

GATE KEEPERS

1Chr. 9:17 And the porters were, Shallum, and Akkub, and Talmon, and Ahiman, and their brethren: Shallum was the chief;

1Chr. 9:18 Who hitherto waited in the king's gate eastward: they were porters in the companies of the children of Levi.

1Chr. 9:19 And Shallum the son of Kore, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, and his brethren, of the house of his father, the Korahites, were over the work of the service, keepers of the gates of the tabernacle: and their fathers, being over the host of the LORD, were keepers of the entry.

1Chr. 9:20 And Phinehas the son of Eleazar was the ruler over them in time past, and the LORD was with him.

1Chr. 9:21 And Zechariah the son of Meshelemiah was porter of the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

1Chr. 9:22 All these which were chosen to be porters in the hundred and twelve. These were reckoned by their genealogy in their villages, whom David and Samuel the seer did ordain in their set office.

1Chr. 9:23 So they and their children had the oversight of the gates of the house of the LORD, namely, the house of the tabernacle, by wards.

1Chr. 9:24 In four quarters were the porters, toward the east, west, north, and south.

1Chr. 9:25 And their brethren, which were in their villages, were to come after seven days from time to time with them.

1Chr. 9:26 For these Levites, the four chief porters, were in their set office, and were over the chambers and treasuries of the **house of God**.

1Chr. 9:27 And they lodged round about the house of God, because the charge was upon them, and the opening thereof every morning pertained to them.

I. **VS 19** “The Korahites, were over the work of the service, keepers of the gates of the tabernacle ... keepers of the entry”

A. vs 21 “Zechariah ... was **porter of the door of the tabernacle**”

vs 23 “So they and their children had the **oversight of the gates** of the house of the LORD,”

vs 27 “1Chr. 9:27 And they **lodged round about the house of God**, because the charge was upon them, and the **opening thereof every morning pertained to them**.

1. The life of the Gatekeepers was centered around the “**House of God**”

a. **Dwell**

(1) if your life is not centered around the “House of The Lord” you cannot qualify for being a gatekeeper in the House of God

(a) everyone is building their life around something:

(1) and it comes down to one of the two:

(a) the cares & things of this world

(b) of the Kingdom & House of God

b. note also the Gatekeeper determined who would be given access into the tabernacle

(1) we are going to see the importance of Gatekeepers and the vital role they play in determining who and what has access

(2) Going to make a spiritual comparison to the life of the Born again Believer to that of a Gatekeeper

2. Responsibility of gatekeepers:

a. Gatekeepers were guards stationed for protection at various kinds of gates:

(1) city gates, palace gates, temple gates, the king’s gate

3. The idea of gate keeping implies alertness and security

a. thus making the position of a gatekeeper a position of trust:

Trust that they would be at their post keeping evil out

(1) David and Samuel appointed 212 gatekeepers

(2) Ezra reports that 139 gatekeepers made the trip from Babylon to Jerusalem with Zerubbel (Ezra 2:42)

(3) The first thing Nehemiah did in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem was to appoint gatekeepers

(a) Because, before a city could be built & do business and for the occupants to be safe, it first had to be protected from outside invaders by Gatekeepers

B. Every believer is to assume the responsibilities of being a gate keeper:

1. #1 **In their life**: because if Born Again **you are the Temple of The Holy Spirit**
 - a. 1 Cor 6:19 **What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?**
 - b. You are to be the Gatekeeper over the access areas of your personal life: The eye gate, ear gate, the mouth gate, Mind / thought gate:
 - (1) because these are the access point to the entrance of your heart / spirit man
 - (a) 1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
 - (1) will that devil find you posted at your gate dressed in the whole armor of God? or will he have free access into your life because there is no gate keeper
 - c. as a Gatekeeper we are not to allow the devil, & powers of darkness entrance so they can fill our life with: fear, doubt, unbelief,
 - (1) thus creating a defeated mindset, poverty mindset, Lustful mindset, worldly mindset in our life
 - (a) Eph 4: 27 **instructs us: "Neither give place to the devil."**
 - (2) Proverbs 26:13 The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets.
 - (a) here is the real question is: how did that lion get into those streets of the city?
 - (b) the answer is seen in the description of this man: "**Slothful**" no gatekeeper
 - d. Listen what the Psalmist said in regards to being a gatekeeper over his own **lips & heart**
 - (1) Ps 141:3 **Set a watch**, O LORD, before my mouth; keep

the door of my lips.

(a) **Def Watch:** to be a guard

(b) Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue:

b. Gatekeeper of our **eyes:**

(1) Ps 101: **3** I will **set** no **wicked thing** before mine **eyes:**"

(a) our eyes are the gateway to our soul

(2) Hebrews 12:2 **Looking unto Jesus** the author and finisher of our faith;

c. Gate keeper of our **mind:**

(1) 2 Cor 10: **5** 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;**

(a) "bringing every thought into captivity" / **Dwell**

2. We are to be the Gatekeeper of our **home / family:**

a. Joshua 24: **15** And if it seem **evil** unto **you** to **serve** the **LORD, choose** you this **day whom** ye will **serve;** whether the **gods** which your **fathers served** that **were** on the other **side** of the **flood,** or the **gods** of the **Amorites,** in whose **land** ye **dwell:** but as for me and my **house,** we will the **LORD.**

(1) we are responsible for what we let into our house from the front door & the people we allow in, to the TV set, to the music playing, to what we allow in thru the internet and the list goes on:.....

