

Only 1 Egress! Only 1 Way! 1 Door!

It would've Never been allowed today!

[Gen 7:1-16 NASB20] 1 Then the LORD said to Noah, "Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you [alone] I have seen [to be] righteous before Me in this generation. 2 "You shall take with you seven pairs of every clean animal, a male and his female; and two of the animals that are not clean, a male and his female; 3 also of the birds of the sky, seven pairs, male and female, to keep [their] offspring alive on the face of all the earth. 4 "For after seven more days, I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and I will wipe out from the face of the land every living thing that I have made." 5 So Noah acted in accordance with everything that the LORD had commanded him. 6 Now Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of water came upon the earth. 7 Then Noah and his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives with him entered the ark because of the waters of the flood. 8 Of clean animals and animals that are not clean and birds and everything that crawls on the ground, 9 they [all] went into the ark to Noah by twos, male and female, as God had commanded Noah. 10 Now it came about after the seven days, that the waters of the flood came upon the earth. 11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day

all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened. 12 The rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights. 13 On this very same day Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark, 14 they and every animal according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kind, and every crawling thing that crawls on the earth according to its kind, and every bird according to its kind, all sorts of birds. 15 So they went into the ark to Noah, by twos of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. 16 Those that entered, male and female of all flesh, entered as God had commanded him; and the LORD closed [the door] behind him.

[Jhn 14:6 NASB20] 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.



[Gen 6:16 NASB20] 16 "You shall make a window for the ark, and finish it to a cubit from the top; and put the door of the ark on the side; you shall make it with lower, second, and third decks.

[Gen 7:16 NASB20] 16 Those that entered, male and female of all flesh, entered as God had commanded him; and **the LORD closed [the door] behind him.**



Famous Doors/Gates: Act as Portals!

Monsters Inc, Scarers Sully and Mike Wakowski Pixar

Wardrobe door to Chronicles of Narnia in Lion, Witch and Wardrobe

Doorway in the secret garden

Round Door in the Shire, The Lord Of The Rings

The Cupboard Door, The Indian In The Cupboard,

The Door To Wonderland (Lewis Carroll, Alice's Adventures In Wonderland)

Floating Wooden Door — Titanic, a floating wooden door saves Rose's life.

221B Baker Street — Sherlock Holmes

The Lion Gate of Mycenae The Ishtar Gate of Babylon

Scrooges home and bedroom

Disney uses Doors and Encanto!

the door to Wittenberg Castle where Martin Luther posted a treatise (later called

The Ninety-Five Theses)

Rodin's gorgeous sculpture The Gates of Hell, the Thinker!

More than just a plot device, liminality - the in-between moments between inciting incident in a story and the protagonist's resolution - is a recognized part of literary theory. Often doorways, or the waiting spaces in front of, or between, doorways, are used to represent this. This process is transformational, it is about 'becoming':

"IT IS THE PERIOD BETWEEN RASKOLNIKOV'S CRIME AND HIS CONFESSION TO DETECTIVE PORFIRY. IT IS THE SPACE BETWEEN THE MURDER OF BRUCE WAYNE'S PARENTS AND HIS BECOMING BATMAN IN ORDER TO PROTECT OTHERS. LIMINAL SPACE IS LUKE SKYWALKER'S APPRENTICESHIP IN THE SWAMPS OF DAGOBAH. IT IS FRODO'S LONG, SLOW JOURNEY TO MORDOR. LIMINAL SPACE IS THE PERIOD BETWEEN ELIZABETH BENNET'S REALIZATION SHE LIKES MR DARCY AND THE MOMENT SHE AGREES TO MARRY HIM"

https://www.fringeartsbath.co.uk/2018-blog/2018/1/20/doorways-in-literature-and-film

famous red doors of the fire station in Ghostbusters?

Notting Hill and hasn't gone to see the famous 'Blue Door',

Harry Potter doors

Friends TV show

Dr. Who

Jurassic park

Noah's Ark had only 1 Door!

