

## **PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION. (Pt 3)**

18 – 11 – 2007 am

**GOD wants to bring personal transformation to each and every one of us.**

**Genesis 28:10 -22**

***16 Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it."***

***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!"***

Jacob was a man that went through a personal transformation – even through a dream his life was transformed. When he awoke he was obviously very conscious that he had interacted with another realm.

Jacob called this place the gate of heaven.

**Gate** = The root idea is to split open, to break through, a rip in the realms (between the seen and the unseen), a portal, interface, access point, dimension of closure and openness etc...

The city gate was extremely important in the life of the people in early Bible times, as social, administrative, and business interaction took place there. Kings as well as city elders sat to administer justice (**Deut 21:19; Josh 20:4**). When Absalom laid the groundwork for his insurrection, it was at the gate where he intercepted the people who were coming to see the king (**II Sam 15:2**). It was considered an honour to sit among the elders at the gate (**Proverbs 31:23**).

The square (often a threshing floor) in front of the gate was the most natural congregating place, and it was here that the prophets frequently spoke to the people (**II Kings 7:1; Jeremiah 17:19–20; 36:10**) and to kings (**I Kings 22:10**). It was here that Ezra read and explained the Law to the Jews in **Nehemiah 8:1, 3**. Legal transactions also took place here (**Ruth 4:1; Genesis 23:10, 18**), and it served as a marketplace as well (**II Kings 7:1**).

The process of the administration of justice was frequently referred to as "at the gate."

**What we see here is a picture of what a Church or a Kingdom Community is meant to produce. It is meant to be a place that causes a rip in the realms of the seen and the unseen. It is to be a place of interface, an access point between the dimensions of heaven and the dimensions of earth.**

**It is truly amazing how some movies portray these things so well.**

**Example: Stargate**

**Matthew 16:18**

***18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.***

You will notice that in this self same verse JESUS mentions some gates, and these gates of course refer to something similar but from a different side.

**It is important to notice that JESUS refers to both portals in this verse – what I mean is that JESUS refers to Peter’s interaction with heaven and also the fact that there will also be interactions with hell.**

In fact Peter in just a very short time after having an open portal with heaven, ends up having an open portal with hell!

**Matthew 16:21-23.**

***23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."***

**The building of any gate (Kingdom Community) will always usher in an existence of conflict, battle and pressure.**

**When JESUS spoke of building His Church, He spoke of developing and building up His people so they would be built to handle the existence of conflict, battle and pressure between these two gates.**

**It is noteworthy to also mention that JESUS equated building to the ability to interact with revelation from the unseen dimension of heaven.**

The senior leader’s role is to keep the gate open while Satan seeks to close the gate down.

**JESUS is always seen to be endeavouring to keep the gate open to the dimension of His FATHER.**

**He did this by asking questions...**

***"Who do men say that I the Son of Man am?"***

This provoked Peter to interface with the unseen dimension of heaven.

Every senior leader should imitate JESUS in this area – if the people are to grow, they need to learn how to interact with heaven.

**For this reason we ought to take a good look at how we conduct our gatherings – are we creating access points for the people to interact with the unseen dimension of heaven, or are we simply copying a pattern of ritual that is learnt from tradition but never orchestrated by GOD?**

**JESUS IS FAMOUS FOR ANSWERING THE DISCIPLES AND PEOPLE’S MANY QUESTIONS WITH MORE QUESTIONS!**

**Scott Webster teaches about Direct Revelation and Mediate Revelation.**

<b>Direct Revelation = Word of GOD, Internal voice, Audible voice, Dreams or visions.</b>
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<b>Mediate Revelation = Preaching, Prophetic word, Counsel/Interaction, Reading.</b>
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**Both Direct and Mediate are required for maturity.**

**Direct without Mediate = unhealthy independence.**

**Mediate without Direct = weak and dependent.**

If we as a Church Community want to keep our gates open, we need to have a healthy operation of both these areas in people's lives.

**Weak spirited and self – indulgent people will close the gates of a Church, this is why GOD's heart is configured in such a way that He wants to see an equalization of knowledge and development in people's lives.**

**This is my heart for 2008, and I am discussing strategy concerning it at a meeting with our senior leaders tonight.**

JESUS goes on to teach His disciples something immediately after Peter had both interacted with heaven and hell.

**Matthew 16:24-27.**

***24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.***

***25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.***

Here is a clear instruction from JESUS Himself that tells us how to keep the gates open to the unseen dimension of heaven and how to keep the gates shut to the unseen dimension of hell!

<p><b>Dying to the things of man and being mindful of and pursuing the things of GOD!</b></p>
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Our flesh still carries the fallen self nature and if this is not dealt with it will get into the thinking systems of our hearts and minds and will deny us our rightful interaction with the unseen dimensions of heaven.

The more we die and get rid of our thinking that has originated from the fallen self nature, the more we will see accurately.

We were all born into this world and assaulted and brainwashed by many things – even our culture, all kinds of advertisements and even wrong history and all this has caused in us many times a false personality. We often believe things about ourselves that are not in the word of GOD at all.

Once we die to ourself we begin our journey to discover our true self.

***Let there be a rip in the realms, an access point, a portal opened to the dimensions of heaven!***

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