

NO PARKING – Part 2

I want to go back and revisit the dream we introduced last Sunday. But before I do, I would like to offer a little advice to those who might be feeling lost and overwhelmed by these dreams in general. Understand that it's okay if you don't fully understand EVERYTHING in a dream. In fact, avoid the temptation of trying to figure out EVERY detail in these dreams. Instead, try to focus on the overall lesson. This is also good advice for those who could be hearing this dream for the first time. Don't worry about the details. Zero in on the overall message!

Now, on to our dream...

“I pulled into the church and parked in the back near the west wing, CLOSER TO THE GRASS.”

We said to you last time that the word “grass” can represent the *flesh*.

1 Peter 1:24

²⁴ For all FLESH is as GRASS, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass.

1 Peter 1:24 *The Message Bible*

²⁴ That's why the prophet said, THE OLD LIFE IS A GRASS LIFE,

Therefore, “parking near the grass” could represent someone who is trying to maintain carnal relationships or who is continuing to engage in carnal activities.

Psalm 1:1

¹ Blessed is the man That walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor STANDETH IN THE WAY OF SINNERS, Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

Eventually, our speaker does make his way to the building.

“I got out of the car and walked towards the small side door on the WESTSIDE of the church.”

We said to you that going *west* was a good thing. We said going *west* represents moving towards the *Son*, because the *sun* rises in the *west*. This was incorrect. The sun rises in the east, not in the west. Yet, we still maintain that going in a westward direction is a good thing. It represents returning to God!

For example, when man was expelled from the garden, Cherubim were placed *east* of the garden. It stands to reason that this was the *only* entrance into the garden. If this is true, then in order for man to return to God, he would have to go WEST or in the *opposite* direction!

We see this *same* thing when we examine the movements in the tabernacle. The tabernacle, like the garden, had one entrance that was to the *east*. Moreover, as the priests approached the presence of God, which was located in the innermost chamber of the tabernacle, they had to travel *westward*!

Going west not only represents *returning to God*, it's also a reminder that to return to God we must go in the opposite direction from which we are traveling. Many are trying to return God, but they refuse to make any adjustments. They're trying to return to God while continuing in the SAME direction!

“I got out of the car and walked towards the *small* side door on the westside of the church. I thought this was WEIRD and wondered why I went through this door and not through the MAIN ENTRANCE.”

Our speaker thought it was “weird” not to enter through the “main” entrance. What's the significance of this?

The word “weird” means strange or outside natural laws. Originally, the word meant *anything supernatural*. Therefore, entering through this “weird” door could represent how entering the kingdom will require that we learn to trust in the supernatural.

Deuteronomy 8:2

² And thou shalt REMEMBER ALL THE WAY which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, *and* to prove thee, to know what *was* in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

God did not take Israel the conventional route (“main” entrance). Instead, He led them through the wilderness in supernatural (weird) ways!

Deuteronomy 8:16, 17

¹⁶ Who FED THEE in the wilderness WITH MANNA, which thy fathers knew not, that he might HUMBLE thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee

good at thy latter end; ¹⁷ And thou say in thine heart, MY POWER and THE MIGHT OF *MINE* HAND hath gotten me this wealth.

God led Israel in supernatural ways to *humble* them (i.e. to see if they would humble themselves enough to trust Him for their provision). This might be why the “weird” door is *also* described as a “small” door in our dream!

“I got out of the car and walked towards the small SIDE door”

What’s the significance in describing this entrance as a SIDE door? Remember, Jesus was pierced in His “side.” Moreover, it is our faith in His side (His death) that gives us access (a “door”) into the Father’s presence!

Hebrews 10:19–20

¹⁹ Having therefore, brethren, boldness to ENTER INTO THE HOLIEST by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, THROUGH THE VEIL, that is to say, HIS FLESH;

Faith in the death and resurrection of Christ is the only way to approach the Father. However, some are slow of heart to believe.

John 20:25

²⁵ The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, EXCEPT I SHALL SEE in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I WILL NOT BELIEVE.

Thomas refused to believe the testimony of the disciples. He demanded to see the nail prints in Jesus’ hands and thrust his hand into Jesus’ side before he believed! Thomas is clearly an example of those who require strong evidence from God in order to believe.

John 20:27–28

²⁷ Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and BE NOT FAITHLESS, BUT BELIEVING. ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

Again, it was Jesus’ SIDE that caused Thomas to believe (gave him access to God)! The only problem was that Thomas demanded to see it before he believed it. Jesus did not praise Thomas’ path to faith.

John 20:29

29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: BLESSED ARE THEY THAT HAVE NOT SEEN, and yet have believed.

Those who refuse to believe until they see or receive strong physical evidence will NOT be blessed. God may accommodate your demand to see, but there will be no blessing attached to your believing!

There's one last point I want to make. Jesus wasn't the only one being patient with Thomas. The other disciples were also patient with Thomas' lack of faith!

John 20:26

26 And AFTER EIGHT DAYS again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then* came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace *be* unto you.

The other disciples waited an additional EIGHT DAYS for Thomas to finally believe. This is an important lesson for us. We must be careful not to grow impatient when others are slow of heart to believe!

James 5:7–9

7 BE PATIENT therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman WAITETH for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. **8 BE YE ALSO PATIENT;** stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. **9 GRUDGE NOT** one against another, brethren, **LEST YE BE CONDEMNED:** behold, the judge standeth before the door.

Let's not forget. When Moses spake angrily with Israel because of their doubting and stubbornness, he was not allowed to bring God's people into the Promised Land!