- Doors evoke important imagery, especially in scripture
- · Doors open and close, describe opportunity
- Genesis 6:16 "You shall make a window for the ark, ... and put the door of the ark on the side"
 ... The Lord shut him in Genesis 7:16

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon 2000

1st Predators

2nd Protection

3rd Promise

[Deu 6:9 NASB20] 9 "You shall also write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. **Door** \uparrow 6607

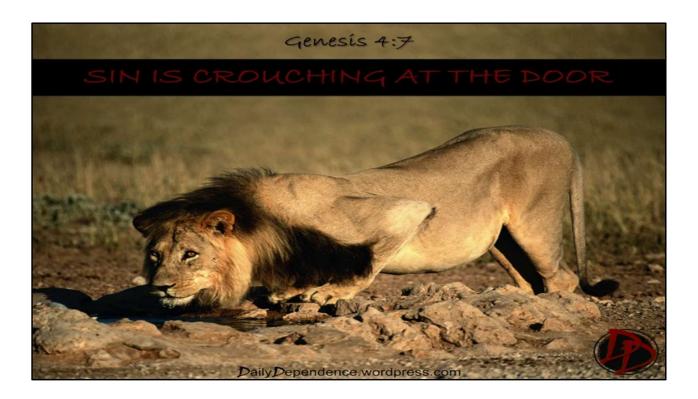
nna nnaipetah

Strong's H6607 in the following

manner: $\underline{\text{door (126x)}}$, $\underline{\text{entering (10x)}}$, $\underline{\text{entry (8x)}}$, $\underline{\text{gate (7x)}}$, $\underline{\text{in (7x)}}$, $\underline{\text{entrance (3x)}}$, $\underline{\text{open}}$ $\underline{\text{ings (1x)}}$, $\underline{\text{place (1x)}}$.

Noah's Ark had only 1 Door!

- 1st door mentioned describes Sin as a Lion crouching! - Genesis 4:7
- 2nd door mention is in Noah's Ark, only 1 Door Genesis 6:16, 7:16
- 3rd door mention is Abraham and Sarah Genesis 18



[Gen 4:7 NASB20] 7 "If you do well, will [your face] not be cheerful? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door[H6607]; and its desire is for you, but you must master it."

[Gen 4:7-8 NASB20] 7 "If you do well, will [your face] not be cheerful? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it." 8 Cain talked to his brother Abel; and it happened that when they were in the field Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.

[Gen 6:16 NASB20] 16 "You shall make a window for the ark, and finish it to a cubit from the top; and put the door[H6607] of the ark on the side; you shall make it with lower, second, and third decks.

[Gen 18:1-2, 10 NASB20] 1 Now the LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, while he was sitting at the tent door[H6607] in the heat of the day. 2 When he raised his eyes and looked, behold, three men were standing opposite him; and when he saw [them,] he ran from the tent door[H6607] to meet them and bowed down to the ground, ... 10 He said, "I will certainly return to you at this time next year; and behold, your wife Sarah will have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door[H6607], which was behind him.

[Gen 19:6 NASB20] 6 But Lot went out to them at the doorway[H6607], and shut the door behind him,

[Gen 43:19 NASB20] 19 So they approached Joseph's house steward, and spoke to him at the entrance[H6607] of the house,

[Exo 12:22-23 NASB20] 22 "And you shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood which is in the basin, and apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel and the two doorposts; and none of you shall go outside the door[H6607] of his house until morning. 23 "For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; but when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door[H6607] and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to strike [you.]

[Exo 26:36 NASB20] 36 "You shall also make a curtain for the doorway[H6607] of the tent of violet, purple, and scarlet [material] and fine twisted linen, the work of a weaver.

[Exo 33:9-10 NASB20] 9 Whenever Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance[H6607] of the tent; and the LORD would speak with Moses. 10 When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance[H6607] of the tent, all the people would stand and worship, each at the entrance[H6607] of his tent.

[Gen 4:7 NASB20] 7 "If you do well, will [your face] not be cheerful? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it."

