

What are the Gates of Hell?

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

In Mt 16:18 what do the gates represent? *Hades* is the unseen realm of darkness, like the underground that can come in among our youth. The underground comes in, so what do the *gates* represent?

Yoceph Daniel — Gates try to keep the light from permeating the darkness. Gates lock you in.

Darkness overtakes you and you're locked in — like death. Once you are in it you can't get out. Mt 16:18 — From that one verse Christians justify that they are still the true Church. They think it means they can't fail. But we're going to reveal what it actually means. The *gates* did prevail, or actually overtake the church. In the next “It Takes a Community” freepaper we will write about this.

Christians use this verse, saying, “It's the Word of God! The gates of hell can't prevail against us.” But when our Master said “upon this rock,” it was talking about the revelation that Peter had that came from our Father — “Flesh and blood did not reveal it to you, but our Father in heaven” (Mt 16:17).

In the Christian Church the basis of their faith is decree from a church council. But at that very moment the gates of hell prevailed and locked them in the prison and made it a haunt of every unclean spirit. Christianity became a habitation of evil spirits, a cage, as the gates enclosed the prisoners. The only way they can come out is when they hear the voice of our Father say, “Come out of her.” Then they can come out and be liberated.

Many people have said, “Come out of her,” but it has not been from the Holy Spirit. The evil one has gone before us in every way down through history. He has said everything we are going to say. In the past there have been certain movements down through history. People have started movements and reactions. Are we just another

reaction? We will be talking much about that. People say, “You think that you are the only ones. You’re just like everyone else.” But of course if we are not who we say we are, *then* we are just another reaction.

When did “hell” take over? What were the indications, warnings, symptoms, and the rebukes that came beforehand? Could these things have been going on in the very temple of God?

For I fear lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I wish, and that I shall be found by you such as you do not wish; lest there be contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, backbitings, whisperings, conceits, tumults; lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and I shall mourn for many who have sinned before and have not repented of the uncleanness, fornication, and lewdness which they have practiced.” (2 Cor 12:20-21)

You can see what was going on in the church itself at that time. Obviously it goes on in 2 Cor 13:5, when they were challenging Paul himself. “You had better judge yourself and not me,” Paul warned them.

“Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Yahshua ha-Mashiyach is in you? — unless indeed you are disqualified.” (2 Cor 13:5)

They were saying that Paul was disqualified, but they were standing great. You can see what the black box was recording in Eph 6:24, and then forty years later, in Rev 2:5, that they had lost their first love. The lampstand was about to be taken out of its place, and that means there would no longer be the illumination. So, people would be convicted, and then come into the church to sit under the Nicolaitan system, but they would no longer receive the Holy Spirit. Do you see how that happened?

Hell, or *Hades* is the underworld. They are held captive in death. They were even in the second death for believers, but still functioning in the community. *Hell* had taken over, and they were still in the community. They could no longer bring themselves back to repentance. They could no longer bring themselves back into fellowship with Him.

They were holding our Master up to public shame. The same things were going on in the community as in the world. There was no distinction.

So, today we have to bring them outside the camp of both organized Christianity and Judaism. We are the only ones who can do it. They have to come outside those gates. Heb 13:13 speaks of an encampment¹ — an encampment of Satan, a very, very subtle system of Satan. They are divided within the camp to satisfy their own selves. I am just trying to help people see what happened in the clergy and laity system. They were exercising this power from the evil one. All they have now is credentials. That's all that matters to them, proper credentials, as though college degrees could make pastors and teachers.

This is the beginning of our next paper. We are just trying to help people see, who are under a religious delusion. They are locked up in the gates of hell. It is not the second death for believers for them, but the second death for unbelievers in the world. They will possibly go to that — if they are really integral to that system, if they are the ones keeping it going. They keep the gates nice and locked (Mt 23:13). Not everyone in Christianity is going to the lake of fire. I am not saying that at all. But the ones who convince others, although they are not obeying the commandments themselves, and so cannot make disciples (Mt 28:18-20), they are. That makes them liars in whom is not the truth (1 Jn 2:4-6).

Mevaser — If you are in prison, you can't liberate yourselves nor anyone else (2 Tim 2:26).

The very next verses after that explain the things that are going to happen:

“But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers

¹ #3925 is a compound of #3844 and #1685 and it means *a throwing in beside* (juxtaposition), i.e. (specially), *battle-array, encampment or barracks; army, camp, castle*.

of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!” (2 Tim 3:1-5)

You can see that is not talking about the world, but within the church where they are held captive. These are in the last days. When the first church fell away the last days began.

