

# The Bulletin

## Meeks St. Church of Christ

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May 3, 2026

### ***“Door-Keeping At The House Of God”***

By Brian Meade

When we travel to a hotel or Inn, we will usually be greeted by someone at the door of the lobby. There will generally be someone there who manages the door in letting people in who will be staying with them at the proper accommodations. It is also true, that part of their job is to keep out those who are not guests, and therefore not allowed to just loiter around the facility.

Door-keeping or gate-keeping has been around for thousands of years. It serves to remind us that there have always been people who were up to no good, and had to dealt with as trespassers. In ancient times, gate-keepers were the first line of defense for a city, town, or temple.

But what about God’s people? Has God spoken about this subject as well? Indeed He has! God wants us to know safety and security, as we should in worshipping Him.

Psalm 84:10, although attributed to the sons of Korah, tells us these words of perspective, *“For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.”* They were doorkeepers!

Psalm 84:10 shows us where it is better to spend our time wisely and for the most good! Just like David said in Psalm 23:6, *“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.”*

#### **1. Who Were The Door-Keepers?**

Samuel was one of the first we read about to keep the door of the tabernacle in 1 Samuel 3:15, *“So Samuel lay down until morning, and opened the doors of the house of the Lord....”*

In 1 Chronicles 9:17-27, we see the work of those who were charged as doorkeepers.

- They were to keep the treasuries of the Lord’s house.

1 Chronicles 9:26, *“For in this trusted office were four chief gatekeepers; they were Levites. And they had charge over the chambers and treasuries of the house of God.”*

Nehemiah 12:25, *“Mattaniah, Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, and Akkub were gatekeepers keeping the watch at the storerooms of the gates.”*

- For such an important work, the doorkeepers would be required to live around the house of God. 1 Chronicles 9:27, *“And they lodged all around the house of God because they had the responsibility, and they were in charge of opening it every morning.”*

- They guarded against unclean persons entering the house of God, as David gave charge in 2 Chronicles 23:19, *“And he set the gatekeepers at the gates of the house of the Lord, so that no one who was in any way unclean should enter.”*

- Doorkeepers were also musicians, as in 2 Chronicles 20:19, *“Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to praise the Lord God of Israel with voices loud and high.”* Although it is not stated directly here, we know that among that number of Kohathites were

names very familiar to us in the Psalms. The sons of Korah and Kohath were prominent musicians who have several of the Psalms attributed to them (42, 44-49, 84, 85, 87, & 88).

- Doorkeepers were very numerous under David's reign, numbering in the thousands. *"Now the Levites were numbered from the age of thirty years and above; and the number of individual males was thirty-eight thousand. Of these, twenty-four thousand were to look after the work of the house of the Lord, six thousand were officers and judges, four thousand were gatekeepers, and four thousand..."* (1 Chronicles 23:3-5).

## **2. To Be A Doorkeeper Was Humble Service.**

Door-keeping for the house of God was lowly, humble service. It was important work done by those devoted to the Lord's work in the temple. Their service was done to guard, protect, and participate in the worship of God—in a way for others to freely bring their offerings as God intended.

It was not glamorous work. God's work never is intended to be something to exalt men beyond their place in the Lord's kingdom. Psalm 84:10, shows a contrast of those who would rather be, as humble servants, and not persons of sin and pride in *"the tents of wickedness."*

We can learn a lot from Jesus about humility in service (Luke 9:46-48; John 13:1-17; Matthew 10:42; Luke 17:10).

## **3. To Be A Doorkeeper Shows What's More Important.**

The Psalms teach us some very important attitudes to have for God's ways (Psalm 119). Psalm 84 is no different. The sons of Korah penned these words, possibly under the direction of David during the time of Absalom's rebellion. And these words teach us that our priorities need to be with God and His work, rather than any other thing we could be doing otherwise. *"For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God..."* (Psalm 84:10 ESV). These men knew this very well, as they were the ones who did this work on a daily basis.

Notice as they say, *"How lovely is Your tabernacle, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the Lord; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Even the sparrow has found a home, And the swallow a nest for herself, Where she may lay her young— Even Your altars, O Lord of hosts, My King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You. Selah."*

Today, we can learn to know what's more important in our priorities, and not neglect the work God has given us to choose to be other places when God's people assemble for work and worship (Hebrews 10:22-25).