[Rom 7:8-9 NASB20] 8 But sin, taking an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for apart from the Law sin [is] dead. 9 I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin came to life, and I died;

[Jas 1:15 NASB20] 15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it has run its course, brings forth death.

[1Pe 5:8 NASB20] 8 Be of sober [spirit,] be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

The door of slaves, sons of Abraham!

- 70 went to Egypt, Millions became enslaved
- •10 Plagues, Passover was the last, 1st born sons
- ·Blood applied to Lintel and each doorpost
- Unleavened bread, Lamb sacrificed, wine –
 Communion!
- When I see the blood, I will Passover you! Let my people GO

When I see the blood, I will Passover you! Let my people GO

[Exo 5:1 NASB20] 1 And afterward Moses and Aaron came and said to Pharaoh, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel says: 'Let My people go so that they may celebrate a feast to Me in the wilderness.'"

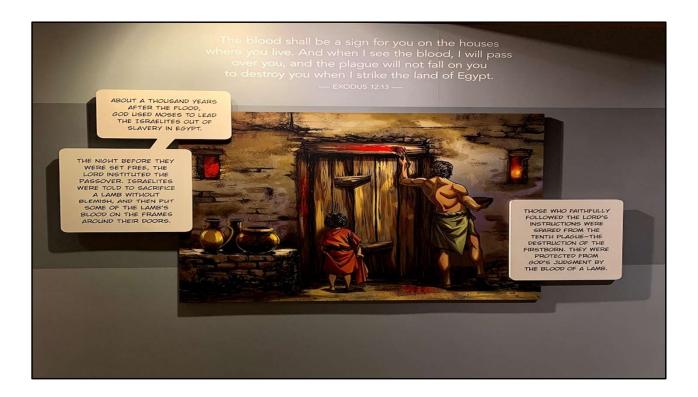
[Exo 7:16 "And you shall say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you, saying, "Let My people go, so that they may serve Me in the wilderness. But behold, you have not listened up to now."

[Exo 8:1, 20-21 NASB20] 1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: "Let My people go, so that they may serve Me. ... 20 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Rise early in the morning and present yourself before Pharaoh, as he comes out to the water; and say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: "Let My people go, so that they may serve Me. 21 "For if you are not going to let My people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you and on your servants and on your people, and into your houses; and the houses of the Egyptians will be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they [live.]

[Exo 9:1, 13 NASB20] 1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and speak to him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews says: "Let My people go, so

that they may serve Me. ... 13 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Rise up early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews says: "Let My people go, so that they may serve Me.

[Exo 10:3-4 NASB20] 3 So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said to him, "This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews says: 'How long will you refuse to humble yourself before Me? Let My people go, so that they may serve Me. 4 'For if you refuse to let My people go, behold, tomorrow I will bring locusts into your territory.



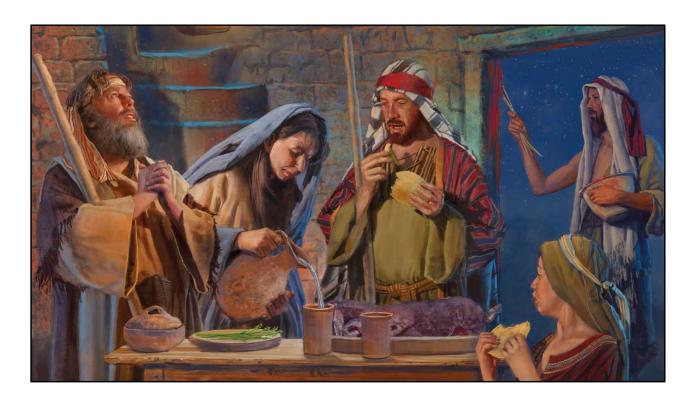
1000 years after Flood

Exo 12:13 <u>'The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you</u>, and no plague will come upon you to destroy [you] when I strike the land of Egypt.

Exo 12:22-23 "And you shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood which is in the basin, and apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel and the two doorposts; and none of you shall go outside the door of his house until morning. 23 "For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; but when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to strike [you.]

apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel
and the two doorposts

Sign of the Cross??



