

The Gates of Heaven - part I

Have you ever been around someone who could just light up a room with their presence? Maybe there is a dreary party or get together and all of a sudden when that individual enters the room the whole place comes alive. The atmosphere is changed. In a place where there is an oppressive feeling or person down in the dumps someone with a positive attitude enters and the whole atmosphere goes from one of dreariness to one of joy or having fun. I'm sure we've all been in instances where someone's bad attitude and negativity has changed the whole ambience of a setting. It's a fun and festive night until someone loses their cool or opens their big mouth and the night moves from being a good time to everyone being ready to go. The point is that just by our actions and what comes out of our mouth the whole atmosphere and outlook of a situation can be changed.

We know that we, as believers, are ambassadors of Christ and representatives of the Kingdom. In a similar way in what is mentioned above we can release the Kingdom of God into situations and places that changes the whole atmosphere. Through our actions and even more so when we step out and speak, either in declaring God's truth, petitioning in prayer, or lifting up worship to God, we are releasing the Kingdom of God to enter the situation we find ourselves in. When the supernatural presence of God comes joy, hope, healing, deliverance, salvation, miracles, signs, and wonders are the result.

When Jesus taught us to pray he said for us to ask the Father, "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." What is the "Kingdom"? A kingdom is the realm of rule and reign of the King. Webster dictionary puts it this way, "the realm in which God's will is fulfilled." So, when we say your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven we are saying out with the satanic and natural fallen world's realm of authority and kingdom and in with the supernatural realm and authority of God's Kingdom ruled by the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Jesus the Messiah.

It's amazing in your own life what begins to happen when you're in a bad space or in need of a miracle or breakthrough and you just begin to worship. As you begin to lift up your praises to Him His presence comes, brings supernatural peace to your life, and your whole being is made alive as you transcend from being under the oppression of one realm into the realm of the Kingdom of God. It is that place that miracles happen and everything that is against you in this natural order, in this world under the rulership of its god satan, must align itself and get under the order and rulership of God.

Jesus also said that Kingdom of God is within us (Luke 17:21). So literally within our spirit is the rule and reign of the King, the presence of the Holy Spirit, and we are to release that. Jesus said that those that believe in Him, out of their innermost being would flow rivers of living water, speaking of the Holy Spirit. When we do people will re-

ceive life from "living water" of which the source runs far beyond us. We just release the Kingdom and literally connect people with it, so they can receive from the life of God that will save them from the death all around them. Isn't this what Jesus did when He began ministering? Did he not say, "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand"? He spoke the truth and turned peoples minds, hearts, and actions back to God and He released the Kingdom where ever He went. What happened? The blind saw, the lame walked, the demon possessed were delivered, and many turned to God and received His grace and salvation. If we really want to be just like Jesus we should be walking in the same way, bringing the truth of God's Word and releasing the Kingdom.

Romans 14:17 says, "For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit." When the gospel of the kingdom is believed it brings a right standing for you before God which leads to righteous living. It brings peace and it brings joy. So, for instance, when you get around a group of people that are meditating on a bad situation or report, maybe a sickness or negative issues going on, and you can feel the oppressive atmosphere in the room, you are to release the realm and authority of God. Declare that by believing in the sacrifice of Christ on the cross they are made righteous before Him and therefore can receive His promises of deliverance, wholeness, healing and salvation. Declare that truth concerning that situation and release the Kingdom through your prayers, declaring the Word, and worship, and watch the atmosphere transform from one of oppression to one of peace and joy. After all we serve the Prince of Peace whose rule and increase of government and peace has no end. Literally the word for peace in Hebrew is shalom meaning peace, prosperity, wellness, health, completeness, safety, wholeness, nothing missing, nothing lacking. Shalom is the result of God's activity in keeping His covenant and is the result of righteousness. In nearly 2/3rds of its occurrences shalom describes the state of fulfillment which is the result of God's presence. So release the Kingdom of God which is within you, God's presence, and let the Price of Peace bring his joy and shalom into the atmosphere and situation that are around you.

Literally, you are a gate of heaven to release heaven on earth. Let's look at the first time the gate of heaven is mentioned in scripture. In Genesis 28 we see that Jacob has an encounter with God where he sees the heavens open and the angels of God ascending and descending upon a ladder reaching from heaven to earth. It is possible that this "ladder" looked like a typical ladder but I think that it probably looked more like a portal of some sort since the word for ladder could mean highway or channel way. Either way Jacob dreams a dream, has this encounter, and wakes up saying, "Surely the Lord is in this place... this is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." He then takes the stone that he was sleeping on, pours oil

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New DVDs available at our Bookstore

"Take Your Position" - Recorded at Word of Life Church were the Holy Spirit moved powerfully as many responded to this message

"Hungry for the Fire" - Recorded at a recent youth revival - humorous and powerful

Both available on DVD—order by calling our office or visiting www.BenNaughton.com

- - REVIVAL RESOURCE - -

This month's revival resource is a message preached by Tom Scarrella entitled "Caught Up." This message is taken from his sermon series called "The Glory." Tom and his wife Susie minister with a powerful anointing for revival, signs, and wonders. We believe that this message will impart a fresh fire and hunger for the glory of God. If you are interested in learning more about Scarrella ministries or how to purchase this audio series visit www.scarrella.com

Ministry Reports

Ft. Myers, FL - April and I had a wonderful time of ministry at Word of Life Church as the Holy Spirit moved powerfully. A DVD of the service will be available for purchase on our website soon.



