3:16 - Knock, Knock

Proverbs 3:11-12 • Revelation 3:16



Who's There?

I was the pastor of a small Presbyterian Church while I was
going to Mississippi State University. The members of that
congregation me and me much about ministry.
One Spring, the elders asked me to preach a three-night
Just before the first service was about to start, one of the elders said,
"Don't forget to open the of the church." I didn't ask;
I opened the two front When the service was over, she
told me that she meant for me to be sure to issue an
for people to the Church. The next two
nights and ever since, I have tried to remember her counsel.
Warner Sallman's 1942 painting of preparing to on an overgrown and long door, which has no
and can therefore be opened only from the is famous.
I liked looking at that painting in one of my grandfather's
The painting is the artist's rendering of Revelation 3:20 -
" I am! I at the door and If anyone My voice and the door, I will in and with him, and he with Me."
Though the "door" has often been interpreted as a human, the context makes it clear it is the "door" of a church.

Both the verse and the painting beg the Why would
, of all people, choose to seek admission into church?!
Revelation 3:16
"So, because you are neither hot nor cold - I am to you out of My mouth" (Revelation 3:16).
What was going on in the church in Laodicea that caused the Lord to them so harshly?
Like the church in ancient Laodicea, has the Church in Memphis gotten?
"Those whom I $_$ I $_$ and $_$ " (Revelation 3:19a and Proverbs 3:12a). "So be $_$ and $_$ " (Revelation 3:19b).
In what areas might Jesus be calling HHPC to herself and?
At HHPC, both and must be taught!
Jesus warns that, when a church is not on for the Lord, He will that church out of His mouth but not before He gives her another to Him back in.
Takeaway
Today Jesus continues to stand the door of the Church, to be let in, not it open or it in.
Knock, Who's?
Jesus? Jesus, the Lord of the
More and more, may our congregation " His voice and open the door," for Jesus has promised to " in and with us and us with Him" (Revelation 3:20).