

PARTNER

MONTHLY

CHRISTIAN INSPIRATION DIGITAL MONTHLY PARTNER MAGAZINE

JANUARY 2023

FEATURED ARTICLE

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2023
OPEN DOOR
TRUTH & FREEDOM
YEAR OF TRUTH AND FREEDOM & THE OPEN DOOR



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CONGREGATION OF CHURCHES

The Purpose of "PARTNER MONTHLY" PUBLICATION

The Lord has crowned **2023** as the season of the **TRUTH AND FREEDOM**. Let's get ready to place a faith demand on what God is saying and doing and gain momentum in the spirit.

2023 will also be known as the Year of **THE OPEN DOOR**. Let's stay expectant to receive all of what God's goodness is bringing in the months to come.

The Lord has lead us to develop additional materials to support our partnership community.

Our objective at **CONGREGATION OF CHURCHES** is to help churches, ministries and ministers publish the gospel.

Over the past twelve years, we've developed: **PARTNER PODCASTS**, and **PARTNER CELL GROUPS**, **Christian Inspiration Publications**, **Online Healing Lessons** and our "**PARTNER MONTHLY DIGITAL MAGAZINE**".

PARTNER MONTHLY is a digital monthly partner magazine, created to bring fresh perspectives on the scripture from the founder; Derick E Wilkes and from other authors and publishers of the gospel as the Lord leads.

We'll appreciate your feedback about this publication.

Thanks!

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Derick & Natalie Wilkes, Founders

Roderick A Kendrick, Admin. Pastor

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- JAMES & TERRY LOGAN
- PRAISE & WORSHIP
- FREE LUNCH FIRST 25



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2 0 2 3
OPEN DOOR
TRUTH & FREEDOM
YEAR OF TRUTH AND FREEDOM & THE OPEN DOOR



The Open Door

Revelation 3:7-8 - And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath **the key of David**, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; **Vs 8** - I know thy works: behold, **I have set before thee an open door**, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

I have set before you an open door ...

Jesus also describes Himself as being a door.

John 10:7, 9 - Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **I am the door** of the sheep.

Vs 9 - **I am the door**: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

The Apostle Paul also spoke of an open door.

1 Corinthians 16:9 - because a wide door for effective service has opened to me [in Ephesus, a very promising opportunity], and there are many adversaries.

2 Corinthians 2:12 - Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord,

A door can be seen as an opportunity i.e. (favor) or (promotion).

A door provides opportunity for a decision to be made. A door can be seen as an entry point, or exit point, allowing us to move from one environment to another.

There are different types of doors

A door in the bible many times is speaking of a literal door, while at other times it is speaking of a figurative door, or symbolic door.

Our usage of the phrase OPEN DOORS is significantly different from how God uses the phrase OPEN DOORS. We often refer to self-advancement, i.e. a spouse, a home, a vehicle, schools, business opportunities and more ...)

Whereas when Paul uses this phrase it often refers to the publishing of the gospel.

Acts 14:27 - And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

1 Corinthians 16:9 - For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries. **1 Cor. 16:9 AMP** - because a wide door for effective service has opened to me [in Ephesus, a very promising opportunity], and there are many adversaries.

2 Corinthians 2:12 - Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord,

Colossians 4:2-3 - Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; **Vs 3** - Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: **Vs 4** - That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Ephesians 6:19-20 - Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; **Vs 19** - And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, **Vs 20** - For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

As said earlier, doors are symbolic of opportunities.

Looking back at what Jesus said in the book of Revelation,

Revelation 3:8 - I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, ...

You'll notice that Jesus did NOT say; "I WILL OPEN A DOOR",

Instead, He said behold, I have set before thee an open door, ...

The implication that I'd like to emphasize is that this ... DOOR IS ALREADY OPEN.

Since the doors are already open, our perspective should **SWITCH** from trying to get God to open a door ... to ... DISCERNING the DOORS which God has already "PAST TENSE" opened.

We are to discern the opened doors.

In order to help you to SEE what God is REVEALING to us, consider the following scriptural illustration concerning what God had completed on **heavens side** for ABRAHAM and what needed to happen by ABRAHAM on **earth's side**.

Concludes next page

In the book of Romans, chapter four and verses seventeen and eighteen we see interesting dynamic between heaven and earth.

Romans 4:17a - (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) ...

Vs 18b - ... that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, ...

Abraham **became** on **earth's side** what God had already made him on **heaven's side**.

There was something already done. ABRAHAM WAS ALREADY A MADE MAN ON HEAVEN'S SIDE. If we were to superimpose this illustration over our study of doors, we realize that God has already opened the DOORS.

With this thought in mind, we could walk forward in time by faith; knowing that there is an open door for each of us; and no **man** can shut our door(s).