Mevaser — That is where it started, when the First Church fell away. The Nicolaitans took over, and no one was unlocked anymore. They have been behind bars ever since.

Othniel — So many were saying, “The church is alive and well” at the Billy Graham crusade. “The Church is a healthy body,” “We’re flying high.”

They were talking about Satan being alive and well on planet earth.

Shemuel — It reminds me of a life support system for somebody that is about to die. Nowadays they can keep it going for a long time.

Hilkiyah — It is just the fact that the church became a Nicolaitan system that proves that the gates of hell prevailed over the church. Heb 3:6 says, “But Messiah as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.”

Confidence means outspokenness to speak.² The evil one comes over people who don’t have confidence to speak. If the Holy Spirit wants someone to speak and he doesn’t speak, how can the Holy Spirit keep entrusting Himself to him? He speaks now through each and every individual in the Body of Messiah. That is why He is the Son over every individual who is outspoken and building up.

Paul McGuire tells people who call in, “Well, you know you are a Christian, so just keep praying and read the Bible.” Of course we are supposed to be praying, but they have no concept of pouring out their lives daily in the community, building up the Body of Messiah. They have no concept that we are to encourage one another daily, as it says in Heb 3:13. That is how we love one another, daily. It takes a community.

² *Confidence* is #3954, meaning “freedom in speaking; unreservedness in speech.”

Julia — So many Christians I have known were weighed down without hope, only knowing they are sinners, continuing to stumble over the same things, over and over again.

Paul McGuire is going to have the same fate as Billy Graham. It makes us cry. What are we going to do about this? We have to have compassion and mercy. Also, they are saying that you will not be able to preach the gospel anymore, that it will be against the law unless you are licensed or accredited by the state. Then you will have to submit your doctrine to be approved by some council.

The powers of evil are now roaming the earth (1 Jn 5:19). The evil one is opposed to our Father and he will not give up without a titanic struggle. We will have to fight against colossal power. It will be so intense, like no other time in history. There will be great suffering in these final days, as Dan 12:1 says, and Eph 6:12, speaking of the “prince and power of the air.” Mk 9:24; Mt 24:9-13 — There will be great and horrible times coming up.

The evil one roams the earth, seeking to lead astray everyone, even the elect, it says, if that were possible. It will be a titanic struggle to even exist. Yes, some of us will be put to death and many will be put into prison. That is why our Master said, “You will have to eat My Body and drink My blood” (Jn 6:53) — in order to have *life* within each one of us. It is just how you said it last night, Shemiyah.

Shemiyah — Taking in the forgiveness we receive in the Body is drinking His blood, and receiving what is in the Body — the love, fellowship, and encouragement — is everything we need for life. That’s the bread. There is nothing else we need. We’re not thirsty and hungry then.

It is total participation, 100%. We all have certain amounts of talents, grace. Every last bit of grace must be utilized if we are living in the Body. We have to be praying for our brothers and sisters and encouraging our brothers and sisters and doing the works prepared for us. If we are, then we are the wise virgins. Then Satan will be thrown into the abyss for a thousand years.

We have to be doing all we can to keep our brothers from becoming unwise and foolish. If we don't, then we are as foolish as they are and we are held captive to do his will.

"Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls." (Jms 1:21)

Obviously, what remains is going to keep us from entering the Kingdom. So, if you have a brother that loves you, or you love a brother, he is going to come to you or you are going to go to him when one of you is trapped.

"Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins." (Jms 5:19-20).

Why will they cover a multitude of sins? Because he hasn't been confessing his sins and they are piled up. It is not talking about the unbelievers there, but those in the community whose sins are piling up. When was the last time you prayed for your brother? You can tell if you are a foolish virgin or not by that. Are you your brother's keeper? Are you just a natural man, who sees your brother's faults better than the spiritual man does, but then you don't do anything about it?

When we were saved, we were cleansed from the whole multitude of our sins. We were forgiven from even the things no one else saw. But once you are saved and baptized into the Body, what are we do? Let a multitude of sins pile up before we confess our sins again? No, we are to confess each and every sin so that we have fellowship with Him.

"If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Yahshua ha-Mashiyach His Son cleanses us from all sin." (1 Jn 1:6-7)

That means we have fellowship with Him, and then, of course, if we have fellowship with Him, our Father, through His Son, then we will have fellowship with one

another as well. If we are not walking in the light we can't see our sin, and someone else will have to come to us.

