Spiritual Gates

The hidden meaning of the 12 gates of Jerusalem

1. The Sheep Gate: The hidden meaning is Salvation

Neh. 3:1; Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests, and they built the Sheep Gate. They consecrated it and set its doors. They consecrated it as far as the Tower of the Hundred, as far as the Tower of Hananel.

I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd. (John 10:14-16 NKJV)

2. The Fish Gate: The hidden meaning is Witnessing

Neh. 3:3; The sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate. They laid its beams and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars.

"And there shall be on that day," says the Lord, "The sound of a mournful cry from the Fish Gate, A wailing from the Second Quarter, And a loud crashing from the hills. (Zephaniah 1:10 NKJV)

And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19 ESV)

Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. (Luke 10:2 NKJV)

Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:38 NKJV)

We are truly stepping into the final harvest! The last call has been given and the return of Christ is upon us!

3. The Old Gate: The hidden meaning is the old man / dying to self

Neh 3:6; Moreover the old gate repaired Jehoiada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah; they laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, and the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. (Romans 6:6 ESV)

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. (Matthew 16:24 ESV)

4. The Valley Gate: The hidden meaning is decision / Choosing this day whom you will serve!

Neh 3:13 The valley gate repaired Hanun, and the inhabitants of Zanoah; they built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and a thousand cubits on the wall unto the dung gate.

Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. (Joel 3:14 NKJV)

And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15 NKJV)

And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south. (Zechariah 14:4 NKJV)

5. The Dung Gate: The meaning of this is sanctification

Neh 3:14 But the dung gate repaired Malchiah the son of Rechab, the ruler of part of Bethhaccerem; he built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

The Dung Gate describes, how in practice the flesh will die. Through the Dung Gate, trashes were taken out of Jerusalem, to a valley of Hinnom, in which those trashes were burnt. In the same way as trashes couldn't, stink and smell bad in Jerusalem, but were burnt in a valley of Hinnom, in dumpster, so sins must die from the heart of believer.

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, (I Thessalonians 4:3,4 NKJV)

But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— (I Corinthians 1:30 NKJV)

6. The Fountain Gate: The meaning of this is Holy Spirit / Living Water

Neh 3:15 But the gate of the fountain repaired Shallun the son of Colhozeh, the ruler of part of Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of Siloah by the king's garden, and unto the stairs that go down from the city of David.

The Fountain Gate located near the pool of Siloah (Siloam), where water flows. The pool of Siloam is same place where Jesus said to the blind man to wash up, John 7:9. At the time of Nehemiah and after it many washed (mikveh) themselves before they entered to temple area.

And in that day it shall be That living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, Half of them toward the eastern sea And half of them toward the western sea; In both summer and winter it shall occur. (Zechariah 14:8 NKJV)

John 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

7. The Water Gate: The meaning of this is moving in the Holy Spirit

Neh 3:26 Moreover the Nethinims dwelt in Ophel, unto the place over against the water gate toward the east, and the tower that lieth out.

John 4:13; Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:

14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

15 The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.

But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. (Hebrews 5:14 NKJV)

8. The Horse Gate: The meaning of this is spiritual warfare

Neh 3:28 From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house.

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (Ephesians 6:11-13 NKJV)

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled. (II Corinthians 10:3-6 NKJV)

9. The East Gate: The meaning of this is the return of Christ

Neh 3:29 After them repaired Zadok the son of Immer over against his house. After him repaired also Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the keeper of the east gate.

And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south. (Zechariah 14:4 NKJV)

"And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, As the Lord has said, Among the remnant whom the Lord calls. (Joel 2:28-32 NKJV)

Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so

that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. (II Thessalonians 2:1-4 NKJV)

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. (I Thessalonians 5:1, 2 NKJV)

10. The Miphkad (Appointed) Gate: The meaning of this is appointed place / numbering

Neh 3: 31 After him repaired Malchiah the goldsmith's son unto the place of the Nethinims, and of the merchants, over against the gate Miphkad, and to the going up of the corner.

Miphkad means numbering (census) and appointed place. Spiritual meaning of the Gate Miphkad comes into view from Eze 43:

Eze 43:21 Thou shalt take the bullock also of the sin offering, and he shall burn it in the appointed place (miphkad) of the house, without the sanctuary.

For when the blood of animals is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin, the victims' bodies are burned outside the limits of the camp. [Lev. 16:27.] (Hebrews 13:11 AMP)

And the bull for the sin offering and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy Place, shall be carried outside the camp. Their skin and their flesh and their dung shall be burned up with fire. (Leviticus 16:27 ESV)

"Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, These are the appointed feasts of the Lord that you shall proclaim as holy convocations; they are my appointed feasts. "These are the appointed feasts of the Lord, the holy convocations, which you shall proclaim at the time appointed for them. (Leviticus 23:2, 4 ESV)

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: (Ecclesiastes 3:1 ESV)

He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; (Daniel 2:21 ESV)

11. The Gate of Ephraim: The meaning of this is double portion

So the people went out and brought them and made booths for themselves, each on his roof, and in their courts and in the courts of the house of God, and in the

square at the Water Gate and in the square at the Gate of Ephraim. (Nehemiah 8:16 ESV)

and above the Gate of Ephraim, and by the Gate of Yeshanah, and by the Fish Gate and the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of the Hundred, to the Sheep Gate; and they came to a halt at the Gate of the Guard. (Nehemiah 12:39 ESV)

A double portion blessing is given to all first born children by the father, so it is the Father's blessing!

give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." (Luke 6:38 ESV)

So If we want to live in double portion blessing we need to be a double portion blessing!

12. The Guard (Prison) Gate: The meaning of this is bond-servant

and above the Gate of Ephraim, and by the Gate of Yeshanah, and by the Fish Gate and the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of the Hundred, to the Sheep Gate; and they came to a halt at the Gate of the Guard. (Nehemiah 12:39 ESV)

And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— (Matthew 20:27 NKJV)

For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ. (1 Corinthians 7:22 ESV)

and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. (Romans 6:18, 20 ESV)

Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? (Romans 6:16 ESV)

So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. (Galatians 4:7 ESV)

Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God (Romans 1:1 NKJV)

but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:7 NKJV)

We are sons and yet we make ourselves of no reputation and are bondservants to Christ!

We become servants of all!