

## EVER SHUT THE DOOR ON JESUS?

**John 20:19    Revelation 3:20**

**Introduction:** "Shhhh, here he comes, shut the door and be quiet, maybe he'll go away." Ever do that? Ever shut the door hoping that so and so wouldn't want to come in? Most of the time when doors are shut on someone, it is deliberate, hoping that person will just go away. However sometimes doors get shut on people unknowingly and certainly not deliberately. This happened to the disciples one night.

Jesus had been crucified, buried and it was now the third day. Things were beginning to happen so fast that the disciples were having trouble sorting it all out. Mary and some other women came by saying that Jesus was alive, two fellow disciples on their way home had met Jesus, then Peter, himself, said that he had seen and talked with Jesus. What excitement, what fear filled the room where the disciples were meeting. Such was their state that they bolted the door in fear. Suddenly there was Jesus! The shut and bolted door did not keep Him out, He appeared without coming through the door.

### **I. IN FEAR THE DISCIPLES HAD CLOSED AND LOCKED THE DOOR.**

1. Doors can be closed on Jesus unwittingly, unthinkingly, as the disciples did.
  - The disciples would never have closed and bolted a door on Jesus.
  - Out of fear of the Jews that had closed and bolted the door.
  - Unknowingly, unthinkingly, they had closed the door on Jesus.
  - Since then people have closed the door on Jesus, but not meaning to.
    - Things pursued in life, dreams, goals, ambitions may close the door.
    - Obsessions and things that occupy one completely can close the door.
  - Look at your own lifestyle, where is Jesus now? Has the door been shut on His involvement in All you do?
2. Ordinary things like friendships and choices made might shut the door on Jesus.
  - Usually it's not one's enemies but friends that cause one to shut the door of one's life to Jesus.
  - Have you ever shut the door on Jesus in order to go somewhere or do something with a friend that Jesus would not approve of?
  - Everyday choices are made and sometimes great decisions have to be made.
    - Have you ever made a choice or a decision where you failed to include Jesus and His opinion? Did you even stop to think about what Jesus' opinion might be?
  - It's so easy to be like the disciples and shut and bolt the door on Jesus from fear or unthinking.
3. Not taking God seriously can shut the door on Jesus.
  - Jesus had told His disciples many times that He would rise on the 3rd day.
    - "Yeah, sure" was their reaction. They did not take Jesus seriously.
  - God is not to be taken lightly, nor His Word, and Jesus is not to be taken lightly either.
  - Do you take God seriously? What about the Bible? Jesus? Are you sure?
  - The disciples didn't take Jesus seriously about His rising on the third day and therefore shut the door on Him. People have the same problem the disciples did and that is

not taking spiritual things seriously, thus they shut the door on Jesus.

## **II. THANKFULLY, SHUTTING THE DOOR ON JESUS DOES NOT KEEP HIM OUT.**

1. The Jews tried to shut Jesus out.
  - The religious leaders persecuted Jesus, even stopping up their ears, called Him names, accused Him of doing evil things, preferred Barabbas, a thief, to Him.
  - They did everything that could be done to discredit and hurt Jesus's reputation.
  - They beat Him and crucified Him, thinking they had closed the door on Jesus. Saying, "it's over, it's done, He's gone."
  - Yet they could not shut Jesus out for He came back.
2. One may shut the door, but Jesus can still get through.
  - As it was true then, it has been also true through the ages, and it is true today:
    - No matter how high or thick the door,
    - No matter for what reason one shut the door to Jesus,
    - No matter how long the door has been shut, Jesus will still come in.
3. Jesus just cannot be avoided.
  - Where can one go that Jesus is not there?
  - Close the door deliberately, unthinkingly, unknowingly, Jesus is still there.
  - Even in counting the years, Jesus is mentioned: 2008 A.D. (year of the Lord) or B.C.
4. Jesus can be met through a Christian.
  - Many christians live what they believe and can bring one to Jesus.
  - Sadly many christians have shut the door on Jesus and need to have someone help them see what they have done.
5. Jesus can be met in times of distress and sorrow.
  - Sometimes in the deep and dark hours of one's life, Jesus will show up.
  - When all is dark, hopeless, sad and all reason for living is gone, a knock may be heard at the heart's door and there will be Jesus standing, knocking, asking to come in.

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. Once inside, Jesus can bring hopefulness.
  - No one is beyond Jesus' help.
  - Jesus doesn't treat others as they treat one another or even Him.
2. One has shut the door on Jesus, but Jesus is still outside, waiting, anxious for that door to be opened.
3. Christian, have you shut the door on Jesus like the disciples did, unthinkingly, unknowingly?
  - Take a look, have you?
4. Remember, for Jesus, the door knob is on the inside, where YOU are.