

WHO'S AT THE DOOR?

Michael Pickford

Sometimes, when a family is sitting around in the evening, a knock will come at the door. Someone will usually say, "Who's at the door?" It's wise to find out who's at the door before opening it up.

Satan seems to constantly be knocking at people's doors. Sadly, many people open right up and invite him to dinner. They allow him to guide their thoughts, words, and actions. This will cause many to lose their souls. T

The Lord also knocks at people's doors. He doesn't offer sin, worldly pleasure, and lewd thoughts. He offers peace, righteousness, and eternal life. And the good thing about this is, He

knocks at everyone's door!

Is the Lord a welcome guest in the house of your heart? Jesus calls on us to come to Him and obey His gospel (Hebrews 5:8-9; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8). If you haven't obeyed the gospel, you have made the Savior a stranger in your house. If you have become unfaithful to God, you have made the Savior a stranger in your house, and your soul is in jeopardy (2 Peter 2:20-22).

Who is Jesus to you? Savior, or stranger? It's Jesus at the door. Let Him in!

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock" (Rev. 3:20). 🔍

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don't hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

EVERYONE WELCOME!

- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Children's Class, 2nd & 4th Sundays, 5:30 pm
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 3:30 pm, Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." –Acts 17:11

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MIRACULOUS SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Michael Pickford

In 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 Paul gives a list of the miraculous spiritual gifts God used in the church in its infant stage. Regarding these, consider...

Their Power. Those who possessed these gifts were able to cast out demons, heal the blind, paralyzed, lame, etc. These were powerful gifts. The marvelous miracles of Jesus had the same power. Jesus appealed to His works as proof that He was the Son of God (John 5:36; 10:37). Peter also appealed to them as proof that Jesus was the Son of God (Acts 2:22).

Their Purpose. Their purpose was to both reveal God's will (Prophecy, Tongues, and Knowledge) and to prove that what was revealed came from God (Healings, casting out demons, etc.) (Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:3-4). Today, we have nicely bound complete New Testaments to read and learn God's will. But in the first century, the New Testament had not yet been fully revealed, so they had a great need for the miraculous spiritual gifts.

Their Passing. Many religions today claim to possess miraculous spiritual gifts; but the Bible teaches that they have passed, and it teaches this in two different ways.

(1) Only the apostles had the power

to impart the miraculous spiritual gifts through the laying on of their hands. In Acts 8:18 *"Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given."* He offered money for this ability and Peter told him *"You have neither part nor portion in this matter"* (Acts 8:21). Those who claim to have them today also have neither part nor portion in this matter. Philip was already in Samaria, we know he possessed the ability to work great miracles; why did the apostles have to come there? Why couldn't Philip impart these gifts? Because it requires an apostle! We can conclude from this that after all the apostles had died, and all those upon whom they had laid hands died, miraculous spiritual gifts ceased.

(2) Paul said *"But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away"* (1 Corinthians 13:10). Contextually, that which is "Perfect" and "In part" both speak of things dealing with God's revelation. The Gospel is the *"Perfect law of liberty"* (James 1:25). When it was fully revealed, the need for the miraculous gifts ceased; so Paul said the gifts would cease. God's word has been fully revealed and fully confirmed. 🔍

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TESTING THE SPIRITS

Michael Pickford

Great emphasis is placed upon the handling of certain foods; both in the restaurant and in the home. Why the concern? Because certain foods can be very dangerous if not handled properly. We often hear of cases of food poisoning, and sometimes of folks dying from it.

I'm told that in certain time frames of history there were people known as cupbearers who served royalty. One of the jobs of these cupbearers was to taste the drink, or the food, before the king would consume it to make sure it was not poisoned. This was possibly part of Nehemiah's job (Neh. 1:1). Why were kings so cautious about what they ate? Why are folks today are so careful when they handle their food? Simple, they don't want to get sick or die!

What about testing our spiritual food? *"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world"* (1 John 4:1). Which is more important, life here or life eternal? Jesus gives us the answer, *"And do not fear those who kill the body*

but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10:28). People who handle their food carefully are very wise for doing so. We should protect and care for our physical bodies. But it's amazing how these same people completely ignore the presence of spiritual food poison. John said in the above verse that many false prophets have gone out into the world. They're poisoning the spiritual food supply. We need to be careful what we eat spiritually. Test the spirits! You wouldn't just swallow anything physically. Don't do so spiritually!

There are many types of food poisonings in the world. There are also many types of *spiritual* food poisonings in the world. We avoid physical food poisoning by properly handling the food. We avoid spiritual food poisoning by properly handling the word of God. How is this done? Study diligently (2 Tim. 2:15) and compare the things you are taught with the word of God to see if they line up with truth (Acts 17:11). Are you testing the spirits? (Acts 17:11) 🔍

COUNSELING

Counseling is big business these days. While it's wise to get proper advice from folks who know better, folks sometimes pay big bucks to receive counseling in foolish things. Many counselors would be out of work if folks would go first to the Great Counselor – Jesus Christ (Isaiah 9:6). Study His word; learn and live His ways, and peace will reside in your heart! *"Plans succeed through wise counsel..."* – Proverbs 20:18



SERMON NOTES

Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.

Loving The Lord

STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Jason Hubbard
- Bible Reading by.....Frank Anderson
Reading: Psalm 1:1-6
- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Ben Green
Serve.....Chris Meade
Serve.....Kenny Johnson

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Lord's Table.....Ben Green

Wednesday Evening

- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Invitation.....Michael Pickford

**Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!**

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

Obey Today!