

# The Open Door

Once when Queen Victoria was living at Balmoral Castle in Scotland and the young princes were at home, the sentries who were standing to guard the palace saw a little boy, very poor, and with almost ragged clothes on, continually coming up to look in at the gates. They told him again and again that he could not be admitted there, and that he must go away back to his home in the village.

The little boy's answer always was "I want to go in and see the Queen." At last one of the Princes came by that way, and enquired who the child was, and why he was there. The sentry replied that "they could not get him to leave the gates, he had been there a long time, and said he wanted to see the Queen." The young Prince went up to the little boy, and talked to him very kindly. "Do you want to see the Queen?" he asked. "Yes," said the little child. "I came a long way along the road all by myself, because I want to see the Queen. Mother told me how good she was, and that she is always kind to little boys. But the soldiers have told me to go away."

The Prince took the little boy's hand in his, and saying to the sentries, "It is all right, I will take him in." He walked down the carriage drive, up to the steps of the castle, where he led the little boy in through the open door (for it was open to the Prince, though it was shut to the boy until the Prince took him by the hand) into the presence of the Queen.

He told her the child's simple story, and the Queen received him with the greatest kindness. She asked him where he came from, found out all about his home, and why he had wanted to see her. She then gave him cakes and presents of different kinds, amongst others a possession he had never had in his life before, a book of coloured pictures.

When the little boy was quite satisfied, and his face beaming with smiles, the Prince led him safely back again past the sentry, towards his own home.

The Door of Heaven stands open to us today; and even though we may have a long life here, the heavenly kingdom should be our home; no earthly hindrance or human barrier, or fear or doubt in our hearts need keep us back from our loving Father in Heaven - the great King of kings.

If we trust the Lord Jesus, and reach out the hand of faith to Him, He will take care of us, and bring us safely in. He is the Prince of Life, and the Prince of Peace, and He has all power in heaven and in earth. If we make Him our Friend today, we shall never regret our wise choice, for He is able to bring us to God. He Himself said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6). And the apostle Paul wrote, "Through him we both [Jew and Gentile] have access by one Spirit unto the Father." (Ephesians 2:18)

Here is the truth of it, written in such plain words that none can fail to understand: "There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." (I Timothy 2:5)