To say in our heart, "I'd rather be fishing," on Sunday morning, or any other activity or recreation, is to fail to learn the lesson of Psalm 84.

## **4. To Be A Doorkeeper Shows A Choice Of Good Over Evil.**

When Psalm 84:10 says, *"I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness,"* it is teaching us to make a choice for all that is good, holy, right, and pure in our conduct. This is what God teaches us and instructs us in the ways of righteousness (Psalm 119:137-138; 142; 144; 172).

This also suggests that one knows that wickedness could be chosen for the temporary pleasures and rewards for a life of sin (Hebrews 11:25), but this cost us our integrity, purity, and all that is good! As we know by sin's choice, sin corrupts and transforms us into what is ugly, putrid, and leads us on a dark path.

Today, for these reasons, the same choice of choosing good over evil must be done to have a blessed life under God's care. *"For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, Blessed is the man who trusts in You!"* (Psalm 84:11-12).

## **5. To Be A Doorkeeper Comes With Reward.**

Last but not least, we must realize God will reward devoted service from the heart. God has stated time and again, that if we will serve Him faithfully while living on the earth, He will reward us beyond measure! (Proverbs 11:18; 13:13; Matthew 5:12; Colossians 3:24; Hebrews 10:35; 11:6; 11:26; James 1:12; Revelation 2:10; 14:12-13; 22:14).

Let us learn these lessons from Psalm 84, and make them our attitude toward the service of Jesus, in His kingdom today, the church (Matthew 16:18-19).

**Those Who Need Our Prayers & Encouragement:**

Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Daniel Holloway, Robbie, Sheila, Sherry Doles, Sandi Poole, LuAnne Parrish, Billy Grisham, B.J. Graves, Chandler McCain (Cancer), Stacy & Annette Meeks, Anita Harris' mother: Hillard Switcher, Kiefer Norman (Robbie Doles' relative), Evelyn Trimble, Danny Briggs (cancer), Kelcy Whittemore, Cameron Hutchins, the McCarthy family in Baldwyn (two men have cancer, one is terminal), Josh Boswell, Karen Kennemur, Dianne Johnson, and Randy Ferrell (diagnosed with Parkinson's disease).

**Updates:** Billy Grisham had another fall Wednesday and is recovering.  
Sherry Fuqua Doles got a gash on her leg and is recovering.  
Camden (Chad's son) is still sore from his hunting accident.  
Tim Harris Jr. is back from the Mayo Clinic in Florida (Home last Friday evening).  
Tim Harris Sr. is still dealing with some health issues and needs our prayers.

**Those Who Serve:**

**Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:**

**Opening Prayer:** Danny Sheffield  
**Preaching:** Brian Meade  
**Sermon #1:** *"The Way Of The Righteous Vs. The Wicked Way"*

**Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:**

**Workbook:** Brian Meade  
Revelation  
**Author:** By Dan H. King Sr.  
**Starting Page & Question:** Page #78 Question #6

**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:**

**Announcements:** Jerry Kennemur  
**Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading:** Blake Briggs  
**Scripture Reading:** 1 Peter 4:1-4  
**Song Leader:** Jerry Kennemur  
**Lord's Supper:** Fred Johnson  
**Assisting:** — —  
**Preaching:** Brian Meade  
**Sermon #3:** *"It's Time To Stop!"*  
**Closing Prayer:** Tim Harris Sr.

**Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00 P.M.**

May 6, 2026

**Auditorium Bible Class:** Paul Busby  
**Workbook:** The Book Of Mark  
**Author:** By Mike Willis  
**Starting Page & Question:** Page #42, Question #7  
**Invitation:** Jerry Kennemur  
**Song Leader:** Dan Cottrell  
**Closing Prayer:** Blake Briggs



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# “The Way Of The Righteous Vs. The Wicked Way”

Lesson Text: **Psalm 1:1-6.**

## I. Vs. 1-2, Two Different Ways, Two Different Choices

### – The Way Of The Wicked.

1. The Slow Drift Into Sin (v. 1).
2. *“Walks..., Sits..., & Stands...”*
3. This is Not Incidental Language— But A Downward Spiral.

