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I am the Door #203.mp3

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START OF TRANSCRIPT

[00:00:04] Jimmy Knott

Greetings, my friend. Welcome to the podcast. Teaching that transforms with Pastor Jimmy, not his always. Thank you so much for joining me in this podcast. I'm going to continue the series. I've been in for a couple of weeks. Gigantic affirmations from Christ the I Am Sayings of Jesus. All of these are from the Gospel of John. And John's main purpose in writing to his audience was to prove the deity of Jesus Christ that Jesus Christ is God. And each of these seven sayings, each one of them gives us great insight into the identity, who Jesus is, which is so important for us to understand and know. And then also into what Jesus came to do, his mission. Thus far, we've looked at two. We've looked at Jesus said, I am the bread of life.

[00:00:58] Jimmy Knott

Jesus supplies. He sustains, he satisfies not the physical so much, but the spiritual aspect of our lives as the bread of life. Last podcast, we looked at Jesus saying, I am the light of the world. He brings light into a world that is dark and getting increasingly darker and we are apart from Christ. We are intellectually in the darkness until we have an understanding of who he is and what he came to do. And then morally, we are in darkness. Whereas the light pictures, godliness and holiness and purity, the darkness really speaks of of unbelief and of and of evil and of sinfulness.

[00:01:44] Jimmy Knott

So today we come to John Chapter 10 in John, Chapter 10, we really have two of the I Am sayings. The only one we're going to look at today is Jesus saying I am the door neighbor.

[00:01:56] Jimmy Knott

Remind you that when we come to John Chapter 10, we're not we're in a section of John's gospel, beginning a Chapter 7 and really going through Chapter Twelve were a few of these. I am sayings are recorded. And during this time period, Jesus is spending a lot of his time, most of his time, in fact, in public ministry. The crowds are huge and following Jesus, there is an ongoing and increasing hostility and conflict with the religious leaders of the day who saw Jesus as us as a threat.

[00:02:33] Jimmy Knott

We're only a few months away, maybe five, six months away from a cross Chapter 10 where we have I am the door and I am the Good Shepherd.

[00:02:44] Jimmy Knott

Chapter 10 really grows out of Chapter 9. Chapter 9 is where we have a recording of the tremendous miracle of Jesus Healing, a man that's born blind, which in my view was simply a living illustration of what he had just affirmed in John. Chapter 8. Verse Twelve. I Am the Light of the World. And in John, Chapter 9, he encounters a man who has been blind from birth, and Jesus is in John 9 5. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world and Jesus heals the blind man and the blind man begins to be interrogated by the religious leaders own. Who did this to you and how did this happen?

[00:03:25] Jimmy Knott

And he kept pointing them in the direction of of of Jesus as the one who brought sight to his eyes. And they just simply would not believe. They simply would not accept. There was just simply hardness of heart in the unbelief of their souls. They just would not receive Jesus for who he was and what he came to do. When we come to John John, Chapter 10, verses one through 10, we read truly, truly.

[00:03:54] Jimmy Knott

I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way. That man is a thief and a robber, but he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him, the door keeper opens the sheep, hear his voice and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out when he has brought out all his own. He goes before them and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him. For they do not know the voice of strangers. This figure speech Jesus used with them. But they did not understand what he was saying to them. So Jesus again said to them, truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.

[00:04:35] Jimmy Knott

All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved, and he will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that you might have life and have it abundantly. In each of these I am sayings, it's kind of like a metaphor or a word picture. And the previous chapter, I am the light of the World where there is a contrast between light and darkness. Now we become to these verses versus one to tan and it will continue and versus allow in following the metaphor, the picture changes to the sheep and to the shepherd and to the sheepfold. So let's see what Jesus talking about here when he says he is the light of the world. We need to understand that in Jesus Day, Shepperton sheep and sheep, those were very, very common occurrence.

[00:05:34] Jimmy Knott

Close to 80 percent of of of the people of that day lived off the land. There were a few that that farmed agriculturally. But it is very difficult in the soil and in Israel. Many of them, though, were were were shepherds having a small flock that they would raise for their wool not to slaughter and as it were, to eat or even to sacrifice. They would get to know the sheep year after year after year because they didn't kill them. They just grew their wool and sheared them and and and made a living off selling the wool.

[00:06:12] Jimmy Knott

We need to know that in that day there were two kinds of sheep pens. There was a larger sheep pen usually made out of stones that were packed. So have a stack several feet high. Sometimes those stones would make kind of a square or a rectangle, but it was always true. There was only one door or gate into the sheep show. And when this sheepfold was was a communal kind of a sheep, though usually near a larger town or village, several shepherds would use it to house their flocks by night. And what they would do, the shepherds would go home for the evening, and they would hire a gate keeper to guard and to watch over the sheep to protect them from predators, or are wolves or foxes or other predators, or even from thieves or robbers that would come in and try to steal the sheep and the gatekeeper would lay down. And that one point of entry or exit to keep the sheep from coming out and to keep predators from coming in, be they animals, would be they thieves and robbers. And the next morning. This is a fascinating thing. The next morning, the shepherds would come to collect their sheep and they would collect their sheep by simply voicing and calling their sheep.