Notice applying blood to the door, on right

Unleavened bread

Pouring Wine

1 Door – Access to God in Tabernacle/Temple

- The Tabernacle in the wilderness/Shekinah glory cloud
- The Temple in Jerusalem, where God dwelt, Holy Place
- Daily and Annual sacrifices at the brazen Altar

1 Door – Access to God in Tabernacle/Temple

- Only 1 Access/Door into the Holy Place
- Today the Jews weep at the wailing wall, Temple ruined



Only the High Priest once a year could enter this Holy Place, with Blood!

Some believe they used to tie a Rope around His waste

500 yrs after Moses

Jesus preached 2 doors! - Matthew 7:13-14; Luke 13:23-25

• Luke 13:23-25 – And someone said to Him, "Lord, are there [just] a few who are being saved?" And He said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

2 Roads (Not many roads like post office) **Sermon on Mt.**

Sin or Holiness

Following the world/flesh and following Jesus Narrow

Trusting my works or trusting his Faith ALone

Hell or Heaven!

Luk 13:23-25 And someone said to Him, "Lord, are there [just] a few who are being saved?" And He said to them, 24 "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. 25 "Once the head of the house gets up and shuts the door, and you begin standing outside and knocking on the door, saying, 'Lord, open up to us!' and He [then] will answer and say to you, 'I do not know where you are from.'

[Mat 7:13-14 NASB20] 13 "Enter through the <u>narrow gate</u>; for the gate is wide and the way is <u>broad that leads to destruction</u>, and there are many who enter through it. 14 "For the gate is narrow and the way is constricted that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Jesus preached 2 doors! - Matthew 7:13-14; Luke 13:23-25

• Once the head of the house gets up and shuts the door, and you begin standing outside and knocking on the door, saying, saying, 'Lord, open up to us!' and He will answer and say to you, 'Ido not know where you are from.'



Notice I cutoff dead space on right

<u>I AM</u> the Door, <u>I AM</u> the Good Shepherd! – John 10

- Jesus used the Covenant name of GodYhWh "I AM"
- 2/7 times in John, Jesus said I am the door,
 Good Shepherd

[Jhn 10:9-18 NASB20] 9 "I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came so that they would have life, and have [it] abundantly. 11 "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. 12 "He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters [the flock.] 13 "[He flees] because he is a hired hand and does not care about the sheep. 14 "I am the good shepherd, and I know My own, and My own know Me, 15 just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. 16 "And I have other sheep that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice; and they will become one flock, [with] one shepherd. 17 "For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it back. 18 "No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it back. This commandment I received from My Father."

[Jhn 1:49-51 NASB20] 49 Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel!" 50 Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these." 51 And He said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven

opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

[Jhn 14:1-6 NASB20] 1 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 "In My Father's house are many rooms; if [that] were not [so,] I would have told you, because I am going [there] to prepare a place for you. 3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, [there] you also will be. 4 "And you know the way where I am going." 5 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going; how do we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.

<u>I AM</u> the Door, <u>I AM</u> the Good Shepherd! – John 10

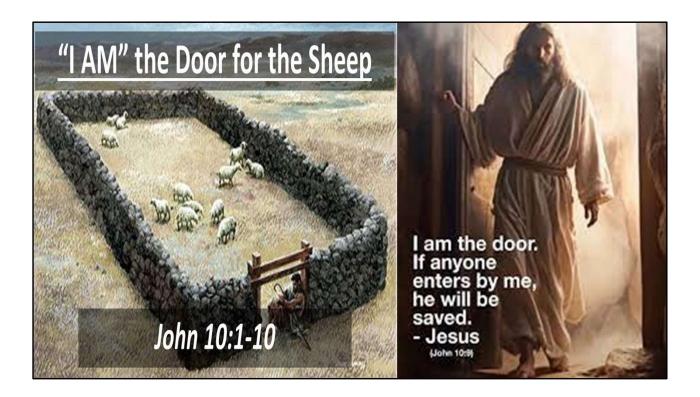
- John 1:51 And He said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."
- John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "<u>I am the way</u>, and the truth, and the life; <u>no one comes to the</u>
 <u>Father except through Me.</u>

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And Jesus said to the Devil, you can't have my people, Not even over my Dead Body!!

