

**Revelation 3:8 (NKJV)** – *“I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name*

## I. Introduction and Recap

### A. What is the open door?

1. The door is God’s door of blessing.
2. The door is the abundant life that Jesus spoke of in John 10.
3. The door includes all the benefits of salvation Ps 103.

### B. Just because the door is open does not mean that everyone enters in.

1. **Psalms 78:21-25 (NLT)** – *<sup>21</sup>When the LORD heard them, he was furious. The fire of his wrath burned against Jacob. Yes, his anger rose against Israel, <sup>22</sup>for they did not believe God or trust him to care for them. <sup>23</sup>But he commanded the skies to open; he opened the doors of heaven. <sup>24</sup>He rained down manna for them to eat; he gave them bread from heaven. <sup>25</sup>They ate the food of angels! God gave them all they could hold.*

**Psalms 78:32-33 (NLT)** – *<sup>32</sup>But in spite of this, the people kept sinning. Despite his wonders, they refused to trust him. <sup>33</sup>So he ended their lives in failure, their years in terror*

- They refused to trust him  
*In spite of all the miracles He did, they refused to believe Him for protection and provision.*
- They ended their lives in failure and terror.  
*Their lives were filled with failure instead of success.  
Their lives were filled with fear and dread.  
(This is the curse in Deut 28).*

**2. Failure and Terror are in the curse.**

**a. In Deuteronomy 28 there are 14 verses of declared blessing.**

- Blessings wherever you dwell – city or country.
- Blessings for your children – the fruit of your body.
- Blessings for your produce – crops/whatever you plant.
- Blessings for your livestock.
- Blessings when you come in and go out.
- Blessings to overcome your enemies.
- Blessings on your storehouse/savings.
- Blessing on everything you place your hand to/whatever you undertake will be blessed.
- Blessed with plenty of Goods.
- Blessing upon all the works of your hands.

**b. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 (54 Verses) – The curse is listed.**

- Cursed wherever you dwell – city or country,
- Cursed in your offspring.
- Cursed in your produce and cattle.
- Cursed when you come in and when you go out.
- Cursed with all types of sickness and disease.
- Cursed with failure.
- Cursed with enemies who prevail on you

**c. Failure and Terror are also in the curse. (This is what Ps 78 was speaking of).**

- **Deuteronomy 28:20 (NKJV)** – *The Lord will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke in all that you set your hand to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the wickedness of your doings in which you have forsaken Me*

*Confusion = vexation – panic – chaos*

*Rebuke = frustration in everything you.*

- **Deuteronomy 28:64-67 (NKJV)** – <sup>64</sup>*“Then the LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other, and there you shall serve other gods, which neither you nor your fathers have known—wood and stone. <sup>65</sup>And among those nations you shall find no rest, nor shall the sole of your foot have a resting place; but there the LORD will give you a*

*trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul.* <sup>66</sup>Your life shall hang in doubt before you; you shall fear day and night, and have no assurance of life. <sup>67</sup>In the morning you shall say, 'Oh, that it were evening!' And at evening you shall say, 'Oh, that it were morning!' because of the fear which terrifies your heart, and because of the sight which your eyes see

- **Deuteronomy 28:65 (NKJV)** – *trembling heart, failing eyes and anguish of soul*

**Deuteronomy 28:65 (NIV)** – *anxious mind and a despairing heart*

**Deuteronomy 28:65 (GNT)** – *anxiety, hopelessness, and despair*

**Deuteronomy 28:65 (GWT)** – *an unsettled mind*

- **Deuteronomy 28:66 (NKJV)** – *Your life will hang in doubt, no assurance for life.*

**Deuteronomy 28:66 (NIV)** – *You will live in constant suspense, filled with dread both day and night.*

**Deuteronomy 28:66 (NLT)** – *Your life will constantly hang in the balance, you will live day and night in fear, unsure if you will survive.*

**Deuteronomy 28:66 (GWT)** – *Your life will always be hanging by a thread. You will live in terror, day and night. You will never feel sure of your life.*

- **Deuteronomy 28:67 (AMP)** – *In the morning you will say, 'I wish it were evening!' and in the evening you will say, 'I wish it were morning!'—because of the dread in your heart with which you tremble, and because of the sight of your eyes which you will see*

- d. **This is how Israel lived out the remainder of years in the wilderness.** *In spite of the doors of heaven being opened unto them.*

**NOTE:** There are many in the body of Christ who live with the same fear, failure, dread, and terror – although the door of blessing is standing wide open.

- e. **Although the first generation of Israelites coming out of the wilderness did not have the curses listed in Deuteronomy 28, the**

principle of blessing and curse still worked in their lives.