I can remember some sins from the past and I hate it that I did those things. I was forgiven, but I didn't confess every one of my sins when I was baptized. They were too many, but I did confess the sins that made me feel very guilty. Don't go on with sin on your conscience; especially don't go to bed that way. You wake up and you go on in the flesh, and then pretty soon your sins are piling up. We have done a lot of things in the past, and our Father will forgive them.

Labeshu — I thought about the gates of the enemy not prevailing. The sacrifice of our Master Yahshua opens up the gates. By not confessing our sins, we end up in the prison again, like our Master said in Rev 1:18, "I have the keys to Death and Hades."

And we have fellowship and He will forgive us. If we walk in the light, we will see our sin and confess them. If we confess what we see, He cleanses it all. Then, in the future, He can continue to reveal our wrong ways to us that we don't even see now.

Yeled Qatan — Then we will see how Psalms 133 comes into reality. You don't have to hide, but you can walk in the light with your brothers.

We are our brother's keeper. Pr 17:17 says, "A friend loves at all times, but a brother is born for adversity." Do you have any friends? They are allied in the same cause and the same struggle. You have a brother, a friend. You don't run out on one another, no matter what. You don't run out on a friend. You stick with him closer than a brother. He says, "I am not ashamed to call you brothers, because you were a brother to my brothers" (Heb 2). We have the same Father as He.

1 Jn 2:1-6 is very revealing. His commandment is, "Love one another as I have loved you." If we do not love that way, and we claim to know Him, that means we are liars and we don't practice the truth. That means the truth is not in us. "As I have loved you, you love me. Love your brothers as I have loved You."

If we claim to know Him and are not praying for our brothers, then we are liars and the truth is not in us. When was the last time you prayed for your brother? Heb 10:26 says if we go on sinning this way, there remains no sacrifice for our sins. It is thinks like going to the gathering without being pure, being unclean in some way.

Recklessness Makes you Unclean

For instance, recklessness makes you unclean. Carelessness is another one of the things that makes you unclean. Mk 7:23 says this. I can see that we all have the tendency to do that sometimes. Just think if we did something that hurt us, and we didn't have to do it, and we just did it in a reckless way, like doing flips off the diving board, and we hurt our Master's Body and then He can't do what He needs to do through us.

Our games might get a little bit reckless. Boxing has hurt so many people's brains, and yet young boys still try to win the "golden gloves." Could we be reckless like that in the things we do? We have to choose what we do and not do. Is it fitting? We have to walk like Him and judge ourselves. These are the things that make you unclean:

"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man." (Mk 7:21-23)

Foolishness means carelessness or recklessness — in the Greek it is translator's choice. In order to get into the water, you had to do a flip. You had to do the greatest flip in the world. I am not trying to take all your fun away. We just have to consider whether something is necessary for us to do. What does it take to get into the water?

Othniel — We can practice getting in the water for hours and hours a day.

You can see how we can be led astray. We have to stay on course. We don't have to come down on people, and condemn them, but show people how to live with common sense. Even these curvy roads, you can fly down them, lacking common sense, and you could end up really hurting someone.

(A brother confessed...) I was a leader in these stupid stunts. I am sorry. I was a lifeguard and I know better.

I don't want to take everyone's fun away, but "Ultimate Frisbee" could hurt someone. It is like riding motorcycles — no one has ever been on one for any length of time and not gotten hurt. It almost happened to me when I was thirteen. Hakam almost got killed twice, and then when he came back into the Body, he had another wreck. It is foolishness, carelessness, and someone could be hurt. I am not making a law, but concussions could come if you hit someone in the head. It was a little bit overboard today.

We can be led astray and all we can think about is sports. In basketball the main shooter gets all the praise and glory. There is no such thing as a person playing sports who doesn't want glory. It is the first thing I would do after a game — scan the article, not even reading it, just to see my name. It is Satan's sin.

Games can be invigorating and good. I am not saying that "Ultimate Frisbee" is evil, but don't blame me when someone gets hurt.

Every day you can go down the freeway and see pile-ups. Just think of how many people are getting killed. We can't take it for granted that we will be kept safe. I am not trying to say you can't play that anymore, but it is pretty vicious. Our football coach would always say, "Get the star on the other side. Hit him in the gut and take him out of there." And that coach wanted to get a promotion and go on to Georgia Tech. I loved my coach, but still, he has to answer for these things.