

Entering the City

A study on the Twelve Gates of the New Jerusalem

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Chapter 1

An overview and brief introduction

During the mid-1980's I felt the Lord was impressing upon me the need to look deeper into the concept of "the Tribes". This arose mainly out of a desire to understand why the Lord placed so much emphasis on the Twelve Sons of Jacob, and later on the Tribes that came from them. In particular I was drawn to the prophecies of Jacob over his sons as he prepared for his death (Gen 49:1-28). From these prophecies it was obvious that I needed to reflect on the prophecies that Moses spoke over the Tribes just prior to his death (Deut 33: 6-25). The study of these gave me insight to the personality of each son, and of the character associated with each Tribe, and how they relate to the Church today.

These truths have been compiled into this e-publication. The particular study notes you are reading now is a spin-off from the study on The Tribes. I concluded that if the Twelve Tribes had some truth to impart spiritually to us for today, then so too must the Twelve Gates of the New Jerusalem hold important insights.

Might I say from the beginning that this has nothing to do with the teaching of The Ten Lost Tribes, known more commonly as the Christadelphian Church, or sometimes, British Israelitism. Nor am I propagating the heretical teaching known as the "Manifest Sons of God" (also referred to as "Latter Day Rain" doctrine). You will of course find some common terms used in my publication (because after all they are Biblical terms) but my meaning is quite different in concept and approach.

My concern here is to highlight what I believe has often been overlooked; that the Lord has important End Time truths in the typology of the Gates of the Heavenly City. If we can understand the prophecies relating to the individual sons of Jacob, and then note how they were fulfilled in the nature of the Tribes that sprung from them, we will then see what the Gates of the Tribes tell us prophetically for the End of the Age.

Therefore a study on the Twelve Tribes and their prophetic meaning will give a solid background for the understanding of the Gates. I have been indebted to other ministries who have pioneered these concepts over the years, particularly Gwen Shaw of the End Time Handmaidens, and Kelly Varney of Praise Tabernacle. I do not accept everything these ministries teach, but there is much that is profitable in some of their insights in this matter. When I first came across these ministries in the 1980's my spirit was stirred to realize I had heard right from the Holy Spirit. I encourage you to be open to what the Spirit is saying to the Church in this day. *Peter McArthur, The Issachar Ministry.*

Please read this – it is important!

The order in which the names appear in this study are based on the sequence found in Gen 49:1-27 which refers to the **BIRTH** order of the 12 sons. The sequence there is quite different from the **TRIBAL** position of the 12 tribes as found for example in Numbrs 2:3-31.

The Gates under study in this manual are named after the **BIRTH** order of the sons. So when we come to assign a gemstone to these gates, I have followed what Kelly Varner and others have done, by giving these gates the stones according to the **BIRTH** sequence. This is done by looking at the gemstone order in Exo 28:17-20 and then aligning the names as found in Gen 49:1-27. However, this may not be entirely correct, as in Exo 28:21 where the High Priest's Breastplate is being referred to, the gems on that Breastplate are most probably depicting the **TRIBAL** sequence of names and not the **BIRTH** sequence.

A close comparison of Exo 28:10 and 28:21 will show why I believe this is so. Note the ending of each verse under discussion.

(Exo 28:9-10) **"Then you shall take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel: six of their names on one stone, and six names on the other stone, in order of their birth".**

(Exo 28:21) **"And the stones shall have the names of the sons of Israel, twelve according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, each one with its own name, they shall be according to the twelve tribes."**

This variation has caused some controversy over the years in regard to which gemstone belongs to which tribe. For an in-depth study of the issue see my epublication called "The Jewels on the High priest's Breastplate". To sum up: this study follows the order of the **BIRTH** of the sons and aligns the gemstones on the Breastplate to the sequence of birth. I feel that in regard to understand the 12 Gates of the City, this approach is a valid one.

However when dealing with the prophetic application of the gemstones on the Breastplate itself, it is better to follow what Scripture seems to imply; that the stones there are aligned with the **TRIBAL** order and not the birth order. May we have wisdom about this.

Chapter 2

The Text under discussion

Rev 21:1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea

Rev 21:2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God

Rev 21:4 "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.'

Rev 21:5 Then He who sat on the throne said "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me "Write, for these words are true and faithful.

Rev 21:6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts

Rev 21:7 "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

Rev 21:8 "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death"

Rev 21:9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife.