<u>Jhn 10:9-11 NASB20]</u> 9 "<u>I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture</u>. 10 "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came so that they would have life, and have [it] abundantly. 11 "<u>I am the good shepherd</u>; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

An Unauthorized Door! Sealed shut by Rome!

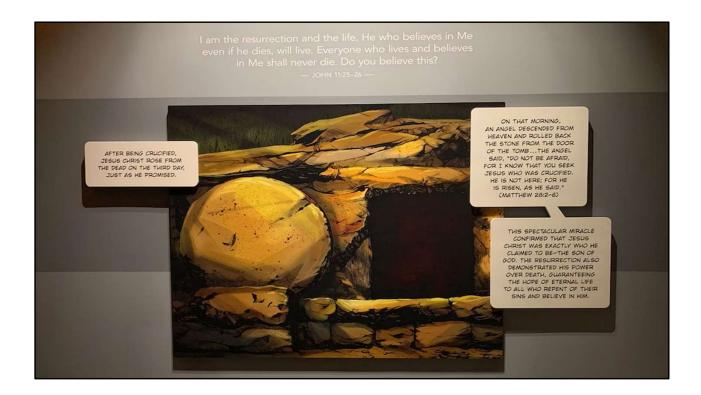
- Matthew 27:66 And they went and made the tomb secure with the guard, <u>sealing the stone</u>."
- "Despite our efforts to keep Him out, God intrudes.
 The life of Jesus is bracketed by two impossibilities: a virgin's womb and an empty tomb. Jesus entered our world through a door marked 'No Entrance' and left through a door marked 'No Exit." ~ Peter Larson

[Mat 28:2 NASB20] 2 And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for <u>an angel</u> <u>of the Lord descended</u> from heaven and came and <u>rolled away the stone</u>, and <u>sat upon it</u>.

2Ti 2:19 Nevertheless, <u>the firm foundation of God stands</u>, <u>having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His;"</u> and, "Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to keep away from wickedness."

[Rev 5:1-9 NASB20] 1 I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals. 2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to break its seals?" 3 And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. 4 Then I [began] to weep greatly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. 5 And one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome [so as to be able] to open the scroll and its seven seals." 6 And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. 7 And He came and

took [the scroll] out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. 8 When He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the scroll and to break its seals; for You were slaughtered, and You purchased [people] for God with Your blood from every tribe, language, people, and nation.



Also ONLY 1 Access, No other doorways!

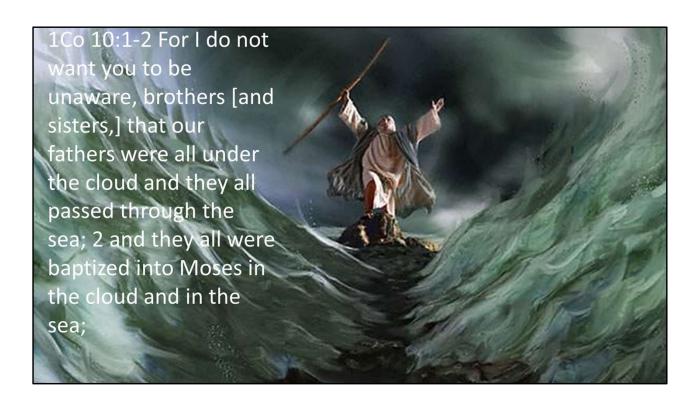
Jn 11:25-26 <u>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; the one who</u> believes in Me will live, even if he dies, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Does Noah's Ark really mean more?

- The New Testament says so!
- 1 Corinthians 10:1-2 Moses parting the Red Sea is <u>like Baptism</u>
- · Romans 9 Death, Burial, Resurrection, Walk in new life

Does Noah's Ark really mean more?

