

²⁰ Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.
- Revelation 3:20

Jesus is knocking on the door of our hearts, not just with a small, little knock, easily missed and too soft to be distinguished from the noise and din of the world, but a long, repeated, loud banging. "Let me in!", he is saying. This passage makes it abundantly clear that Jesus wants into our lives on a personal, daily basis. His intention is not to be a "subject for discussion" on Sundays, but a Lord to be fellowshiped with and obeyed every hour and minute of each day.

Here I am! – many older versions of the Bible retain the original strong thrust of the word "Behold!" This greeting carries with it a call and response flavor. A sense that, "I am here!" and Jesus' presence here demands a response from the hearer; "Get up and come to the door, Now!", type of feel in the language. Like Moses responded to God's call at the burning bush, "Here am I, Lord".

I stand – Jesus is not nervous and fidgeting around on the outer sidewalks of our lives. He is not content to go on being ignored or being passed over by the many alluring activities of the world. He is standing strong and tall in the midst of our busy lives and saying, "Look to me, I have life and love and meaning and all the things you need in life. Stop settling for counterfeits and fakes and choose me – the real life." He is appealing to us as individuals and as groups of people – "Open the door, be with me, follow me, find the real you!"

At the door and knock -the verbs are in the present tense here, which drives a strong capacity to the meaning that Jesus is going to keep on loudly knocking with the now and eternal hope that someone will come to the door and open it. Jesus wants into our lives. He is not content to stay on the edges or the outside looking in...he is pleading with us here to look his way, to accept his offer.

I will come in and eat – this is the familiar middle eastern concept of hospitality, and hospitality at the most important and intimate, non-hurried and relaxed meal of the day, supper. Jesus is saying, "Be with me and my people, carve out a part of your life to spend with the people of God, with me, Jesus, the Christ, God Incarnate, your One True Hope." This is God's full invitation to enter into life-long fellowship with himself.

Hear the knock – Open the door – Walk into new life – Jump into the adventure.