*They were blessed for obedience or cursed for disobedience.*

- f. **Because of JESUS and THE COVENANT OF GRACE, you and I live under a different system.**

**Galatians 3:13-14 (NKJV)** – <sup>13</sup>*Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”),* <sup>14</sup>*that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith*

**Galatians 3:13-14 (CEV)** – <sup>13</sup>*But Christ rescued us from the Law’s curse, when he became a curse in our place. This is because the Scriptures say that anyone who is nailed to a tree is under a curse.* <sup>14</sup>*And because of what Jesus Christ has done, the blessing that was promised to Abraham was taken to the Gentiles. This happened so that by faith we would be given the promised Holy Spirit*

- II. The real Issue with Israel’s failure to enter the promised land. They Identified with the curse more than they identified with the blessing.**

**A. They had the proclaimed blessing of God.**

1. They had the blessing of Abraham working for them

**Genesis 12:1-3 (NKJV)** – <sup>1</sup>*Now the LORD had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.*

2. They had the blessing that was confirmed to Isaac.

**Genesis 26:2-3 (NLT)** – <sup>2</sup>*The LORD appeared to Isaac and said, “Do not go down to Egypt, but do as I tell you. <sup>3</sup>Live here as a foreigner in this land, and I will be with you and bless you. I hereby confirm that I will*

*give all these lands to you and your descendants, just as I solemnly promised Abraham, your father.*

3. They had the promise that was spoken to Moses.

**Exodus 3:7-8 (NKJV)** – *<sup>7</sup>And the LORD said: “I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. <sup>8</sup>So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, **and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites***

- B. Instead of having faith in the promises of God, they believed for things associated with the curse.**

**Numbers 14:3 (NKJV)** – *Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?”*

**Numbers 14:3 (ISV)** – *What's the point in the LORD bringing us to this land? To die by the sword so our wives and children would become war victims? Wouldn't it be better for us to return to Egypt*

- To fail to possess – *failure is in the curse*
- To die premature deaths – *in the curse*
- To be killed or overtaken by your enemies – *In the curse*
- To have your wives and children taken as slaves

1. They were confident of the curse more than God's blessing  
*They were confident of the door to the promised land being closed – not open!*

2. Unable vs Able

**Numbers 13:31 (NKJV)** – *But the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.*

3. Their self-perception was to see themselves as cursed, not blessed.  
**Numbers 13:33 (NKJV)** – *There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.*

**NOTES:** *Their self-perception was created by negative intake. God had already proven that with His blessing, they could overcome any enemy. (Pharaoh and other enemies in the wilderness).  
The Blessing states that you will have success over your enemies.*

**Deuteronomy 28:7 (NKJV)** – *The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.*

**The Curse states that you will be defeated.**

**Deuteronomy 28:25 (NKJV)** – *The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and you shall become troublesome to all the kingdoms of the earth.*

**C. There are many in the Body of Christ today who identify more with the curse than the blessing.**

1. **Although they have been redeemed from the curse, they still have great confidence in the curse's power to dictate over their life.**
  - Expectancy of an early death
  - Expectancy of sickness and disease
  - Expectance of lack
  - Fear – Dread – No assurance of Life
  - Chaos, confusion, and Anxiety
  - Failure and Defeat
2. **They conduct their lives identifying with the curse more than with the blessing.**
  - **Identify** – To assign a particular characteristic or categorization to oneself – to describe oneself as belonging to a particular category or group.

- **Israel identified with the curse** – How do we know? Because of what they said. They described themselves as being cursed rather than speaking of themselves as blessed, with the exception of Caleb and Joshua who identified with the blessing.

### III. Conclusion

#### A. Are you identifying with the blessing or the Curse?

*Do you identify with the open door – or always see reasons by the door is closed?*

1. Do you speak the curse more than the blessing?
2. Do you expect the curse more than the blessing?
3. Do you act more like the blessing is real or do you act like the curse is always overtaking you?
4. How you speak and act are a direct indication of what you really identify with, blessing or curse.
5. Do you speak and act in fear continually? *Fear is in the curse.*
6. Do you speak and act like a failure? *Failure is in the curse.*
7. Do you speak and act like you are in poverty? *Poverty is in the curse.*
8. Do you speak or act inferior? *Inferiority is in the curse.*  
*Inferiority – The condition of being lower in status or quality than others.*

#### B. We need to develop in who God says we are! He opened the door to a new identity.

1. I am a child of God.

**1 John 3:2 (NKJV)** – *Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is*

2. I am more than a conqueror – a winner!

**Romans 8:37 (NKJV)** – *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*

**Romans 8:37 (NLT)** – *No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us*

3. I am able to be and do all that God has equipped me for.

4. I am free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2).

5. I am a joint heir with Jesus – I share in His inheritance

6. I am the righteousness of God – I am righteous, not unrighteous

7. I am redeemed from the curse – I do not think, or act cursed (Gal 3:13)

8. I am blessed with all blessings that pertain to life and godliness.

9. I am healed and made whole by the stripes of Jesus.

**C. The More I see my self as God sees me, the more I can identify with the new me and the more effective I become!**

**Philippians 1:6 (NKJV)** – *that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus*

**Philippians 1:6 (AMP)** – *I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective and powerful because of your accurate knowledge of every good thing which is ours in Christ*

**Philippians 1:6 (GWT)** – *As you share the faith you have in common with others, I pray that you may come to have a complete knowledge of every blessing we have in Christ*