

“The Gate of Wisdom”

Part V of “The Victory at the Gates” series

Jesus said in Matthew 6:10 “...Your Kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven!” The Kingdom is not only a lifestyle composed of Kingdom principles and directives, it’s also a Holy City, the New Jerusalem as described in Revelation 21:10-11. In the next several verses we discover that there are twelve gates in the Holy City and on the gates are written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. Since God’s will is done in Heaven, then it must be done on earth! Therefore, the New Jerusalem gates in the heavenly dimension must be manifested in the earthly realm so that those Kingdom principles and directives will influence the Seven Societal Mountains. Interestingly, every Jewish month is associated with one of the twelve tribes. So, according to Hebraic custom the fifth month on the Jewish calendar is “Av” and it begins August 2nd and ends August 31st on the 2008 Gregorian calendar. The tribe associated with this month is “Simeon,” and it means “To hear or be concerned.” From biblical and historical information about the tribes the gate name is “The Gate of Wisdom.”

Wisdom is the ability to judge correctly and to follow the best course of action, based on knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 9:10 gives us an understanding of wisdom, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.” J.I. Packer put it this way, “Wisdom is, in fact, the practical side of moral goodness,” and Bill Gothard said that, “Wisdom is seeing life from God’s point of view.”

The Apostle Paul declared that the message of the cross is foolishness to the Greeks and a stumbling block to the Jews. But to those who believe, said Paul, this “foolishness of God” is the “Wisdom of God” (I Cor. 1: 18-25). While this message is desired by all, few end up following its reasoning. Against the Wisdom of God, Paul contrasted (being noticeably different from something), “the wisdom of this world” (I Cor. 1:20, 3:19), “human wisdom” (I Cor. 2:4), “the wisdom of men” (I Cor. 2:6), the wisdom of this age (I Cor. 2:6), and “man’s wisdom” (I Cor. 2:13). The biblical concept of wisdom on the other hand, is quite different from the worldview. Through the filter of worldly wisdom, philosophy and human rational the mysteries of existence and knowledge of the universe are determined. The biblical principle of wisdom is that people should humble themselves before God in reverent worship, obedient to His commands, fearing His awe-inspiring ways. Therefore, the Gate of Wisdom isn’t defined by the wisdom of man or this world; nor is it a societal gate meant to open pathways to social acceptance or worldly success. Its wisdom based upon God who generously gives to all who ask (James 1:5). As you gain heavenly insight into your earthly issues you’re able to understand the complexities of life with supernatural understanding. Therefore, the riches found in God’s wisdom bring great peace to a tumultuous situation. It unlocks unmerited favor that cannot be interpreted from our natural mindedness but only understood through God’s Heavenly Kingdom!

There are three ways in which a person can define wisdom. First, wisdom is considered by many to be simply the art of learning how to succeed in life. Apparently, ancient people learned very early that there was orderliness to the world in which they lived. They also learned that success and happiness came from living in accordance with that orderliness (Proverbs 22:17 – 24:22). Second, wisdom is considered by some to be a philosophical study of the essence of life. Certainly, much of the Books of Job and Ecclesiastes seem to deal with just such existential issues of life (Job 30:29-31). Third, the real essence of wisdom is spiritual, for life is more than just living by a set of rules and being rewarded in some physical manner. Undoubtedly, this sense of wisdom comes from God (Proverbs 2:6).

Thus, though it will involve observation and instruction, wisdom really begins with God and one’s faith in Him as Lord and Savior (Proverbs 1:7; Job 28:28). Heavenly inspired wisdom occurs when you surrender to the Holy Spirit allowing Him to guide you. It does not rest upon a person because of their intelligence, education or capability. It occurs as you yield to humility and recognize that God’s plans are more important than yours.

Prophetically:

Av is the month to be humble because humility ushers in wealth, honor and life (Proverbs 22:4). You must stay encouraged in the Lord listening intently to His voice for guidance, seeking His assistance along the way. Because many catastrophic events occurred to Israel historically during Av, be alert to the strategies of the enemy. Remember, just because you've had a bad day doesn't mean that Satan will back off from attacking you, in reality, he's probably behind your bad day! Honestly, Satan and his minions will attack even more if you allow them to know that you're not doing well. So not only are you to be aware of Satan's tactics every day, you especially need to be more watchful this month, watchful of the enemy's attacks and vigilant about how you communicate those attacks. That's why, during Av, the Lord deals with your complacency to war against the tactics of the enemy even more so than other months. The best way to walk a victorious life is to stay proactive in your obedience to the Lord. If you stay at a high level of spiritual intensity, this is the month that He will bless you, if not; the Lord will challenge you to change.

