



Gates and Doors

STEWARDING A GATE OF HEAVEN

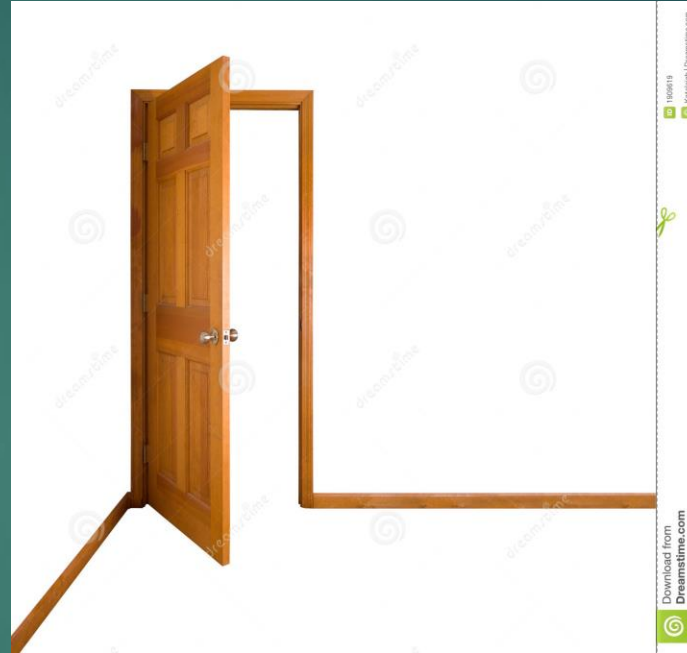
SHANNON WILLIAMSON - 12.27.20



What is a door?

A door or gate is a moveable barrier at the entrance or opening to a room, house, temple, city, etc.

Think about doors...



What do we do at doors?

- Open them; close them
 - Judge & discern; speak & communicate
 - Permit entrance / Deny entrance
 - Administering blessing and justice



Gates and Doors are places of:

- Authority
- Access
- Communication & Communion
- Justice
- Giving and receiving / Sending and receiving / Coming and going
- Transition, experience, development, maturity (Threshold)

What happens at Doors in Scripture?

- Wisdom Speaks in the gates and doors (Prov 1:20-21; 8: 1-3, 34) The Word is in the gate: (Dt 6:9; Neh 8:2-3; Jer 17:19-20)
 - Folly speaks in the gates (Pr 9: 13-14)
- The LORD appears (Gen 18; Num 12:5; Deut 31: 15; Ez 43:4)
- The congregation assembles (Nb 10:3; 1 Sam 2:22; Mk 1:33)
- Justice; judgement is administered at the gates (Deut 16:18; Rt 4) Judges, elders, rendering judgment, bearing witness, blessing

Continued...

- Sin crouches at the doors; The enemy attacks the gates (Gen 4:7) (Gates are strategic tactically)
- The sacrifice is killed, cleansed, and eaten at the door (Lv 3:2; 4:4; 8:31; 14:11)
- Divine salvation, deliverance, safety is given. (Gen 6:16; Gen 19; Ex 12)
- Possessing the gates –belonging, lordship, stewardship (Gen 22:17)

Who has gates and doors?

- People: homes, rooms, workplace
- Cities have gates
- God and His angels: Heaven has gates (Psalm 118: 19-20; Gen 28:17; Rev: 4:1; Is 6:4; Ez 47:1; Mal 3:10; Ps 78:23-24).
- Devil (thief steals): Hell has gates Mt 16:18-20

Personal Gates

Every person has personal gates and doors, which function as entry points for our inner-self. These are the 5 senses – access points to our inner being. The inner-being of a person: soul (heart, mind, will, emotions) and spirit.