The KEY issue for you and I, is DISCERNING the doors.

Discerning the doors require fellowship with the father. Why? We need to discern the right door.

An open door does not necessarily permit **you** to enter. It's important that **you** go through **YOUR** door.

Revelation 3:8 - I know thy works: **behold**, I have **set** before **thee** an open door, ...

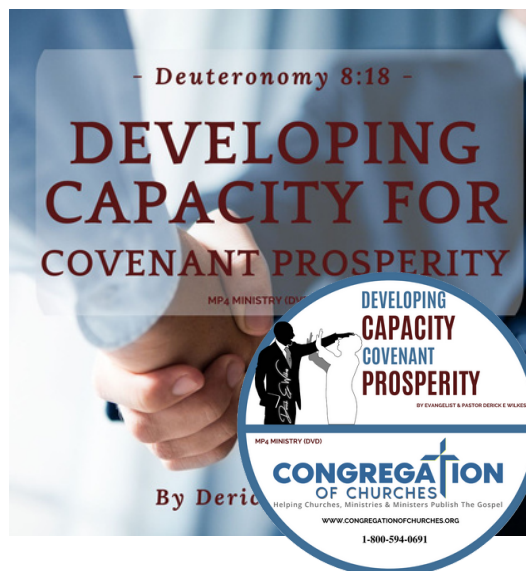
You'll need permission or authority to go through an open door.

Open doors do not negate the value of having permission or authority. Another way of saying this, is to say that; an open door does not negate the value of a having a key.

The thought of doors should bring to mind KEYS; and this is what we will discuss in the next article.

That's all for now!

Derick E Wilkes
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The Value of Keys

Keys and doors are related in the same way that freedom and truth are related.

In the previous article, we looked briefly at "doors". In this article, I'd like to speak to you about keys; in keeping with our dual themes for this season.

The year of truth and freedom ... and the year of the open door.

When thinking about keys, sometimes, we refer to them literally and at other times we use the word 'KEY' as a figure of speech or metaphor.

A **key** can represent a concept, or authority or even revelation knowledge.

For example I could say to you;

- There are some doors you'll not enter without REVELATION KNOWLEDGE
- There are some doors you'll not enter without AUTHORITY OR AUTHORIZATION
- There are some doors you'll not enter without UNDERSTANDING CERTAIN CONCEPTS

Here's a key: In the same way that doors are attached to **hinges**, metaphorical doors are attached to **decisions**. For every door there is an opportunity to make a decision.

Let's begin to look at a scriptural illustration which combines both revelation knowledge and authority... symbolizing a key.

Go with me to the book of Matthew chapter sixteen.

Matthew 16:13-19 – When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, **Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?** **Vs 14** – And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. **Vs 15** – He saith unto them, **But whom say ye that I am?** **Vs 16** – And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. **Vs 17** – And Jesus answered and said unto him, **Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.** **Vs 18** – And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this **rock** I will build my church; and the **gates** of hell shall not prevail against it. **Vs 19** – **And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**

Peter got a **revelation** of Jesus the anointed one, and Jesus said that He was blessed because of that **revelation**. He was not only blessed or empowered to prosper; ... the thing which was revealed to Peter represented a key to enter into different realms or doors. Keys represent authority, keys enable access through doors or gateways ...

Keys represent knowledge!

Luke 11:52 – Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the **key of knowledge**: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.

Although knowledge is key to many doors of this world, yet in the kingdom, you'll need spiritual ... **revelation knowledge**. This knowledge comes from God the father, by His Spirit, who resides within you and I.

When you are walking in **revealed knowledge** from God, it emboldens you. You'll be equipped to operate in authority because of what God has said or is saying to you by His Spirit.

Every time you receive revelation or a revealing of something from the Lord, that insight becomes ... **key**.... to a door.

You and I will navigate many doors in life and will need KEY(S) to do so.

A **KEY** (revelation knowledge) enables you to **see**.

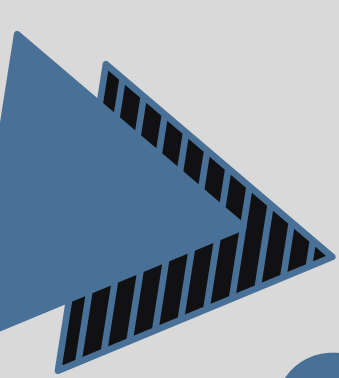
God's open doors cannot be discerned without keys (God revealing to you... of the door you'll need to navigate).

Along with the key comes permission and enablement to navigate that specific door.

Glory to God!

That's all for now!

