

The Gates of Heaven

Mar. 28:17

In ancient times the cities were walled in and had gates or a gate to them. You are familiar with Jerico, its walls, and gate, we have gates to our yards, to stock yards, and to fair grounds.

In my boy hood days I can remember a big gate that was hung between my home and town. It was the stock law gate. On my side of that gate I was always afraid because the woods were literally full of cattle. Some of them would have gladly picked me up on their horns. - I was kind of afraid of them all right.

When I would enter the stock law gate I felt safe for no wild cattle were running there. This gate impressed me.

There are toll gates where you pay if you enter. You go to a fair, and you experience some thing of the same nature as at a toll gate.

Now whether you are paying to enter a difficult country or new scenery you do so because you desire the new situation more than the one you are in. You R-willing to pay the price.

Gates are to direct your course. I bought a ticket of a R.R. station once and started out at a certain gate and was stopped with indignation that my ticket called for another gate.

In speaking of gates I think of Mr. Edison's gate. Man went to the thin and had a mighty struggle to enter. It was hard to open then hard to close. Some aggravated over it he remarked to Mr. Edison, "It seems that an inventor and discoverer like you like you would have a better gate than you do." Edison replied, "Don't worry about that gate, when you opened and shut it you pumped 6 gal. of H₂O into my table."

The gate that is hard to enter may be the one of most profit after all.

Some people enter just any gate and leave it open but generally when you see written on a gold gate, "Pull Day in back yard" we do not enter.

But yet we will open gates to eternal life and enter there, we go of our own accord.

To come more closely to meaning of gates let us say that the gate is the place of entrance.

Now Jacob saw the ladder and he awoke and said, "Surely the Lord was in this place and I knew it not." And he was afraid, and said, "How dreadful is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of Heaven."

And Jacob vowed a vow saying, If God will be with me and keep me in this way I go and will give me bread to eat and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the Lord be my God and this stone which I have set for a pillar shall be God's house; (I can see him look up to God then, as he says) and of all that thou shalt give me, I will surely give a tenth unto thee.

He was entering the ^{Kingdom is the world} gates, when we give our selves over to God we are entering His Kingdom, when we enter the gates to old Jerusalem we are not entered that moment into the temple.

The Kingdom is here in our hearts we bring it out as we journey on and then all of a sudden our spiritual eyes begin to open we will find around us father, mother, child, and wife and marching together the light of Jesus will shine upon our spirits from the throne of God, then we are free from home.

The question to-day my friend is: "Are you within the ^{Kingdom} gates?" as it is found in this world, it is the threshold just outside the gates of heaven where you are prepared for heaven.

If you are in the K. here then you have

paid your entrance fee for heaven. The
big in the Kingdom here as it is in our hearts.
But entering gates of heaven is not where
we are yet in these bodies we are subject to
temptation and may yield but when we
enter the gates we drop off the old body
and physical life and our spirits eyes open
and we see face to face.