Rev 21-10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God

Rev 21:11 having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

Rev 21:12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel.

Rev 21:13 Three gates on the east, three gates on the north three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.

Rev 21:14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb

Rev 21:15 And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.

Rev 21:16 The city is laid out as a square, its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal.

Rev 21:17 Then he measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is of an angel.

Rev 21:18 The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.

Rev 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald,

Rev 21:20 the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst.

Rev 21:21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls. each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

Rev 21:22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

Rev 21:23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light

Rev 21:24 And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it

Rev 21:25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there)

Rev 21:26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it

Rev 21:27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life

Rev 22:1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb

Rev 22:2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Rev 22:3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him

Rev 22:4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads

Rev 22:5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

Rev 22:6 Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place

Rev 22:7 "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book

Rev 22:8 Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things

Rev 22:9 Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God '

Chapter 3

Important principles

The basic study principle we shall apply is **the First Mentioned Principle**. This operates on the understanding that the first time something is mentioned in a typological sense that definition applies throughout the rest of Scripture. For example "serpent" is first mentioned in Gen 3:1 and is a type, standing for the Devil. So from then on whenever "serpent/snake" appears in Scripture it will stand for a representation of the Devil. The exception is when the text clearly indicates by its context that the "serpent" is a natural one, and not symbolic.

Other principles in the studying the City and its Gates are:

Principle 1. The Twelve Gates are Twelve **EXPERIENCES** of God

Principle 2. Each Gate (Experience) brings us **PROGRESSIVELY** into more light

Principle 3. The City is a **PEOPLE**

Principle 4. There is **ONE STREET** in the City (one Walk in the spirit)

Note also these other important considerations.

1. The **CITY** of the New Jerusalem is a **PEOPLE** where the Lord **ABIDES** in His **FULLNESS**, that is the Church in **GLORY** and **PERFECTION** (Jhn 14:2 and 23 / 1:39 and 16 / Eph 2:19-22 / 2 Tim 2:20 / Heb 3:5-6 / Mtt 5:14).

2. The Twelve **GATES** are 12 **EXPERIENCES** which **PROGRESSIVELY** given by the Lord to bring us to **MATURITY**; the **NATURE** He desires for us to have abiding within by Christ and the Spirit. (Col 1:26-29 / 2Pet 1:1-4 / Gal 4:19 / 2Thess 1:10-12)

3. These **GATES** (note it is plural, meaning there are **MANY EXPERIENCES**) are 12 **ENTRANCES** into **INCREASING REVELATION** of God's ultimate purpose for us. See Rev 22:14.

a. The City was like **CRYSTAL** (Rev 21:11) - the color of **WATER** speaks of **TRUTH**

b. There are **NO SHADOWS** here no death or curse or fear

c. There is a **CLEARNESS** reality in the spirit realm the **NATURE OF GOD** Himself

d. God in man in His Fullness and Man in God in Fullness.

4. There is only **ONE STREET** of gold in the City, so this speaks of **ONE WALK** in the character and nature of the Lord. There is no short cut to this; it is through sharing Christ's sufferings (Isa 53:1 and Acts 9:11).

5. This is the **HOLY OF HOLIES**, the very realm of the City itself. Note it is a **CUBE** which speaks of **ABSOLUTE** and **TOTAL PERFECTION**. The same in **ALL DIRECTIONS** and all **PURPOSES**! (Rev 21:16)

6. Rev 21:14 speaks of the WALL with 12 foundations. The Wall is symbolic of the **PROTECTION** of God's abiding **PRESENCE**. No enemy can enter in here for it is **CLEAR** (transparent) meaning that no sin can hide, all things are **EXPOSED** and noticed. The enemy cannot hide in here! (Job 1:10 / Zech 2:5 / Jhn 14:30 / Psa 11:3)

7. In here Man becomes the **EXPRESSION** of God like unto Jesus (Heb 1:3). The New Age counterfeit of this is that we shall all become gods! (*The Lie* of Gen 3:4-5 and Rms 1:25 and 2 Thess 2:11) This is the **PURPOSE** of the Incarnation of Jesus.

8. The City is a **PEOPLE** who are expressions of the Lord. Note that we do not become God but are like unto Him = we **REST** in Him because God becomes all in all.

