

Kingdom Feature, November 2020

"Walking Victoriously Over All the Attacks of the Enemy"

Possessing the Gates of the Enemy

By Apostle Jerry Upton

Our Expecting More series now moves into one of the most essential areas of revelation that is necessary for the Body of Christ to clearly understand and walk in concerning the last days; and this is the subject of spiritual warfare. I have been teaching spiritual warfare in the Body of Christ since the early 80's; and although many labeled me as being 'overboard, erroneous, a false teacher, obsessed with demons and devils, teaching unbelief and heresy — everything that the Holy Spirit showed me that was coming on the earth has come to pass to the very last detail.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, I have attempted to prepare God's people for the end time conflict that would take place upon the earth in the last days; but many would not receive or act on the revelation that Heaven was sending them. Now in the midst of evil, violence, wickedness, depravity, and an all-out attack of the enemy in every place; there are many pastors, teachers, ministers, and leaders that have reached out to me for an understanding of what to do in the midst of extreme warfare. Every area of humanity has been attacked by the enemy in such a way that it is clear that he is revealing that his time is shorter than ever before; and the evil that he is releasing is being witnessed by all.

Each area that the devil desires to control: political, music, religious, media, educational, business and commerce, entertainment, etc. has now been invaded to such a degree that only the chosen remnant equipped with the full armor of God can stop his invasion. While the religious systems meet each week to sing a few songs, hear a nice sermon, spend an hour and a half appeasing their minds that they are giving God some of their time, the enemy continues to destroy the very communities, people, children, teenagers, industry, schools that are located in their very midst. Hear me well: the devil does not fear the false religious systems that are in operation today — because it is he that created and influenced them. Rather than carrying out what is written in **II Chronicles 7:14** — *"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."* The false religious system puts more emphasis on how they can fit in with the world, stay as far away from prayer as

possible, stockpile as much money as they can in banks to secure their outward status of being successful, do or say nothing to offend people in requiring them to put the Kingdom of God first, measure their success by how many people come into their buildings than how many in their communities are being changed by the power of the Word of God, and keep assuring the people that there is no cost or sacrifice in following Jesus.

The devil delights in the 'spiritual wickedness in high places', and this is one of the reasons that the most influential, successful, damaging, and powerful places for the enemy to set up his headquarters is in the religious systems that many call 'churches'. I am not talking about the Church that Jesus built and is building, due to the fact that it is glorious, beautiful, powerful, and is now arising to possess the gates of the enemy and set the captives free.

Possessing the Gates of the Enemy

"That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the seashore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice." **Genesis 22:17-18**

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." **Matthew 16:18**

"Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee." **Genesis 49:8**

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds: Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" **II Corinthians 10:4-5**

"Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." **Ephesians 6:11-12**

"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him." **Acts 10:38**

"And the God of peace shall bruise satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen." **Romans 16:20**

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour; Whom resist steadfast in the faith knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”

I Peter 5:8-9

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

James 4:7

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.” **Revelation 12:11**

I listed a few of the profound scriptures that gives us insight concerning our enemy, and the victorious position that has been imparted to us through the victory that Jesus won in defeating the devil once and for all. We are called by God to enforce that victory and to wreck havoc on the Kingdom of darkness. Now the question arises many times when I teach an in-depth message on warfare; what is the significance of possessing the gates of the enemy? I don't teach warfare from the position that we are attempting to achieve victory over the enemy; but rather I teach by the leading of the Holy Spirit that we have already been given the victory and are called by God to enforce that victory everywhere that He leads us to go.

What does it mean to possess the gates of the enemy?

It means to live in dominion and authority over the enemy, and to live your life as more than a conqueror regardless of what attempts to come against you.

It means to release the victory that Jesus won through the power of the cross, and when He was raised from the dead; and to set the captives that the enemy has bound and locked up behind his gates totally and completely free.

It means to take back possession of anything and everything that the enemy has attempted to steal from you; your family, your emotional and mental stability, your physical health and stamina, your joy and peace, your financial prosperity and wealth; and the destiny, purpose, plan, and assignment that God has placed on your life.

It means to take the waste places and restore them to what God has called them to be, to replenish, beautify, and bring wholeness and safety; and to impart such an anointing that God is glorified as the King of kings, and the Lord of lords.

It means to make the enemies of Jesus His footstool, and to reign as kings and priests upon the earth through the powerful name of Jesus.

It means to impart the greater works of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to manifest the glory of God that has been placed in us as the hidden treasure of the Most High God.

In the Word of God, gates represented many things and were very important. They were heavily defended, very strong, open during the day and closed at night. They were also:

****The civic centers of the city where news was exchanged and discussed. Genesis 19:1, 23:10, 34:20, II Samuel 15:2, Nehemiah 8:1, Psalm 59:2, 12**

****Where markets flourished. Nehemiah 3:1, 3 and where trading centers for imported items were located." Isaiah 3:18-24**

**** Where the elders sat to administer judicial matters. Deuteronomy 16:18, 21:19, II Samuel 15:2, Joshua 20:4, Ruth 4:1, Amos 5:10-15. The biblical term, "to be within the gates, "referred to being under the authority and protection of the elders of the city who presided in the gates". Deuteronomy 15:7, 31:13**

**** Kings sat at the gates to meet with their subjects. II Samuel 19:8, I Kings 22:10, Jeremiah 38:7, II Chronicles 32:6**

**** Where the reading of the law and proclamations took place. Joshua 20:4, II Chronicles 32:6, Nehemiah 8:1, 3**

It was quite clear in biblical times that whoever possessed the gates, in turn possessed the city — are you making the connection with what has been taking place in our geographical area? The devil has claimed and possessed territory that does not belong to him, but because the church has failed to exercise and release the authority of God — Heaven has not been able to aid and assist us. *"And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."* **Matthew 16:19** We are now rising up and enforcing the authority of God, and declaring that what is unlawful, illegal, and ungodly cannot operate or take place in the EAST GATE.

If we really take this revelation seriously we would stop complaining, murmuring, whining, and operating in self-pity; due to the fact that we would see that we are the authorized representatives of God that sat as the keepers of the gates of the city, and would release judgment on any of the works on the enemy. *"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when a wicked man rules, the people mourn."* **Proverbs 29:2**

Everything and everyone that the enemy has locked up behind his counterfeit and deceptive gates; we are moving in the power of the Holy Spirit to release and set free. We have been delivered from looking to the government of man to provide answers for our communities and neighborhoods; we are rising up with the authority and power of the Most High God to proclaim liberty for all. Look closely at the commission and ministry of Jesus that was prophesied by Isaiah in the **61st chapter, verse 1-2**: *"The*

Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all that mourn.”

We Expect More because we have been brought to the Kingdom of God for such a time as this.

We Expect More because the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead lives in us, giving us complete victory over all the works of the enemy.

We Expect More because greater is He that is within us than he that is in the world.

We Expect More because thanks be unto God that has given us the victory; and always causes us to triumph by the power of His hand.

We Expect More because we have been called, anointed, appointed, and commissioned by the power of the Holy Spirit to make the enemies of Jesus His footstool.