

Open Gates

There lies in front of you an open gate, so what do you do? Do you just stand there and gaze at it? Do you walk up to it and inspect it? Do you kneel in front of it and wish that you could go through it? I am quite sure that you would never even think about it, you would just walk through the gate.

To bear my soul to you...so many times I've hesitate to walk through a gate that God has opened for me (as if God Himself has set a trap). Then, I asked myself the question, "Why would God set before me such a glorious gate and not trust Him to lead me in the path beyond?" Yes indeed, I've had to wrestle with the unbelief that is within me. If I am doing this, then perhaps you are too.

Years ago, I had a dream of Christians being in a prison camp. We were happy there, though incarcerated. They made us feel like we were free and offered us any game we wanted to play, a nice swimming pool to enjoy, music, and food galore. It was like a permanent vacation except that we weren't allowed to leave the camp. One day I grew weary with such activities and sat down on a bench that faced a huge rock. As I looked up to my right was a guard on the tower making sure that no one departed. As I looked to my left, I saw three cave men coming around this huge rock in front of me. It did not appear that they saw me and talked a language I couldn't understand. Just to the right of that huge rock was weeds, but these men knew something more. They cleared the weeds to reveal a man-gate but the rock was in the way of the gate. So they looked up and spoke to that rock and it began moving but groaned like an old man with arthritis since it had been in that position for ages. I was amazed that the rock was actually alive and had a face. The men said nothing more but exited through the gate and vanished quickly into the forest without the guard ever seeing. I wondered what was beyond the gate, but I did not go. Days passed before the guard saw the open gate. He sounded an alarm, and all Christians were on lockdown. No more games, no more food, no more pleasures because someone had exited through the gates. I later understood that these men had spoken faith that moved this rock so they could go through this ancient gate.

I am telling you that God has an open gate for you. The enemy will keep you so entertained while making you feel free, but you may be a prison camp. I say, "Sit still, look for the ancient gate that is before you, and know that God will even send His angels to release you when it's necessary. You have longed to go forward, so I say, let faith arise and speak to the Rock of Ages. You have God's permission to walk through this open gate to a life you never knew could exist and be happier than you've ever been.

Dear Jesus,

I speak faith and courage into them right now! Yes Lord, even provoke them to look for the open gate. Erase every fear or doubt and assure them that you will send angels unawares to guide them until their faith arises and they learn to command that mountain to move! They belong to you and not another. May they feel your hand leading them in the direction they are to take and be at peace with where the path leads. Though they do not know the path, you do.

Jesus, may they be in full assurance and confidence that you have everything under control. They may feel out of control, but you've got them. Just as the children of Israel followed you without knowing where they were going, so they must follow you. Let every sin that has beset them, be buried under the blood of Jesus! And I say, "They are free indeed!" I pray that they will not lose one moment of sleep in wondering where you are taking them, for you are the Master and you have cradled and cared for them even before they knew you. I speak peace in them and say, "Go through the open gates!" There is more for you on the other side. Jesus is waiting. Yes, and Amen!

(Genesis 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."

(Psalm 118:19-20) Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

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