

I'd rather be a **DOORKEEPER**

- Danny Dodd, Levy Church of Christ, North Little Rock, AR -

"How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty. My soul yearns, even faints for the courts of my LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God"

(Psalm 84:1-2).

What an amazingly splendid spirit! No wonder David was a man after God's own heart. Such a passion for God. Such a desire to worship Him. Such a need we now have to recapture this desire. It is the right emphasis, the proper priority, and the passion that will build a people and a church. It is the spirit of revival. It flowed out from David's heart of revival. No surprise then, what he says next: *"Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere: I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked"* (vs. 10).

Wow! David was a king, remember? He was used to the kingly lifestyle. Pomp, circumstance, ceremony, honor, yet his priority was spot on. He would rather be God's doorkeeper — a servant's role for sure — than hang out with those who opposed his God. I wonder, do we agree? Do we want this job? All kinds of terrific reasons why we should. In God's house:

♦ **Permanency.** God's house is eternal (see 2 Corinthians 5:1). Nothing insecure or temporary about it. We can't say that about tents. They are made to fold up — especially the wicked kind. Being a doorkeeper in God's house is a forever job.

♦ **Praise.** God's house is defined by praise. It uplifts and edifies. A new song of Moses and the Lamb is sung. *"Holy, holy, holy"* is continually proclaimed (see Revelation 4-5). Back in Psalm 84, David states, *"Even the sparrow has found a home and the swallow a nest for herself, a place near your altar."* This will not be discovered anywhere in the tents of the world. There is no praise there, just punishment. In God's house, a doorkeeper's job is beautifully blessed and framed by praise.

♦ **Presence.** God's that is! His divine, holy, majestic presence makes it all possible. It is for what David's soul yearned, and his flesh cried out, *"You have made known to me the path of life,"* he marveled in Psalm 16:11. *"You will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."* No wonder he wanted to be His doorkeeper.

♦ **Purpose.** Real, lasting, meaningful purpose is found in being that doorkeeper. At first blush, it may not be viewed that way, particularly from the viewpoint of the wicked tents, but it is ever true. King David, honored above all in his day, knew it. Do we?

Look past the temporary. Discover the blessings of being God's doorkeeper, of being God's simple servant. It is one of the highest callings around. I'd rather be a doorkeeper! How about you?

- via Magnolia Messenger, Church of Christ, Kosciusko, MS

Doubt asks, "Can God?" Faith says, "God can!"

News Notes

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. All ladies invited to participate.

CONVERT'S CLASS: Suspended for Summer break.

PANTRY: Applesauce.

SICK: At Home: Brian Haught (Skip's brother), Peggy Linger, Scharlotte Jones, Harry Huff, Nancy Cox, Barbara DeLong, Marlene Evans, Cheryl Renfro Walker. Micheal Sabol (Karen Strum's daughter-in-law's father). **Serra Manor, Weirton:** Jean Haught (Skip's mother). **Fox, Chester:** Mary Johnson. **Elsewhere:** Herman McHan, 7401 Elmwood Dr., Lisbon, OH 44432.

The Power of Godliness - 1 Timothy 6:6

There is a huge difference between the "form of godliness" and the "power of godliness" (2 Timothy 3:5). It has been said that the form of godliness is policy, but the power of godliness is honesty. The form of godliness is on the lips while the power of godliness is in the heart. Notice some qualities of godliness.

Godliness is to be more like Jesus. Are we willing to exercise self denial, to give up evil habits, and to serve others? (Luke 9:23; Acts 1:1; 1 Peter 2:21-22).

Godliness is profitable for health. "The fear of the Lord prolongs days, but the years of the wicked will be shortened" (Proverbs 10:27). Many lives are shortened due to a worldly lifestyle. The "eat, drink, and be merry" attitude is not profitable for good health.

Godliness is profitable for one's reputation. Do we want a good reputation? If so, let us be godly (Philippians 4:8).

Godliness is profitable for the intellect. Godliness directs one away from a sinful life to a life of truth and holiness (Psalm 14:1; Romans 1:18-32; 12:1-2).

- Harry Goff, Macon, GA (via House to House) -

God or Satan

Stills you	Rushes you
Reassures you	Frightens you
Leads you	Pushes you
Enlightens you	Confuses you
Forgives you	Condemns you
Calms you	Stresses you
Encourages you	Discourages you
Comforts you	Worries you

- Larry Benderman, Stiversville Church of Christ -
(via House to House)
Romans 14:19

The Right Road

(Isaiah 35:8-10)

1. The right road is a way of purity and holiness.
2. The right road is protected. "The redeemed shall walk there".
3. The right road carries you forward. It is a guide for your life.
4. The right road is a way of praise.

Which road are we on? If we find that we are on the wrong road in life, there is a way to return to the right road. Proverbs 4:26.

(via House to House)