

Knock Knock

Revelation 3:20

Rv.3:8  
Philadelphia:  
open door

Rv.3:20  
Laodicea:  
closed door



Revelation 3:14-22, Laodicea

# I. A Sinner Who Does Not Answer

## Why not answer?

- Disrespectful, 15-16. Lukewarm
- Distracted (wealth) 17. Mt.6:19f.
- Deaf, 17. Mt.13:13 . . . Blind . . . deaf
- Dying, 17.

I. A Sinner Who Does Not Answer

II. A Savior Who Does Not  
Abandon

# Jesus knocks to . . .

- Rescue the perishing. Lk.13:1-5
  - Cannot blame tragedy... All have sinned
  - Not singled out as world's worst sinners
  - Instead, a warning: *unless you repent...*
- Rebuke the impenitent, 19. Hb.12:5
- Restore those who respond, 20
- Reward those who return, 21

King comes from throne to ask  
beggars to receive Him (20) ... Mt.20:1-7

I. A Sinner Who Does Not Answer

II. A Savior Who Does Not Abandon

III. A Sound That We Must Accept

# As a country

Ps.9:17

- Un-civil Laws (separation of church and state): made Bible studies illegal in homes
- Living together w/o marriage
- DOMA defeated
- Abortion
- Suicides



As a country

## As a church

Churches die or digress (Rv.2-3)

We look in vain for . . . the later organization of the church, or the superiority of the bishop over the presbyter (Comp. 20:17, 28) . . .

– Philip Schaff, *History of Christian Church*, Vol. I, p. 728

As a country

As a church

Churches die or digress (Rv.2-3)

Few features, says Plumptre, himself an Episcopalian, are more striking in these Epistles (pastoral) than the absence of any high hierarchical system – P. Schaff, *ibid.*, 805

# Laodicea: no heresy

- Laodicea has it all (17)
  - Money?
  - Large building?
  - Large numbers?
  - Prominent people?
- Corinth: 1 Co.11:23-26

One 'thing' missing:  
Christ

~~Lord's supper~~

As a country

As a church

## As a Christian

Lk.12:35-36

*I stand at the door, and knock (3:20)*

Knocking (present tense) implies:

1. He wants to come in. Rv.2:20; Lk.22:20
2. He seeks sinners. 1 Jn.4:19
3. He does not force His way. Mt.7:7; Lk.11:5

As a country  
As a church  
**As a Christian**

How does Jesus knock?

1. **His precepts.** Mt.11:28-30
2. **His people.** Ac.11:19-26
3. **His providence.** Est.4:14
  - a. Tragedies, 1 K.17-18
  - b. Blessings, Mt.10:29-31

As a country  
As a church  
**As a Christian**

- *If anyone . . . . [Rv.3:20]*
  - \*Addresses individuals. Lk.24:....28f.
- *Hears . . . Jn.8:47; 10:8*
- *My voice . . . Mt.17:1-5*

As a country  
As a church  
**As a Christian**

**Gn.3:17**, voice of wife cancelled voice of God

**Gn.4:23**, voice of husband justified his vengeance . . . better than Cain

**Gn.16:2**, voice of Abraham yielded to voice of Sarah

**Gn.39:14-18**, voice of adulteress persuaded husband

As a country

As a church

## As a Christian

*If anyone . . . [Rv.3:20]*

*Hears . . .*

*My voice . . .*

*And opens the door... I will come in... and  
eat with him... and he with Me*

Salvation, fellowship

What if they do not answer?

Gn.4:....7

Ja.5:9



# What does it mean to me?

1. Importance of self-examination
2. Apathy may be more deadly than . . .

Persecution

False teaching

3. God also can refuse to answer a door  
(Mt.25:10, 13)

Their will conquered His.  
Miserable conquerors!