- Eyes : Is. 33: 15-17; Luke 11:34-36; 1 Jn 2:16; Gen 3:6; Jb 31:1
- Ears : Rom 10:14, 17; Prov 4:20-21; Pr 18:8; Heb 2:1; 4:2
- Mouth: Psalm 141: 3; Pr 18:21; Jms 3: 10-1; Is. 33: 15-17
- Hands: Deut 15:11; Is 33:15
- Sexually: 1 Cor 6: 15-20
- Defiled gates –Matt 15:10, 17-20; Luke 11:34-36; 1 Cor 6: 15-20
 - Cleanse them: blood, confession, repentance, forgiveness

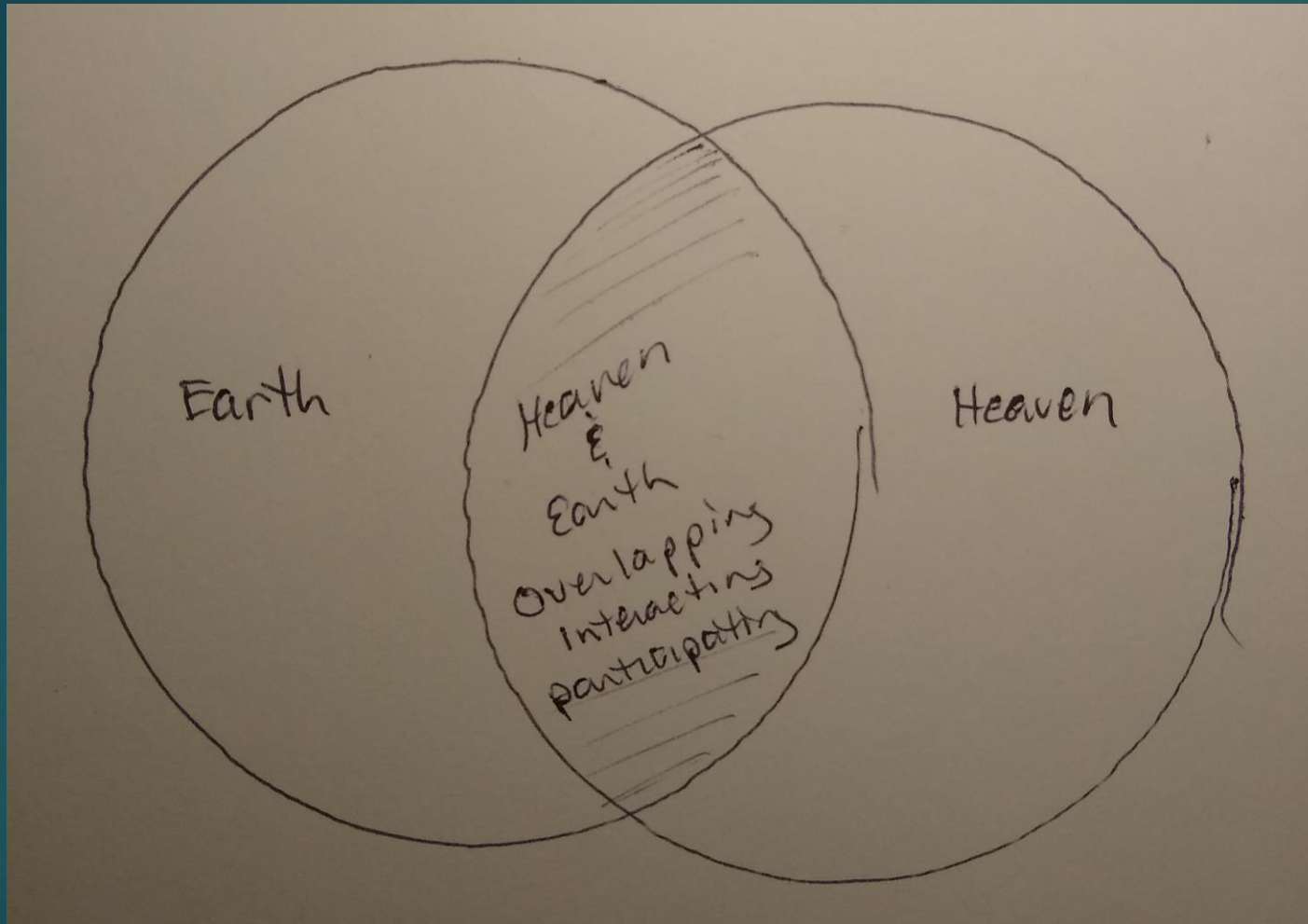
Heaven gates

- Ps 118: 19-20; Gen 28:17; Rev: 4:1; Is 6:4; Ez 47:1; Mal 3:10; Ps 78:23-24
- Gen 28: 17 And he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”
- Revelation 4:1 After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.”
- Ps 100:4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!
- Ps 78:23- 24 Yet he commanded the skies above and opened the doors of heaven, and he rained down on them manna to eat and gave them the grain of heaven. Man ate of the bread of the angels; he sent them food in abundance.

The spiritual or heavenly realm...



The heavenly realm...



The biblical story...

- Garden of Eden (overlapping space of heaven and earth)
- Fall (Separating takes place due to sin and death entering)
- (OT) Tabernacle and Temple (Overlapping space in Israel)
- (NT) Jesus Christ “The Word became flesh and ‘tabernacled’ among us.” Jn 1:14; see also John 2:21, Mt 12:6
- Christians are called temples of the Holy Spirit, a spiritual house for God, and a kingdom - 1 Cor 6:19; 1 Tim 3:15; 1 Pt 2:5; Revelation 1:6; 2 Cor 5:20
- The telos: Heaven and earth become one place under Christ. Eph 1:10; Col 1:20; Phil 2:10; Rev 21-22;
- What the renewed earth looks like under the full reign of Christ: Isaiah 2:2-5; 11:1-9; 65:17-25.

Temples

- Old Covenant: Temples (places of worship): key overlapping place in the bible.
- Temples are Heavenly gates on earth; throne.
- New Covenant: We are God's temple.
- Stewarding our relationship with God = stewarding a connection between heaven and earth

What do we do at doors?

- Open them; close them. Guard them.
 - Judge & Discernment
 - Permit entrance or Deny entrance