### – The Way Of The Righteous.

1. The Blessedness Of Not Being Influenced By Sinners.
2. *“Delights in the Law of the Lord...”* **Psalm 119:35; 119:92; Romans 7:22.**
3. *“And in His Law he meditates day and night.”*  
- **Psalm 119:97; 1 Timothy 4:13-15.**
4. We Listen To God From His Word For Direction, Guidance, & Salvation.

## II. Vs. 3, Results: Stability Versus Instability.

### – The Righteous Tree.

- Planted Firmly & Rooted (Intentional, Not Accidental).
- By Streams of Water (Constant Supply).
- Fruitful In Season.
- Leaf Does Not Wither.

### – The Wicked Chaff. **Job 21:17-18; Isaiah 5:24; 7:13; Matthew 3:12.**

- Weightless.
- Rootless.
- Useless.
- Driven By The Wind.

### – Contrast:

- Tree = Stable, Alive, & Fruitful.
- Chaff = Unstable, Empty, & Blown Away.

## III. Vs. 5-6, Your Choice Of Life Determines Your Destiny.

### – The Way Of The Wicked.

- *“Will Not Stand In The Judgment.”* **Nahum 1:5-6; Must**
- Separated From The Righteous. **Matthew 25:32-33.**
- *“The Way Of The Ungodly Shall Perish.”* **Psalm 73:27.**

### – The Way Of The Righteous.

- *“The Lord Knows The Way Of the Righteous.”*
- *“Knows”* Implies Relationship, Care, & Approval.”
- **Psalm 37:18; Nahum 1:7; John 10:27-28.**

# “It’s Time To Stop!”

Lesson Text: **1 Peter 4:1-4.**

## I. Stop Listening To What The World Has To Say, & Listen To God.

### – **1 Peter 4:2.**

#### – The World Appeals To The Flesh.

- The World Says, “Live For The Here & Now.” God Says, **Romans 8:5.**
- The World Says, “A Little Sin Never Hurt Anyone.” God Says, **Romans 6:23.**
- The World Says, “If It Feels Right To You, Do It.” God Says, **Proverbs 14:12.**
- The World Says, “You Determine Your Own Happiness.” God Says, **Proverbs 16:20.**
- The World Say, “Do Whatever It Takes To Fit In.” God Says, **2 Corinthians 6:17.**

#### – God Appeals To The Spirit.

- **Romans 8:6.**

## II. Stop Praying For The Lord’s Help, & Refusing To Do It.

### – **1 Peter 4:1-2.**

- Don’t Be Like Israel, Who Prayed For Deliverance While Practicing Sin.
  - **Isaiah 59:1-2; 1 John 5:16; Hebrews 10:26.**
- Don’t Be Like The Rich Young Ruler In **Matthew 19:16 & 22.**
- Don’t Ask For Help With Temptation & Not Be Willing To Take “*The Way Of Escape.*”
  - **1 Corinthians 10:13; Ephesians 6:10-13.**

## III. Stop Putting Other Things Ahead Of Our Duties, & Put God First.

### – **1 Peter 4:3.**

#### – The Old Life Wasted Enough Time.

- “The time past is enough.”
- Sin has already taken too much; Valuable Time Lost.

#### – Misplaced Priorities Make Us Distracted.

##### - **2 Timothy 2:4.**

- What Are Some Of Things That Can Distract Us? \_\_\_\_\_.

#### – God’s Will Must Be First Before Anything Else!

- **Matthew 6:33; 1 John 2:15-17.**

## IV. Stop Willfully Sinning, & Start Dying To The Love Of Sin.

### – **1 Peter 4:1, 3-4.**

- Sin Is Not Just A Act, It’s A Desire We Must Give Up! **Colossians 3:5.**
- What True Repentance Demands!

### – **Ephesians 4:25–5:7.**

- Sin Can Become Habit Forming, And We Must Break The Cycle Of Sin.
- Our Attitude Toward Sin Should Be That We Are Totally Against It.
- Remember: We Are No Longer “*Slaves To Sin,*” But “*Slaves To Righteousness.*”

- **Romans 6:17-18.**