

The House of God and the Gate of Heaven

Genesis 28:10-17

I. Individually and corporately, we are the House of God.

- A. “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it” (Genesis 28:17).
- B. Jesus was the House of God made flesh on the earth, and part of the fulfillment of Jacob’s dream (John 1:14, 49-51).
- C. Corporately as the church, we are the House of God; and God dwells in us (I Corinthians 3:16-17; Ephesians 2:19-22; I Peter 2:4-5).
- D. Individually, we are houses that carry God’s presence (I Corinthians 6:19).
- E. The bottom line is that there is an open heaven over every believer.
 - 1. When we arrive, the House of God shows up. Like Jacob and Jesus, we are connected to the angels who are busy ascending and descending—carrying out their assignments to us and through us in the earth (Hebrews 1:14).
 - 2. This understanding accounts for the many audacious comments Jesus made about us in the scriptures (Matt. 10:7-8; 21:21-22; John 14:12-14; Mark 6:37).

II. The church is also the gate of heaven (Genesis 28:17).

- A. A gate is a place of transition and access.
 - 1. God’s people are the place where heaven meets earth (Matthew 16:15-19).
 - 2. Notice Peter’s internal revelation results in binding and loosing on the earth.
- B. Demonic principalities and powers have set up lying revelations and mindsets against God. They use the human mind as a transition point or gateway against God.
 - 1. Peter strayed into enemy territory with “human” thinking (Matt. 16:21-23).
 - 2. Our assignment is to be “gateway people” that release God’s authority on the earth (Matthew 18:18-20).
 - 3. We do not war as the world does. The gates of hell are empowered when we do not take captive the devil’s thoughts (II Corinthians 10:3-5).
- C. Ultimately we are also revelatory people, equipped to understand what God is doing in heaven (Acts 2:17-18; Matthew 4:4). Knowing the Scripture and the power of God really helps (Matthew 22:29)!

III. Character traits of the people of the House of God

- A. We are on the offense, not the defense. We are “normal” Christians who put themselves at risk, drawing on the invisible resources of heaven (Hebrews 11:6).
- B. We love generosity, worship, and prayer; because they release the supernatural blessings of God in our lives (Acts 10:1-6; Luke 6:37-38).
- C. We garden our minds, weeding out negative attitudes that give the enemy a stronghold (Ephesians 4:17-5:2; I John 1:5-9; Luke 9:41-50).
- D. Experiencing the love and presence of God is our highest priority and expectation. “We love, because He first loved us” (I John 4:19-21; John 5:19-20)
- E. The power of praise and thanksgiving (Philippians 4:4-8; Acts 16:25-26)