

# Christians are God's House and Gate in the World

---

*Genesis 28:10-17*

- I. **Individually and corporately, we are the House of God.**
  - A. Jesus was the House of God made flesh on the earth and the fulfillment of Jacob's dream (John 1:14, 49-51).
  - B. As Jesus' Church, we are the House of God; and God dwells in us (I Corinthians 3:16-17; Ephesians 2:19-22; I Peter 2:4-5).
  - C. Individually, we are temples that carry God's presence and purposes (I Corinthians 6:19-20). We are the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14).
  - D. There is an open heaven over every believer.
    1. When we arrive, the House of God shows up. Like Jacob and Jesus, we are connected to the angels who are busy ascending and descending, carrying out their assignments to us and through us in the earth (Hebrews 1:14).
    2. This understanding accounts for the amazing comments Jesus makes about us in the Scriptures (Matthew 10:7-8; 21:21-22; John 14:12-14; Mark 6:37-38, 42-44).
- II. **The Church is now the gate of heaven for the world to know and experience God, foreshadowed by Jacob's experience (Genesis 28:12, 16-17; I Corinthians 3:16-17).**
  - A. A gate is a place of transition and access.
    1. God's people are the place where heaven meets earth (Matthew 16:13-20).
    2. Peter and the Church received power to bind and loose things on the earth.
  - B. Demonic principalities and powers have set up lying revelations and mindsets against God and humanity. They try to use human ideas, philosophies, and thought as transition points or gateways against God.
    1. Peter strayed into enemy territory with human thinking (Matthew 16:21-23).
    2. Our assignment is to be "Gateway People" who release God's authority on the earth through our prayers, words, and our works (Matthew 18:18-20; 10:7-8).
    3. The gates of hell are empowered when we do not take captive the devil's designs that set themselves up against the knowledge of God (II Cor. 10:3-5).
  - C. Ultimately, we are revelatory people, equipped by the Spirit to understand what God is doing on the earth (Acts 2:17-18; Matthew 4:4). We know both the Scriptures and the power of God (Matthew 22:29).
- III. **Character traits of the people of the House of God**
  - A. We are on offense, not defense. We are "normal" Christians who put themselves at risk, drawing on heaven's resources (Hebrews 11:6).
  - B. We love generosity, worship, and prayer; because they release supernatural blessings of God into the earth (Acts 10:1-6; Luke 6:37-38).
  - C. We garden our minds. Negative attitudes give the enemy a stronghold (I John 1:5-10).
  - D. Experiencing the love and presence of God is our highest priority and expectation. "We love, because He first loved us" (I John 4:19-21).
  - E. We release the power of praise and thanksgiving (Acts 16:25-26; I Thess. 5:16-19).

*Mike Hudgins  
April 21, 2024*