- 1 Peter 3:18-22 Noah's Ark is like Baptism, a symbol of faith!
- •Not the removal of dirt from the flesh ... an appeal to God for a good conscience through the resurrection of Jesus Christ



<u>1Co 10:1-2</u> For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers [and sisters,] that <u>our</u> fathers were all under the cloud and they all passed through the sea; 2 and they all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

Exo 14:13 But Moses said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will perform for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again, ever.

Baptism symbolized by both Moses and Noah and water miracles.

In both cases they were "Under water" yet not wet!

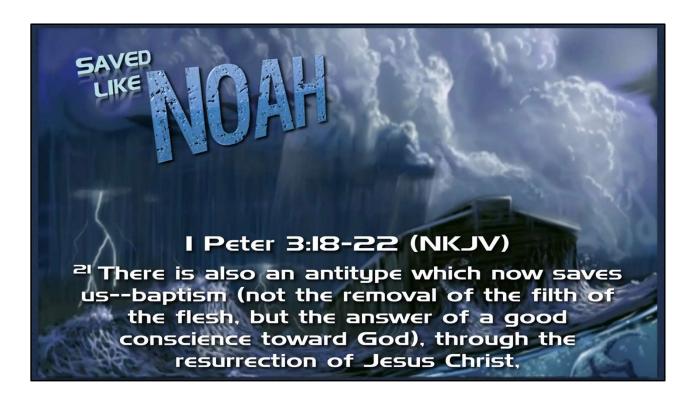
Both cases were extraordinary supernatural miracles!

Both were Only for the children of God, the wicked were destroyed!

Both were done in landmark moments of Gods eternal plan! By 2 of the greatest Men ever!

Uniquely Moses Baptism was reflecting Israels redemption from slavery in Egypt!

YET The Water Never touched the people in either story. Water doesn't save! It's a symbol

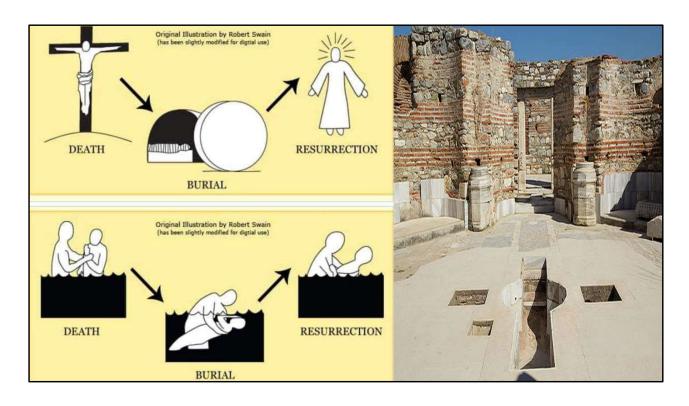


[1Pe 3:18-22 NASB20] 18 For Christ also suffered for sins once for all [time, the] just for [the] unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; 19 in which He also went and made proclamation to the spirits in prison,

20 who once were disobedient when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through [the] water. 21 Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you--not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience--through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.

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Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you--not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience--through the resurrection of Jesus Christ



St. Johns Basilica Ephesus, 5th Century. Keyhole, Cross shape

The basilica was built in a cross shape by Emperor Justinian I in the 6th century

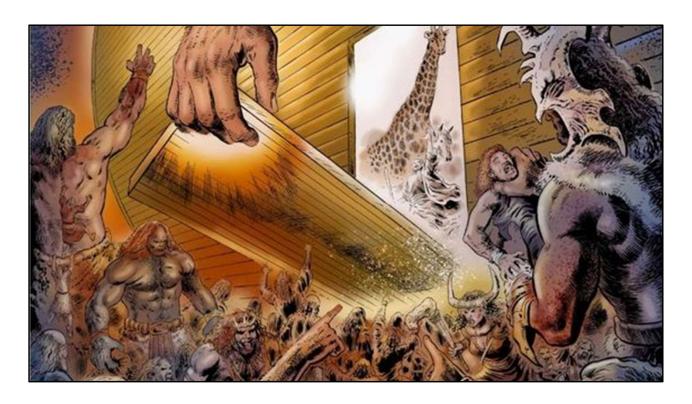
God Shut the Door

- God has a deadline! Longsuffering eventually ends
 - Methuselah <u>969 years warning</u>, "His death shall send"
 - · 120 years warning Genesis 6:3
 - They watched Noah build, and finish the Ark!
 - · God brought the animals in pairs
 - Methuselah died 7 days before!

