DALE MUELLER

FEBRUARY 27, 2011

REVELATION 3:20

- Familiar, encouraging, comforting promise of God
- Similar to MATTHEW 7:7-8, except here Jesus is knocking
- Both often used for evangelism
 - Conveys true scenario of sinner seeking God, hearing God's Word, and responding.
 - A relationship develops as the door opens
 - God is patient, not wanting anyone to perish. Waiting at the door. Cf. 2 PETER 3:9
 - Christians have open door to Jesus

REV 3:20 IS SELDOM LOOKED AT IN CONTEXT.

- BROADER CONTEXT OF CHAPTERS 2 & 3 OF REVELATION
 - Jesus is speaking to 7 churches of Asia
 - Telling each church where they have fallen short of their calling to be the Bride of Christ
 - Common message to all: Be overcomers
- REV 3:20 is addressed to Church in Laodicea
 - QUESTION: WHY IS THE DOOR CLOSED?
 - Jesus is speaking to Christians in a Christian Church. The

door is supposed to be open. WHO CLOSED IT?

- Actually, the CLOSED DOOR image could be applied to all of the 7 churches and many churches today.
- Jesus is often standing at the door of the church knocking
- Some insight from **REVELATION 3:14-19**
 - Vss. 15-16. Lukewarm, neither hot nor cold.
 - Vs. 17. They say they are wealthy – don't need anything
 - In God's eyes they are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.
 - THEY HAD CLOSED THE DOOR IN THE FACE OF JESUS
 - Vs. 18. I (Jesus) counsel you....
 - Vs. 19. JESUS IS DISCIPLINING THEM.
 - Disciplines those He loves
 - Desires them to be earnest and repent.

- Vs. 20 IN CONTEXT: JESUS STANDS AT THE DOOR AND KNOCKS WHEN HE DISCIPLINES CHRISTIANS
 - Times of discipline, correction, rebuke, and refining are OPPORTUNITIES TO OPEN THE DOOR and to let Jesus back into our lives.
- We should not waste the opportunity to apply this to ourselves as individuals and as a church
 - NOT to say we are like Laodicea
 - As individuals, we make mistakes – need discipline
 - Sometimes we close the door in the face of Jesus – He is knocking
 - As a church, we have made mistakes – need discipline and guidance – we need to OVERCOME.
 - Jesus is at the door, knocking.
 - Opening the door is our opportunity to go to a higher level.
- Right now, our greatest step forward will be though hearing the knock and voice of Jesus.

Notes:
