Bible Class Notes – From John's Gospel– Lesson 41B

The 'I AM' Sayings of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This week we continue lessons which teach the almighty saving power of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep".

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	John 10 v1-10 (I AM The Door of the Sheep)	
Monday	Matthew 25 v1-13 (Beware, the door will be shut)	
Tuesday	Psalm 100, 118 v19-29 (The gates of righteousness)	
Wednesday	Isaiah 62 v1-12 (Go through the gate- to salvation)	
Thursday	Psalm 24 v1-10 (Christ, the gateway to holiness)	
Friday	Hebrews 12 v1-13 (Christ, the author and finisher of our faith)	
Saturday	Matthew 7 v13-29 (Heaven entered by the narrow gate)	

Important Lesson for us Today: In 1678 John Bunyan wrote 'Pilgrims Progress', an allegory of a Christian's life; which starts with Jesus Christ as the only way of salvation (portrayed as the 'Wicket or narrow Gate'), leading to the place of repentance, the Cross and ultimately to Heaven. Satan, our soul's enemy, will shoot 'fiery darts' of doubt to stop seekers entering into Christ; such as: 'Have fun first, then seek.' 'You're far too sinful to be saved'. 'You've committed a sin which can never be forgiven'. 'You've tried to seek before and God never heard you, why will He now?' 'Christ died for His People and you're not one of them!'

Yet the Lord has promised that if we believe in Him and His promises we will be saved: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." Matthew 7v7 "And ye shall seek Me and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart. And ye shall be found of Me." Jer 29v13 Jesus said, "All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 6v37

This week's hymn verses tells of The Lord Jesus Christ – The Door to Heaven for our souls: (370)

 O precious words that Jesus said!-	 O precious words that Jesus said!-
'The soul that comes to Me,	'Behold, I am the Door;
I will in no wise cast him out,	And all that enter in by Me
Whoever he may be.'	Have life for evermore.'
 O precious words that Jesus said!- 'Come, weary souls oppressed, Come, take My yoke and learn of Me, And I will give you rest.' 	 O precious words that Jesus said!- 'The world I overcame; And they who follow where I lead Shall conquer in My name.

The Door – The Only Way to Heaven.

- Doors are used as the official way to enter a building.
- \circ As well as allowing the right people in, it is used to keep others out.
- \circ For security the door is locked and a guard placed by it. Only those with the key, or the right credentials, can enter.
- \odot Thieves and robbers seek an illegal way to get in to by-pass security.
- The Sheepfold Door A Wonderful Picture of The Lord Jesus.
- The sheepfold on the hillside had a high wall with only one doorway.
- The shepherd led his sheep into the sheepfold for safety, and slept in the doorway at night. Thieves and wild animals were kept out.

Satan cannot steal us from the safety of the Lord's Sheepfold.

- The Lord Jesus is Likened to a Door The Door to Eternal Life.
- By dying on Calvary's Cross the Lord is our 'Door' to God's forgiveness.
- $\circ~$ As the 'Door' The Lord Jesus Christ enables us to freely enter into:
 - Heaven He presents the repentant believer to His Father as having His righteousness, having taken the guilt of their sin away on Calvary.
 - Faith God The Holy Spirit gives us faith to look to Him only for help, salvation, guidance, and protection To believe all His promises.
 - **Truth** He unlocks the truth to us when we read His Word, the Bible.
 - Fellowship He becomes our Friend throughout life and into Eternity.
 - Close Communion Through obedience and frequent times of prayer. The Shepherd leads His sheep to green pastures, by still waters, and at night to the safety of the sheepfold. He knows each one by name.
 - Worship He presents our sincere praise to the Father in a way that is acceptable to our holy God. We worship Him in spirit and in truth.
- Beware of the thief who will seek to enter another way.
- There are many false 'shepherds', with false 'gospels' encouraging you to 'climb over the wall' with church attendance, baptism and good works **but without repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.**
- God's Way of Salvation is only by the Narrow Gate (Matthew 7 vs13,14.)
- Feeling the guilt of our sin and trusting only the Lord Jesus Christ is a humbling and hard thing to do – but humble repentance is the only way.
- We must leave any love for this sinful world behind us, looking unto Christ as our 'door' into eternity He being the author and finisher of our faith.
 Jesus Christ is the <u>only</u> Way of Salvation, the <u>only</u> Door to The Fold. Jesus said: "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Matthew 7v13-14

EDT Bible Class Take Home Sheet