[Gen 5:21, 27 NASB20] 21 Now Enoch lived sixty-five years, and fathered Methuselah. ... 27 So all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died.

https://answersingenesis.org/bible-timeline/genealogy/when-did-methuselah-die/signifies, "when he dies there shall be an emission," or sending forth of waters upon the earth, to destroy it

[Gen 6:2-3, 5-8 NASB20] 2 that the sons of God saw that the daughters of mankind were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose. 3 Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not remain with man forever, because he is also flesh; nevertheless his days shall be 120 years." ... 5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of mankind was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. 6 So the LORD was sorry that He had made mankind on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. 7 Then the LORD said, "I will wipe out mankind whom I have created from the face of the land; mankind, and animals as well, and crawling things, and the birds of the sky. For I am sorry that I have made them." 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.



[Exo 9:4 NASB20] 4 "But the LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt, so that nothing will die of all that belongs to the sons of Israel.""

[Mal 3:16-18 NASB20] 16 Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, and the LORD listened attentively and heard [it,] and a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the LORD and esteem His name. 17 "And they will be Mine," says the LORD of armies, "on the day that I prepare [My] own possession, and I will have compassion for them just as a man has compassion for his own son who serves him." 18 So you will again distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.

God Shut the Door - we are safe! They aren't!

- It was an entirely supernatural work Faith alone!
- •Revelation 3:7 "... He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no on opens, says this:"

After ALL Noah's work- He had to stand idly by and watch God do something He would have to entirely depend on!

I BET He was happy to have God "Seal" the deal!

[Rev 3:7 NASB20] 7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:

[Rev 3:8 NASB20] 8 'I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have followed My word, and have not denied My name.

[Isa 22:22 NASB20] 22 "Then I will put the key of the house of David on his shoulder; When he opens, no one will shut, When he shuts, no one will open.

[Jhn 10:28-29 NASB20] 28 and I give them eternal life, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. 29 "My Father, who has given [them] to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch [them] out of the Father's hand.

God Shut the Door – we are safe! They aren't! • John 10:28 – and I give them eternal life, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand

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[Mat 16:18 ESV] 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Theres a Rodin Museum in Philly!

Rodin would continue to work on and off on this project for 37 years, until his death in 1917

What was the Thinker thinking about?

The Thinker, which can be found perched right at the top of the human matrix of this massive work and is meant to depict Dante himself mentally gestating the poem that invented the Italian language.

Others believe that the figure may be Adam, contemplating the destruction brought upon mankind because of his sin.

Rodin thought particularly of Dante's warning over the entrance of the Inferno, "Abandon every hope, who enter here."

In an article in *Le Matin*, Rodin said: "For a whole year I lived with Dante, with him alone, drawing the eight circles of his inferno. [...] At the end of this year, I realized that while my drawing rendered my vision of Dante, they had become too remote

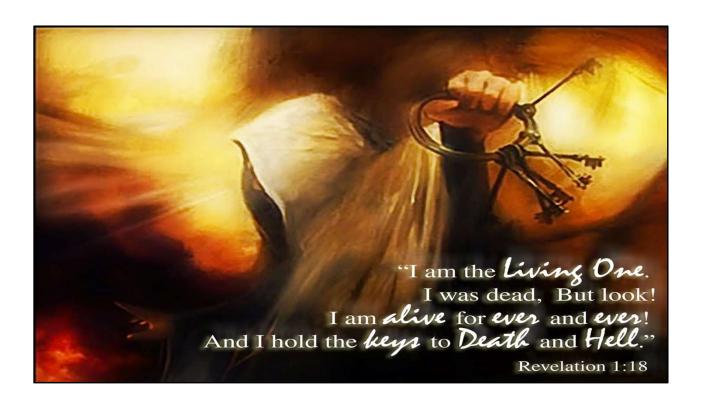
from reality. So I started all over again, working from nature, with my models." [5]