[00:07:29] Jimmy Knott

And the sheep recognised their voice. And though there might be several herds gathered together inside, the sheep panned to the sheep fold. When each shepherd would begin to speak, each of the sheep would exit the sheep fold and make their way to the voice of their known shepherd. A fascinating practice in that in that day, because the sheep knew the voice, and many of these sheep were were named maybe blackleg or or or our whitey or whatever the case may be. These shepherds and the sheep really got to know each other tremendously well. And then there was a shepherd, another sheep fold. That was when they were really out in the countryside. And evening came that they would build a temporary oftentimes of thorns and briars, and they would stack these together and to circle again. There was only one interestsand and one entrance out, and the shepherd would lay down just like the gate keeper in the villages, or the towns would lay down and and would protect the sheep from predators coming in in terms of animals or people coming in wanting to be thieves and robbers for their sheep.

[00:08:41] Jimmy Knott

But when Jesus says I am the door, he is saying, as he did to the other two previous I am sayings I and only I.

[00:08:50] Jimmy Knott

It is emphatic there is no one else. That is the bread of life. But may there is no one else. That is the light of the world. But May and there is only one door. And that is through him. It is through him. And that's the application of this tremendous saying as the true as the only Lord Jesus is telling them that he is the door. He is the gate. And where does he lead? Where does this gate lead? Well, I think it leads to several points. And that's what I want to emphasize and the rest of the podcast. First of all, Jesus is the door or the entry into salvation down in verse 9. Jesus says If anyone enters by me, he will be saved. If anyone who ever who ever enters by me or through me, he or she will be saved. Whoever, if anyone, that means it's open to whosoever will make comments open to everyone who enters adÈle. There is willingly enters, wants to enter, and it's only through him. He is the only door. And it says he. Wilby, there's a certainty there is a security there. He or she will be safe. They will be saved. And this is a very, very similar teaching to what Jesus dealt with over in Luke, Chapter 13 versus 22 and following.

[00:10:16] Jimmy Knott

In fact, if we were looking at a chronology of the earthly ministry of Jesus when we come to Luke 13 and we finished verse 21 sandwiched between versus 21 and 22 of Luke, 13 are the events that take place and John chapters 9 and 10.

[00:10:35] Jimmy Knott

So with that backdrop, let me read Luke 13 22. Jesus went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem and someone in a crowd, a huge crowd following Jesus Lord, while those who are saved be few. And he was confused. There were so many people following Jesus. Why are only a few out of this great mass of people genuinely committed to you? And Jesus answered. He didn't tell him that he was right. He just answered by telling him why it was so. And if the answer was yes, because you must strive. The word there is agonized to enter by the narrow door or the narrow gate point of entry for many @tell.

[00:11:17] Jimmy Knott

You will seek to enter and not not be able. When once the householder that God has risen and shut the door, you will begin to stand aside and to knock on the door saying Lord opened us. He will answer you. I don't know where you come from. Then you will begin to say we ate and drank in your presence, in short, in our streets. But he will say, I tell you, I don't know where you are from. Depart from me, you workers of iniquity, you workers of iniquity.

[00:11:46] Jimmy Knott

You know, Jesus is saying in that passage and I think the inference Hoosier and John.

[00:11:50] Jimmy Knott

Ten, when he talks about being the door, that this is a very narrow and restrictive door earlier and the Sermon on the Mount and Matthew, Chapter 7, Jesus uttered these words enter by the narrow gate, for the gate is wide in the way is easy at least to destruction. And those who enter by it are many, for the gate is narrow and the way is hard.

[00:12:11] Jimmy Knott

That leads to life in those who find it are few. It's really very difficult. It really is very difficult. One day God will shut the door. You say, Well, Jimmy, how does God shut the door? Well, I think sometimes he shuts the door just because we continued to reject and to reject and and to live in utter disbelief in spite of all the evidence that's in front of us. And that's exactly the case of the religious leaders of that day, in spite of everything that Jesus had said for month after month after month, especially in terms of the racket as he is, he has done, and and his affirmations that he was not just from God. He was God. They just refused. Our heart was hard and they refused to believe. And then there's another reason I think the aging process has a lot to do with our receptivity to walking through the door and accepting Christ. It's proven statistically that most people who come into a personal relationship with Christ, as it were, enter through the door. They do that before 21 years of age. By far, someone who has a child or a teenager is much more likely to say yes to Christ and to believe in him and own him for their salvation when they're younger rather than they're older.