This is the month of Tet and it resembles the womb, during this month things will be birthed, so be very careful what you create during Av. Many of you are in trouble because you continue to think that your way is the best way. You'll need to be proactive to interact with the Lord and His delegated authority listening intently to their counsel. The results of this month will be glaringly clear about the path you chose to take, if you listen to counsel you'll succeed, if you listen to yourself you won't! Also the Lord records what we do in a book, meaning He chronicles our actions (Revelation 20:11-12), so be watchful of your activity because it is very important.

To "hear" in Hebrew means to understand or receive. Regarding hearing and receiving, this is a prophetic month (Amos 3:8, "The lion has roared – who will not fear? The Sovereign Lord has spoken – who can but prophesy?") to listen keenly to the Lord and put into motion those things that He has spoken to you. The twelve spies, led by Joshua and Caleb, were sent by Moses to the land of Canaan in the month of Av (fifth month Numbers 13:1-25). Ten spies spoke evil of the land that God had promised Israel (Numbers 13:26-33) and the people accepted (heard – received) the evil tongue (report Numbers 14:1-45). Thus the thread that is woven throughout Av is the adjustment of your spiritual hearing and when you heed what the Lord says about an issue it results in acting wisely, if not you're speaking wrongly about what God calls blessed and you're operating unwisely. If God has spoken to you and you decide not to listen, you will be held accountable for your decision. As a matter of fact, it's during Av that the Lord will judge what you've put in motion over the past several months, that's why it's important to stay proactive (a step toward wisdom) with the Lord. When you partner with Him to cast off things that are ungodly, He will deliver you of them. So when you acknowledge and walk in obedience to the Lord you become people of wisdom.

The Lord's will is constantly executed throughout life and into eternity. However, this month the Divine will of the Father is implemented at an increased level. Just as the Lord examined the Temple in Jerusalem and allowed its destruction in 70 A.D., He's inspecting what's firmly built in your life and what is not. He may look at what you've established and determine that it's best to tear it down rather than repair it or He may destroy it in order to reconstruct it. So don't be disappointed if what you thought was godly or felt was formed on a firm foundation crumbles to the ground.

Because of the amount of destruction that has occurred throughout history during Av, be particularly sensitive to how the Lord is moving upon the earth, meaning you probably should be alert to the earth's contractions. Many earthquakes, natural disasters and trauma may occur in Av, so earnestly pray for protection and insight as to what the Lord is doing through these events. It could be that either judgment has been released because of disobedience or breakthrough occurs because of obedience. So ask God for revelation about what He's doing and pray for wisdom to spiritually transact this month.

On the ninth and tenth of the month of Av in the year 70 A.D., the Roman legions in Jerusalem smashed through the fortress tower of Antonia into the Holy Temple and set it afire. In the blackened remains of the sanctuary lay more than the ruins of the great Jewish revolt for their political independence. To many Jews, it appeared that Judaism itself had been shattered beyond repair and hopelessness and despair flooded many of them. During this month be careful to not allow hopelessness or despair (witchcraft) to overwhelm you. If circumstances are overpowering then allow the wisdom of the Lord to help you prevail! Lean heavily upon the Holy Spirit during Av and watch His glory smash those issues that have become troublesome to you.

This is the month where God's Kingdom advances through your partnership, so be aware of your alignments and alliances. You must walk in keen discernment peering into the Spirit realm to recognize the strategies that the enemy uses through opposing counsel and ungodly advice. Be alert to accusations that will tear you down. Also refute accusations that are coming against those whom God has placed over you. That's why, during Av, the Lord deals with your complacency to war against the tactics of the enemy even more so than other months. The best way to walk a victorious life is to stay proactive doing everything the Lord has asked. If you stay at a high level of spiritual intensity, this is the month that He will bless you, if not your Heavenly Father will provoke you to change.