The Gates of Hell, modeled 1880–1917, cast 1926–28, by Auguste Rodin (French, 1840–1917), bronze, 20 feet 10 3/4 inches \times 13 feet 2 inches \times 33 3/8 inches (636.9 \times 401.3 \times 84.8 cm) (Bequest of Jules E. Mastbaum, F1929-7-128)

On August 16, 1880, Rodin received a commission to create a pair of bronze doors for a new decorative arts museum in Paris. Although the museum did not come to fruition and the doors were never fully realized, *The Gates of Hell* became the defining project of Rodin's career and a key to understanding his artistic aims. During the thirty-seven-year period that the sculptor worked on the project he continually added, removed, or altered the more than two hundred human figures that appear on the doors. Some of his most famous works, like *The Thinker*, *The Three Shades*, or *The Kiss*, were originally conceived as part of *The Gates* and were only later removed, enlarged, and cast as independent pieces.

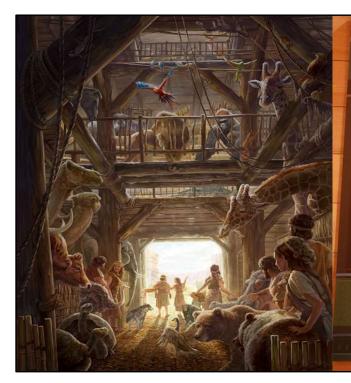
Rodin's initial inspiration came from *Inferno* (Italian for "hell"), the first part of Italian poet Dante Alighieri's (1265–1324) epic poem *The Divine Comedy*. Rodin imagined the scenes described by Dante as a world with limitless space and a lack of gravitational pull. This allowed for ceaseless and radical experimentation by the artist, with figures that obey no rules in their poses, emotive gestures, or sexuality. The chaotic population on *The Gates of Hell* express their agony with complete abandon. In the end, the artist discarded the specific narratives of Dante's poem, and today *The Gates* is no longer a methodical representation of *Inferno*. Instead, the figures on the doors poignantly and heart-renderingly evoke universal human emotions and experiences, such as forbidden love, punishment, and suffering, but they also suggest unapologetic sexuality, maternal love, and contemplation.

In Rodin's lifetime *The Gates of Hell* was never cast in bronze and was known only in a full-size plaster model kept at the artist's studio in Meudon outside of Paris. The Rodin Museum in Philadelphia owns the first bronze cast of *The Gates*, commissioned in 1925 by the museum's founder, Jules Mastbaum. At the time, Mastbaum ordered two sets of the doors—one for Philadelphia and one for the Musée Rodin in Paris.









THE DOOR

"I am the door. Whoever enters through Me will be saved." (John 10:9)

When God told Noah to build the Ark to survive the Flood He would send upon an exceedingly wicked world, He instructed Noah to put one door in the side of the Ark.

"...and put the door of the Ark in its side." (Genesis 6:16)

Noah and his family entered the Ark through that one door to be saved from the watery judgment.

Enter the Ark, you and your whole family, for I have found you righteous before Me in this generation...
So Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives went into the Ark because of the waters of the Flood." (Genesis 71, 7)

Noah and his family entering the Ark through the

Just as God judged the world with the Flood, He will judge it again, but the final judgment will be by fire. We have all sinned against our holy Creator and deserve the penalty of death Unless God forgives us of our sins, when we die we would be separated from Him forever in what the Bible calls the second

> However, God has provided the mean of salvation for us by sending His Son Jesus Christ, to die as our substitute on the Cross. Jesus endured the

death by rising from the grave. Everyone who asks for His forgiveness and trusts in Him will be saved from the second death and live with Him for eternity.

"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)

The Ark's door reminds us that we need to go through a door to be saved. Jesus Christ is our one door to salvation, the "Ark" that saves us from God's judgment for eternity.