3. Even In the **Local church** within the ministry that you are to serve in, we are called to be Gatekeepers:

a. Ps 84:**10** **For a day in thy courts *is* better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper / gatekeeper / in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

(1) In order to be a GateKeeper in the House of my God you have to be **present ... have you abandoned your**

post?

- II. We are living in a day where the “spirit of the world” is to allow everyone and everything access into our country & society, into our homes and schools, and look at the negative impact it has had on our country
- A. The same is true spiritually:
Ministers of the Gospel, Elders in the church, as well as mature believers: cannot allow just any spirit to come into the church ... they must be the Gatekeepers God has called them. Look at;
1. 1 Chron 9:19 “**keepers of the gates of the tabernacle: and their fathers, being over the host of the LORD, were keepers of the entry.**
 2. Also Believers cannot allow just any spirit of the world entrance into their life, home, family
 - a. By having a liberal view ... a worldly view, carnal view instead of a biblical view to issues we face in life today and decisions we must make
 3. Gatekeepers are to be:
 - a. “**Keepers of the gates of the tabernacle**”“**Keepers of the entry**” vs 19
 - (1) Be it the Tabernacle of your heart, home, or local church:
 - (a) are you a trusted gatekeeper?
 - (b) or have you abandoned your spiritual post at the gate and allow the enemy free access
 - (2) **Def Keepers:** to guard, to protect, to attend
 - (a) Time to show up at the gates and tell the devil: no access here
 - (b) time to show up at the gate and tell sin: no access here
 - (c) time to show up in church ... show up in our homes ... show up in society and be the gate keepers God has called us to be

3. God Himself does not allow free access to anyone or anything:

a. Heaven has Gates & Walls with angels posted at the gates... not everyone will have access

a. Isa 59:19 “When the **enemy** shall come in like a **flood**, the **Spirit** of the **LORD** shall lift up a **standard** against him”.

(1) **Def Standard**: to put to flight

(a) don't let that devil in your life ... raise up a standard

(b) don't let that devil in your home ... raise up a standard

(c) don't let that sin in your life ... raise up a standard

(d) don't allow that ungodly fellowship in your life .. raise up a standard

(e) don't let that lukewarm, backsliding spirit in your life ... raise up a standard

(f) don't give into walking in the flesh, bitterness or offense
Access into your life ... raise up a standard

(g) don't let that false doctrine in your life .. raise up a standard

(h) quit making excuses for your spiritual condition &

(1) unfaithfulness in your walk with God

(2) commitment to your family

(3) commitment to the House of God

(4) commitment to your ministry

(a) Get back at your gate & be the Gatekeeper God has called you to be & raise up a standard ... put the devil to flight

(1) James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God.

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

(a) A Gatekeeper must first be submitted to God

(1) **Def Submit**: to be under obedience

(b) when your life is under obedience to the King /

King Jesus

(1) you can then flow in delegated authority to
"Resist the devil"

(a) **Def Resist:** to oppose, to stand against

(c) Then the devil & powers of darkness **"will flee from you"**

(i) Do I have any trusted ... faithful gatekeepers in the house who have not abandoned their post

(a) who are submitted to God

(b) resisting the devil

(c) and instead of abandoning your gate rather you are seeing the The devil & powers of darkness flee from your life, flee from your home, flee from our society, flee from our schools

B. GateKeepers must learn to operate in **DISCERNING OF SPIRITS:**

1. which is one of the Nine Gifts of the Spirit listed in 1 Cor 12:10

a. of which every Born Again, Spirit filled believer is to operate in:

(1) 1 Cor 12:7 “**7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to **every man** to profit withal.”

2. In order to be a Gate Keeper who is able to operate in discernment it requires spiritual maturity and we must know how to effectively use the authority of the Word of God:

a. Heb 5:**13** For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by **reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.**

- (1) Note the maturity & spiritual experience:
- (a) **“full of age”** speaking of spiritual maturity who can handle the strong meat of the word
 - (b) **“reason of use have their senses exercised”**
 - (1) speaking of our spiritual senses
 - (a) just as we have the five natural senses, we also have spiritual senses we must develop:
 - #1 **Taste**: Psalm 34:8 O taste and see that the Lord is good:
 - #2 **Touch**: 2 Cor **17** Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,
 - #3 **Hearing**: Revelation 2:11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;
 - #4 **Seeing**: Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish:
 - #5 **Smell**: 2 Corinthians 2:15 For we are unto God a sweet savour (smelling - fragrance) of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish:
 - (2) **“reason of use”** they have developed their spiritual senses
 - (a) They know how to work the Word of God
 - (b) they have experience in using the authority of the Name of Jesus
 - (c) they know how to praise & worship God ... ushering in the presence of the Holy Spirit regardless of their circumstances or emotions
 - (d) standing at their assigned gate dressed in the whole armor of God
 - (d) thus enabling them to: **“discern both good and evil”**
 - (1) or in other words they can discern what to allow

access into the Gate they are positioned in or to deny access to what is not of God

