

# 2 Corinthians 2:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord,

## Analysis

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**Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord**—Paul abruptly shifts from discussing the disciplined offender to his travel narrative. The phrase *thura moi aneōgmenē* (θύρα μοι ἀνεωγμένη, "a door opened to me") is Paul's idiom for evangelistic opportunity (1 Cor 16:9, Col 4:3). Troas was a strategic port city connecting Asia and Macedonia, making it ideal for Gospel expansion. Paul recognizes divine providence in ministry opportunities—the passive voice "was opened" indicates God's sovereign work.

The phrase *to euangelion tou Christou* (τὸ εὐαγγέλιον τοῦ Χριστοῦ, "the gospel of Christ") emphasizes the message's content: Christ Himself is the good news. Despite favorable circumstances, Paul would abandon this opportunity (v. 13), demonstrating that pastoral concern for existing churches sometimes overrides evangelistic expansion. Apostolic ministry requires wisdom to discern priorities—even "open doors" may need delaying when pastoral crises demand attention.

## Historical Context

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Troas (modern Eski Stamboul, Turkey) was a Roman colony and major port. Paul visited multiple times (Acts 16:8-11, 20:5-12). The city offered strategic access to both Asia Minor and Macedonia, making the "opened door" particularly significant. Paul's willingness to leave despite opportunity shows pastoral priorities.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How do you discern between providential opportunities and mere possibilities?
2. When is it right to postpone ministry expansion to address pastoral needs?
3. What does Paul's use of "opened door" teach about recognizing God's guidance?

## Interlinear Text

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Ἐλθὼν	δὲ	εἰς	τὴν	Τρωάδα	εἰς	τὸ	εὐαγγέλιον
when I came	Furthermore	to	G3588	Troas	to	G3588	gospel
G2064	G1161	G1519		G5174	G1519		G2098
τοῦ	Χριστοῦ	καὶ	θύρας	μοι	ἀνεωγμένης	ἐν	κυρίῳ
G3588	preach Christ's	and	a door	unto me	was opened	of	the Lord
	G5547	G2532	G2374	G3427	G455	G1722	G2962

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 16:8** (Parallel theme): And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.

**Acts 14:27** (Parallel theme): And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

**Colossians 4:3** (References Christ): Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

**1 Corinthians 16:9** (Parallel theme): For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.

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