"The Narrow Door"

I. The door of salvation is open for everyone

A. The call to enter is a personal call

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13)

B. The call to enter requires intense seeking for God

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:13)

II. The door of salvation is a narrow door

"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." (Matthew 7:13-14)

A. Jesus is the only way of salvation

"I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved." (John 10:9)

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

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to me by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

B. We enter the door of salvation through <u>faith in Jesus</u>

*Picture of door of the church of the Holy Sepulchre

*Picture of simple door

- III. The door of salvation is open for a limited time
 - A. The opportunity for salvation is over when we die
- IV. The door of salvation will be rejected by many
 - A. Many will miss it because of a <u>false sense of security</u>
 - B. Many will miss it because of pride

*Picture of Door from Church of the Nativity

- C. Many will miss it because they are not willing
- D. Many will miss it because it is not easy
- E. Many will miss it because they mistake <u>familiarity with knowledge</u>

"Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evil doers." (Matthew 7:22-23)

F. Many will be excluded from the blessings of heaven

"All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats." (Matthew 25:32)

- V. The door of salvation leads to eternal blessings
 - A. People will enter the door of salvation from every nation

"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. And they cried out in a loud voice: 'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne and the Lamb." (Revelation 7:9-10)

B. They will enjoy the <u>abundant blessings of God</u>

*Picture of door with light

- C. They will experience a great reversal of values
- D. They will enjoy the <u>eternal love of God</u>