 - Administering blessing and justice

Open your doors to Heaven

- Open our doors to God in and through. Let God's heavenly kingdom in (Ps 24; Rev 3:21; Jn 14:17-23)
- Praying prayers to let heaven in. (Luke 11 Lord's Prayer; Is 64 Rend the Heavens; Gen 28/John 1:50-51; Deut 6 Hear O Israel)
- Pray: Open a door for the gospel (Col 4:3; 1 Cor 16:19; 2 Cor 2:12; Acts 14:27; Rev 3:8)

Close the doors to hell

- Doorkeeper – Guard your gates – Keep hell out
- Guard your gates by prayer and the word:
 - Yield your members Rom 6
 - Asking for wisdom (Prov. 8:34; James 1)
 - Praying verses on the blood to 'apply' it on your doors
 - Praying scripture over gates; which is vulnerable?
- Discern what sin crouches at your door (Gen 4:7)
- Discern – do you possess all your gates or do you need to take one back in Jesus name?

Open the door to one another

- Opening your gates to your neighbor, brother, stranger, children, etc.
- How you receive one another is how you receive Christ. See also: Jn 13:20; Mt 18:5; Lk 9:48
- Mt 10:40 "Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.
- Mark 9:37 "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in My name welcomes Me, and whoever welcomes Me welcomes not only Me, but the One who sent Me."
- Good Samaritan - Luke 10

“I Am the Door”

- John 10: 7, 9 “I am the door.”
- His eyes and ears: Ps 34:15 “The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry.” Never closed – Ps 121:4;
- 2 Chron 16:9 “For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him.”
- His Ears: “The Lord hears when I call to him.” Ps 4:3; 69:33; 34:17
- His Mouth: Ps 45:2 Grace pours forth from his lips; Pr 2:6 From his mouth come wisdom, knowledge, understanding.
- His Hands: Ps 145:16 “You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.”

Wisdom in the Gates

Get ready to be a gate of heaven; steward your gate; kingdom of heaven will come through you to the world around you.

Steward your gates – for love and justice and blessing to others

As we leave 2020 and enter 2021, are you ready?