Naples, FL - This month we ministered at El Rey Jesus Naples for a youth revival. It was an awesome night. Many young people were touched by the fire of God as the message went forth with humor and power. We now have this message available on DVD.

Naples, FL - We also ministered at another Spanish church in Naples called Egeiro Iglesia. We brought of grace that set those bound in religion free.

on it, and says when he comes back that this stone he has set as a pillar will become God's house. One side point is that every time you enter God's house you should have an encounter with God that changes your life, not just dry religious tradition. So, now if you go to the new testament to John chapter 1:48 - 51 we see Jesus has just given Nathanael a word of knowledge he received through a vision about him sitting under a fig tree. How was Jesus operating in such a level of words of knowledge? It was because of the open heavens he walked under to receive revelation. Nathanael is then amazed and Jesus says this in verse 51, "Truly I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man." Jesus, the anointed one and chief cornerstone of the church (see Eph. 3:19-22), was the prophetic fulfillment of Jacob's dream. In the Old Testament God's house was made of literal stone, in the New Testament it is made of living stones. Jesus was literally the first house of God made of flesh. He housed the manifest presence of God, the Holy Spirit, within Him, and He released the Kingdom wherever He went literally being a gate of heaven.

What was with the angels ascending and descending? The bible makes it clear that angels are messengers of God harkening to the word of the Lord (Psalm 103:20). I believe whenever there is a miracle or supernatural occurrence of God that angels where behind the scenes carrying the will of the Lord out. When God has decreed a miracle to take place in a situation I believe angels are on assignment to see it through. This is why it is so important to speak the promises of God found in scripture out of our mouths. In doing so we are releasing our faith and speaking God scriptures which releases God's will in the matter and sends angels out to fulfill His will. When we see the angels ascending and descending in these verses I believe they are angels returning from assignments and

angels heading out on assignment.

So, now the Bible says that we as believers in Christ are living stones (1 Peter 2:5-6) built up together as a temple in the Lord for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit (Eph. 2:21-22). Literally, as we come together as the church we are a place where God's manifest presence is to inhabit. As people come into our midst they should come into the manifest presence of God and enter a realm where heaven invades earth. A place where the authority and Kingdom of Heaven supersedes the natural order they are in. A place where they receive healing, breakthrough, and deliverance. Literally, your church should be a gateway of heaven.

But not only is the cooperate church to be the house of God, the gate of heaven, but we read in scripture that we individually are a temple of God (1 Cor. 6:19). Just as Jesus was the first living house of God, gate of heaven so we, who are believers in Him, are filled with the Holy Spirit and are to walk as a living house of God, gate of heaven. There are literally millions of gates of heaven walking around, who are believers in Christ, housing the glory of God. Imagine if we all began to step out and open those gates, what would happen? I'll tell you, we would see His Kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Can I ask you is there any sickness in heaven? Is there any oppression or depression? Is there any lack or poverty? No, so when people come in contact with the Kingdom sickness, oppression, depression, lack, poverty, and anything else not of God must bow to the name of our King Jesus.

Part 2 to be continued next month.

BNM Itinerary

River of Life Worship Center - 10 am Punta Gorda, FL	2/1
Youth Revival Abundant Life - 7pm Holbrook, NY	2/20
Abundant Life Holbrook, NY 10am & 6pm	2/22
Teimpo de Gloria Bonita Springs, FL 7pm	3/1
Church Alive Worship Center Lafayette, IN	3/6-7
Centro de Avivamiento Rehobot Easton, PA	3/21-22
Nueva Jerusalem Parsipanny, NJ	3/26-29



Ministry Needs:
MiniDV Camcorder—\$350
Laptop Computer—\$800
Firewire Card & Cable—\$100

Prayer Points

- Anointing and Open Heavens for Signs, Wonders, and Miracles
- For the Fires of Revival to be released in each church we minister
- Necessary finances to come in to do all God is calling us to do
- Hedge of Protection around Ben & April
- Ben & April to have greater intimacy with the Lord

Send us your prayer requests & Testimonies!

April and I would love to pray for you and to hear of the testimonies of what God has done in your life through our ministry.

**E-mail us at: BNM@BenNaughton.com
Or write us at: PO Box 07478, Ft. Myers, FL 33919**