3. Also we are instructed in: 1 Jn 4: “**1** Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”
 - a. Christians are not to be gullible: But are called & anointed of God to be Gatekeepers:
 - (1) “Believe not every spirit”
 - (2) “But try the spirits whether they are of God:
 - (a) **Def TRY:** to discern, test, examine
 - b. We are informed that not every manifestation is the Holy Ghost:
 - (1) “but try the spirits whether they are of God: “
 - (2) also told in vs 1 “many false prophets are gone out into the world.
 - (3) The Apostle Paul warns us in 2 Cor 11: **13** For such *are* **false apostles, deceitful workers**, transforming *themselves into* the apostles of Christ.
14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.
 - (4) Paul taught the Elders of Ephesus this in Acts 20:**29** For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.
30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.
31 Therefore watch (be a GateKeeper), and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.
 - (5) Jesus also warns us in Matt 24:**23** Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here *is* Christ, or there; believe *it* not.
24 For there shall arise **false Christs**, and **false prophets**, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall **deceive** the very elect.”

(a) can you see the need of being a Gate Keeper?

B. How many believe we are living in the **Last Days**? Listen to \ what the bible states will definitely manifest in the Last Days:

1. 2Tim 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

2. And at the same time this will also be taking place in the Last Days:

a. Acts 2:17 **And** it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh:

(1) As Gate Keepers, which of these last Day manifestations are we granting access into our life, home, our church: the move of the devil or the move of God

(a) depends upon if we are the GateKeepers God has called us to be

(b) Gatekeepers discern / Test / try the spirits to see if the manifestation grieves the Holy Spirit within them or not

(1) God did not leave you defenseless at your gate. God has given you the Sword of The Spirit Eph 6:17

3. Even your local church ... corporately as the Body of Christ has been called of God and set to be a Gatekeeper in _____ county ... here in this community

a. And it is vital that as a local church body you stand at the gate God has appointed you to

III. The devil's greatest tool is not his power, but rather it is

DECEPTION:

A. In 1 Tim 2:14 the devil used deception to bring about the fall of mankind into sin thru the disobedience of Adam & Eve

1. Lk 24:4 Jesus warns us:

a. "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that **no man deceive you.**"

2. In Matt 24:1-24 Jesus informs us of some of the tactics the devil will use to deceive people:

a. vs 5 & 11 false christ's, false prophets

b. vs 9 persecution

c. vs 10 offense

d. vs 12 the **love** of **many** shall wax **cold**.

(1) can you see the need for Gatekeepers?

B. The worse deception is found in: James 1:22 **But** be **ye doers** of the **word, and not hearers only, deceiving** your own **selves**.

1. **"DECEIVING YOUR OWN SELVES"**

a. Amp Trans: "Be doers of the word (obey the message), and not merely listeners to it, betraying yourselves (into deception by reasoning contrary to the Truth)"

2. Are we being honest with ourselves in examine our personal spiritual condition & being the gatekeeper God has called us to be:

a. or am I deceiving myself ... making excuses ... justifying my disobedience to what I know the Word of God really requires of me in my walk & relationship with God, my family

3. I have a little test ,,,, I want us to take inventory of a few things that will reveal to ourselves if I am a Trusted GateKeeper:

a. In the House of God

b. In my Home

- c. In society
- d. In my personal relationship with God
- e. And in my personal temple: my spirit, my mind/ thoughts/
what my eyes see / what my ears hear

4. How often:

- a. Do I read / study my bible
- b. How often do I pray
- c. How often do I witness
- d. How often do I attend church
- e. Am I living holy?
- f. Am I producing the fruit of the Spirit in my life
 - (1) Being a Gatekeeper starts in our commitment to living for Jesus
 - (2) Have I lost my first love?
 - (a) My love for God, My love for God's word, My love for God's presence, My love for the House of God, my love for my spouse, my love for the fellowship with the saints, my love for lost souls
 - (3) Have I become weary in well doing and abandoned my gate
 - (4) Have I allowed God's standards to be lowered in my life by allowing the spirit of the world access instead of raising the standard of God's word in my life
 - (5) Am I serving God according to what Jesus expects of me?
 - (a) Matt 22:37 "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."
 - (1) If you have abandoned your post as a Gatekeeper, I want to pray for you
 - (2) At this altar you will not only find mercy to forgive, but also you will receive GRACE, STRENGTH & A FRESH ANOINTING to be the Gatekeeper God has called you to be

- (a) for your temple / heart
 - (b) for your home / family
 - (c) in society in the gates God has set yo in for His glory
 - (d) and in the Local Church your pastors alone cannot cover every access point / every gate on their own
- (1) Your help, ministry, anointing, presence is needed in order for the House of God to be what God has called it to be in ministering to the needs of people, ushering in God's presence & anointing, & keeping the devil out