[00:13:26] Jimmy Knott

That's why churches that are smarter, churches that do everything they can to really have a strong and vibrant pre-school children and teenage ministry to try to reach these younger persons while they're very open to the gospel. Sometimes, again, that hardness of heart is due to pride. And that door gets shot. But one day that door be shut. We don't know when that will be. That's a decision that God makes. But in the meantime, Jesus is the only door. He is the only access into a relationship with God. We only can come in through him. The passage Jesus said to say, I am a door. He said, I am they Doaa. There is only one way into a relationship with God, and that's through receiving Jesus Christ into your life. So Jesus is the door. He is the door of salvation. Now, let me read Owen. He goes on to say the next part of the verse, If anyone enters mama, he will be saved and will go in and out. I think Jesus is saying he's not just the door of salvation. He's the door of liberation in Christ. When we come into a personal, vibrant, intimate relationship with him, we're no longer slaves or some legalistic system, or we're no longer slaves or of trying to earn our way into a into our relationship with God.

[00:14:45] Jimmy Knott

That's all about grace once we step into a relationship with him. That door is a door of grace. And access is through grace. And when we walk through that door and receive him, we stand in grace. And we are. And we. Are free in him. We're not free to do anything that we want to do, but we're free to do what he wants us to do. We're free to walk in obedience to him. There's a sense in which prior to coming to a relationship with Christ, we're slaves, but we're slaves to self and Dasan and even to Satan. But once we say yes to Jesus and we enter through his door, then we are still slaves. But he is our new owner, and we're slaves to obedience to him, and he only want what's best for us. So he is the door. He is the door to salvation. He is the door to liberation. Third, he is the door of provision. The next part of the passage goes on to say, if anyone enters me, he will be saved.

[00:15:43] Jimmy Knott

And we'll go in and out and find pasture, find food, find nourishment for them.

[00:15:52] Jimmy Knott

This reminds me of Psalm 23, where Jesus says he is the shepherd that providing food for us, for his sheep.

[00:16:01] Jimmy Knott

Jesus provides through his word, through the body of Christ, through the local church, through accountability to others, through her own personal devotional life and prayer time. So many different ways that God provides for our spiritual nourishment and growth. There are so many Pashtun lands that he makes available to us.

[00:16:22] Jimmy Knott

He is the guide. Paul said We'll supply all of our needs according to his riches in glory.

[00:16:28] Jimmy Knott

He is the door of salvation. He is the door of liberation. He is the door of provision. And the next.

[00:16:37] Jimmy Knott

He is also the door that provides protection in John Tan. Now in verse stamp the Thief and the Ultimate Thief. I think this is picturing Satan. Our arch enemy.

[00:16:49] Jimmy Knott

Satan only comes, comes only to steal, kill and destroy, to steal, kill and destroy.

[00:16:57] Jimmy Knott

I think in those few words, Jesus gives us some valuable insight into how Satan does his work. He says he comes to steal, kill and destroy. I believe there is a progression here and helps us to see it. How the intimate works. First he destroy me. How does he end up destroying? What is he destroying? He is doing everything he can as an enemy to destroy. You had made from finding out God's plan and purpose for our lives. We're useful to God. We're valuable to God. And He wants to use us into his service and to add value

to the lives of others. And the enemy will do everything he can to destroy us, finding and fulfilling God's purpose for our lives. But before he can destroy God's purpose for our lives, he has to kill. He has to kill what I think it means. He has to kill our enjoyment and our joy of this. Things of God. He wants us to get negative. The enemy wants us to be critical. The Bible says the joy of the Lord is our strength. So before he kills us, our joy, though, he has to steal our minds. What's that mean? He has to steal our understanding and our thinking. If we believe wrong, we're gonna act wrong. So here's that progression. If he steals our mind, then he can kill our joy. And if he kills our joy, then he'll destroy our even want to and desire to fight and to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives. That's what the enemy is all about. And he goes about Peter Sale like a roaring lion seeking some Christian to divide, to harass and to intimidate. So Jesus is the door to salvation. Jesus is the door to liberation. He is the door to provision. He is a door of protection from the enemy.

[00:18:42] Jimmy Knott

And then last. He is the door of satisfaction. The last part of verse 10, I came that you may have life.

[00:18:49] Jimmy Knott

And that's that's spiritual life. That is not just physical. It is spiritual life.

[00:18:56] Jimmy Knott

A life of God and your soul and my soul. And to have it abundantly. To have it overflowing to habits super abundant. To have a surplus of of. Of life.

[00:19:09] Jimmy Knott

Part of the joy of our relationship with Christ is the false other satisfaction that he brings.

[00:19:16] Jimmy Knott

He came to give you and me life again, not just physical, but abundant, full and overflowing life. You see, Jesus didn't just give his life for us. When we enter through the door, he also gives his life to us. I bet right now. So what a great affirmation. What a great affirmation Jesus is giving us here. I am the door. He is the he and only he is the door or the gate. The Salvation Liberation Provision, protection and satisfaction. Have you entered through that door? Are you enjoying his provision? Are you experiencing the full satisfaction you can find in a relationship with him? I hope you are. I want to thank you for listening to truth that transforms. Remember, it only transforms us when we apply it. Blessing from Pastor Jimmy.

[00:20:22] Jimmy Knott

I'll see you next time.

END OF TRANSCRIPT



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