Derick E Wilkes
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BONUS ARTICLE



How To Walk Through Your Open Door

by **Derick E Wilkes**
Evangelist and Pastor

We are mandated as Christians to walk by faith. This is to be the lifestyle of the Kingdom Citizen. Listen to this verse from 2 Corinthians chapter five and verse seven.

2 Corinthians 5:7 - (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

Walking is something we'd need to do in order to navigate our earthly doors; Yet prior to the earthly door there is a spiritual door. What we need to appreciate is that in the Kingdom of God we are to WALK by faith.

When we think about walking by faith, are legs required in order to walk? No! When the word "WALK" is used in context of the verse we just read from the book of Corinthians, it is relating to your lifestyle, or how you progress in life.

If we are to make progress in life, we must walk by faith.

To walk by faith is to "SEE" differently, than how **non-Christians** see. We could also say that our PERSPECTIVE will be different than those outside of Christianity. I believe the LORD is leading me to communicate this insight to you by looking at the three tenses.

- Future tense - SOMETHING WILL BE DONE IN THE FUTURE
 - Present tense - SOMETHING PRESENTLY BEING DONE
 - Past tense - SOMETHING HAS BEEN DONE
-

How To Walk Through Your Open Door continued ...

For Example:

You could say:

- I WILL BE HEALED IN THE FUTURE
- I AM BEING HEALED NOW
- I WAS HEALED 2,000 YEAR AGO

DO YOU CATCH THE CONCEPT?



Let's talk about the operation of faith for a moment.

- Faith is an application of what you believe
- Faith comes to us as we hear from God's anointed Word
- Faith operates from within the heart.
- Faith is expressed with the mouth and other corresponding actions.

Now, that we've laid some foundation, lets connect some thoughts about the OPEN DOOR.

Jesus spoke the following words regarding the open door:

Revelation 3:8 - I know thy works: ***behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.***

You'll notice that Jesus was not speaking from a FUTURE TENSE PERSPECTIVE, nor was He speaking from a PRESENT TENSE PERSPECTIVE, instead He was speaking from a PAST TENSE PERSPECTIVE.

In light of what we've discovered here, how should we approach the door?

The Lord spoke the following words to me in 2012: "HOW YOU SEE A THING WILL DETERMINE YOUR APPROACH"

How To Walk Through Your Open Door ...Concludes.

How should you and I approach this open door in light of the fact that it is ALREADY OPENED ... We are WALKING forward with the mindset that the door is already opened. **It's an open door.**

How do we synchronize what God has already done with what is happening on earth? .

How do we bring our earthly circumstances into harmony with heaven's finished work? We walk by faith! Here's an illustration used in an earlier article within this magazine.

In the book of Romans, chapter four and verses seventeen and eighteen we see interesting dynamic between heaven and earth.

Romans 4:17a - (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) ...

Vs 18b - ... that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, ...

Abraham became on earth's side what God had already made him on heaven's side. There was something already done. ABRAHAM WAS ALREADY A MADE MAN ON HEAVEN'S SIDE. What did Abraham do in order to cooperate with God from earth's side? **Romans 4:17** - (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and ***calleth those things which be not as though they were.***

Abraham needed to SPEAK as if He was on the other side of the door. Abraham "LABELED HIMSELF" what God labeled Him. He declared that his name was Abraham ... THE FATHER OF MANY NATIONS, although in the natural he didn't look like he was.

You must speak from a faith perspective. See yourself on the other side of your door. see yourself beyond the door. See yourself from the inside looking out. We walk by faith and not by sight.

Glory to God!

That's all for now!

Derick E Wilkes
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Consider An Offering

Mark 4:26 – And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; **Vs 27**– And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.

When speaking of seed where the kingdom of God is concerned; Jesus said that the seed is the Word of God.

Luke 8:11 – Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

When we speak of sowing seed, and when the bible speaks of sowing seed, specifically in the book of Mark chapter four where it deals with the parable of the sower and the soils, Jesus refers to the seed as the Word of God being sown into the hearts of men.

Our money becomes seed **only** when it used to help advance the publishing of the gospel.

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God gives seed to the sower! When we purpose to sow in our heart ... finances begin to move in our direction to help us publish the gospel.

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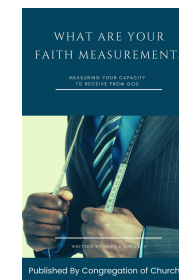
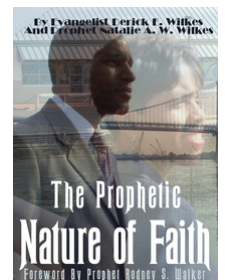
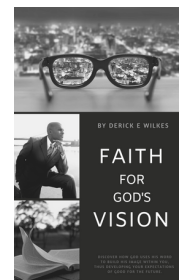
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