

# Question About Hebrew Letter Dalet

By Pastor Ed Anderson

On Dalet

“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.” John 10:9 KJV

What does the Lord Jesus mean by "...and shall go in and out..."? What part of us is doing this? Our heart?...our mind? our spirit? the Holy Spirit?

How do we enter the Door? Once we enter the Door, can we just stay there? Why would we go in and out? Where is this pasture?

## Answer:

This is a beautiful and profound question—and it’s rich with Hebrew symbolism tied to **Dalet** (ד), the fourth letter of the Hebrew alphabet, meaning “**door**”. Let’s break down *John 10:9* spiritually and symbolically, especially in light of Jesus’ use of the term “**door**” and what it means to *go in and out and find pasture*.

## John 10:9 (KJV) – A Closer Look

“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”

### 1. “I am the Door” — Dalet (ד) and Salvation

The Hebrew letter **Dalet** (ד) symbolizes a **door or portal**, an **entryway into something greater**. In John 10:9, Jesus explicitly identifies Himself as **that Door**—not just a passage, but **the only entry point** into salvation, safety, spiritual nourishment, and eternal life.

When Jesus says, “**by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved,**” it is a picture of:

- **Faith-based access** into the Kingdom of God
- **Spiritual rebirth**, as in John 3:5

- Entering into a covenant relationship with Christ as our **Good Shepherd** (v. 11)

## 2. “Shall go in and out” — What Does This Mean?

This phrase “**go in and out**” might sound puzzling at first—why not just stay *in*?

Here are three layers of interpretation:

### A. Freedom & Peace Under the Shepherd

In biblical language, especially in ancient Hebrew culture, the phrase “*go in and out*” meant **to live in peace and security**, without fear. See:

- **Deuteronomy 28:6** — “*Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.*”
- **Numbers 27:17** — Speaks of a leader who will guide God’s people “to go out and come in.”

So Jesus is saying: *When you are in Me, you will live in **peace and freedom**, under My protection.* There is no fear in going out to serve or coming in to rest—you remain secure.

### B. The Life of Discipleship

We *enter* through Christ to receive:

- **Justification** (salvation)
- **Rest and refreshment** (pasture)

But we also *go out* to:

- Serve
- Witness
- Walk daily in the world as light and salt.

This could point to the rhythm of the Christian life:

“**Enter in**” to abide with Jesus, and “**go out**” to live for Jesus.

### C. Spirit, Soul, and Access to the Heavens

In a mystical/spiritual sense:

- Our **spirit** communes with God

- The **Holy Spirit** guides us in and out of the presence of God in deeper ways
- Our **heart and mind** can enter into worship, prayer, meditation, revelation, and service.

Paul says in Ephesians 2:6:

*“And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”*

This means even while we are physically on Earth, we can go “in and out” of **heavenly fellowship** through prayer, worship, and spiritual discernment.

### 3. Why Not Just Stay In?

We do **abide** in Christ—but we also **walk** in the world. Going “out” doesn’t mean leaving His presence, but rather:

- Living *empowered by Him* in a broken world
- Operating from a **place of intimacy** with God, even while outwardly serving, suffering, or leading

Jesus prayed in John 17:

*“I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.”* (v. 15)

So spiritually, you **go in** to be filled—and **go out** to pour out what you’ve received.

### 4. Where is the Pasture?

This refers to **nourishment, rest, and spiritual satisfaction.**

Psalm 23 gives the perfect picture:

*“He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.”*

The pasture is:

- God's Word
- His Presence
- His Promises
- Fellowship with believers
- The peace of the Holy Spirit

### Summary

Symbol	Meaning
Dalet (ד)	A door, entry to divine reality
"Enter in"	Be saved, dwell in Christ, receive rest
"Go in and out"	Live in peace, freedom, and purpose
"Pasture"	Spiritual nourishment, truth, safety, presence of God

### Final Reflection

*Jesus doesn't just invite us into a place—He invites us into a Person: Himself.*

We go in to be **filled**.

We go out to be **faithful**.

And we are always in the care of the **Good Shepherd**.