Have you ever been in a relationship that ended? Or watched a great chance come and go? Have you ever made a choice you later wished you could reverse? How many times in your life have you said "I should have" or "if only..." It's difficult enough to let go of something you have in hand. Often a large part of the pain comes from the sense of loss over what you could have had. Displeasure with your circumstances and sadness for squandering your potential can cause you to function in an ungodly manner. It's extremely difficult to progress when you're continually looking at issues that are negative in your life. If in your frustration about what you've lost, you begin to focus on what's right rather than what's wrong, a solution will arise from the ashes. So during this month first repent for any activity that may have caused the Lord to set something in motion because of disobedience. Then hear what He's saying about your situation and trust Him to show you the way out.

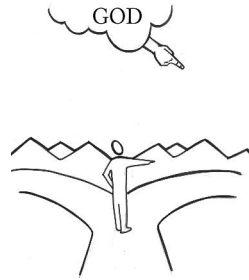
What's beyond the Gate?

What lies just beyond "The Gate of Wisdom," is the infinite wisdom of God. In the Holy Scriptures wisdom, when used of God and good men, always carries a strong moral implication. It's conceived as being pure, loving and good. Wisdom that is mere cleverness is often attributed to evil men, but such wisdom is treacherous and deceptive. God's wisdom and man's shrewdness are in perpetual conflict. Indeed, when seen from the lofty peak of Calvary, the whole history of the world is discovered to be a contest between the wisdom of God and the cunning of Satan and fallen man.

The outcome of the contest is not in doubt; the imperfect will fall before the perfect. God warned that He will take the wise in their craftiness and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. So the Wisdom of God, among other things, is the ability to devise perfect ends and to achieve those ends by the most perfect means. It sees the end from the beginning, so there can be no need to guess or surmise. God's wisdom sees everything in focus, each in proper relation to all, and is thus able to work toward predestined goals with flawless precision.

All of God's acts are done in perfect wisdom, first for His own glory, and then for the highest good for the greatest number for the longest time. All of His acts are as pure as they are wise, and as good as they are wise and pure. Not only could His acts not be better done: a better way to do them could not be imagined. An infinitely wise God must work in a manner not to be improved upon by finite creatures, as the scripture says, "O Lord how manifold is your work! In wisdom have thou made them all. The earth is truly full of your riches!"

As Bill Gothard said, "Wisdom is seeing life from God's point of view." So lay aside your personal ideas of wisdom and surrender it to the Lord, in other words ask the Lord to help you see through His eyes. Operating in your worldly wisdom all the while attempting to surrender your will to the Lord only exasperates the issue. Ask the Lord to help you see the importance of being led by the Holy Spirit as you submit to Him and the authority He has placed over you. You are not walking in wisdom when you hold the Lord and His delegated authority in contempt, it only creates friction that eventually erupts into a fire if you're not careful. Remember the main subject of Av is the adjustment of your hearing, so listening to an evil report or lending an ear to accusation or gossip that tears down is a snare. Therefore, you need to be careful not to speak or entertain accusations! In conclusion stay humble during Av and be watchful in the Spirit realm. This is the time to fast and submit to God's leading, listening intently to His wisdom!



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Declare prophetically over your homes, churches, and the seven societal mountains (gates) that:

- ✓ *The Gate of Wisdom is opened.*
- ✓ *Any sinful activity is confessed.*
- ✓ *A greater level of spiritual intensity is experienced.*
- ✓ *The Holy Spirit is guiding them to make proper spiritual shifts.*
- ✓ *The divine will of the Father be executed.*
- ✓ *A spiritual birthing to occur.*
- ✓ *Mercy for any ungodly choices made in the past.*
- ✓ *They hear the prophetic voice that unlocks the Kingdom of God.*
- ✓ *The Lord tears down and rebuilds whatever is not built upon His foundation.*
- ✓ *Natural disasters do not occur and divine protection is released.*
- ✓ *Acceptance of Christ and holiness fills lives.*
- ✓ *Godly wisdom to partner and align spiritually occurs so that the Kingdom of God will advance.*
- ✓ *Revelation of spiritual warfare is released to counter the tactics of the enemy.*