9. Note that the Scriptures say the Heavenly City **DESCENDS** out of heaven it comes out of the spiritual realm to the earthly. The **SPIRITUAL** (invisible) comes down to the **NATURAL** (visible) realm. Note how different this is from the common view that we leave the natural realm and **ASCEND** to the spiritual (although of course that is still a Truth)! **THE SPIRITUAL REALM IS COMING TO THE NATURAL REALM** The invisible is coming to the visible. Compare how this is symbolized by the Ark of the Covenant the wood is covered by the gold the inner meets with the outer (Rev 3:12 / Rev 21:2 and 10 / Heb 12:22-23 / 2 Thess 1:7)

10. The **MESSENGER** (Angel/Trumpet) a message that brings us close to **SEE THE CITY** clearly without preconceived doctrines. We now see by the Spirit, not by man's teaching. Rev 21:9 John didn't even have to ask, the City **WAS COMING** to man, not man going to the City! Note also that it is the **MAN IN THE SPIRIT** who is invited to come closer! Those in the flesh will not be invited to see. (Rev 4:1 and Rev 21:9). John is called to **COME UP** (4:1) but in 21:9 he is simply told to **COME**. When you are already in the Spirit you don't have to go up, only to **COME CLOSER**! See also that the Messenger brings the **KEY** to the revelation - it is a Trumpet/Prophetic ministry.

11. This City has God's **GLORY** His **NATURE** (Rms 3:23)

a. The Last Adam (Jesus) **DESCENDED** to deal with the nature of the First Adam.

b. The **LIGHT** of the City (Rev 21:11): there are no shadows only the **REALITY** here.

c. The Ark of the Covenant typology is here. The people cannot yet see the invisible realm but is shall be **MANIFEST** in all its (His) Glory (Heb 2:6-13).

12. Each of the twelve gates is a **PROGRESSIVE STEP** of our maturity, but also of the **COMING CLOSENESS** (the descending) of the City into the visible realm. Note especially the principle found in John 6:31-33 about the meal offering.

13. Each gate is a **PEARL**. Pearls are made from **DISCOMFORT**, **PAIN** and **STRUGGLE**. They are created at a **GREAT PRICE**, the fellowship of Christ's **SUFFERINGS**. The foreign substance, the grain of sand, is seen as an **ABNORMAL** growth - so too with Christians who desire to move into greater realms of the Spirit. We are regarded as 'abnormal' and often ejected!

See also these truths.

a. There is not just one experience of His sufferings, but **MANY** to endure.

- b. There is a **GRADUAL LOSS** of the old nature and a **GRADUAL INCREASE** of the new man as we are formed into the image of Jesus (Philp. 3:7-11).
- c. All 12 experiences will be **COSTLY**. See the principle in 2 Sam 24:24 of David.
- d. Do not expect others to either understand or appreciate your zeal and desire.
- e. The imagery of the **RUNGS OF JACOB'S LADDER**, an upward, step-by-step calling.

14. THE PEARL.

The Greek word is *margarites* (See the texts on Job 28:18/Mtt 7:6/Mtt 13:45-46/Rev 17:4/Rev 18:12 and 16/ Rev 21:21/1Tim 2:9).

Pearls are **CREATED** objects and come into existence only through a **FOREIGN DEPOSIT** of an **UN-NATURAL** and **FOREIGN** object. There is **PAIN** involved in its creation (Rev 12:1-5).

The oysters are found in **CLUSTERS** (Isa 65:8) and these are found in **THE DEPTHS** (Psa 77:19). The meaning is that we need to **GO DEEP** and **SEARCH**.

Note also that **NEW WINE** is found in **CLUSTERS** meaning that the spiritual tribes of today will also **GATHER** together: Jerusalem is **COMPACT** (Psa 122:3)

15. The ORDER of the 12 Gates (Rev 21:12-13).

The following order of Gates is based on Genesis Chapter 49.

(1) Reuben

(2) Simeon

(3) Levi

(4) Judah

(5) Zebulun

(6) Issachar

(7) Dan

(8) Gad

(9) Asher

(10) Naphtali

(11) Joseph

(12) Benjamin

Note the difference in order found in Numbers Chapter 2.

EAST GROUP Judah, Issachar, Zebulun.

SOUTH GROUP Reuben, Simeon, Gad.

WEST GROUP Ephraim, Manasseh, Benjamin.

NORTH GROUP Dan, Asher, Naphtali.

Now compare the difference again in Ezekiel Chapter 48 (and compare Rev Chpt 21. Pay attention to these groupings).

Reuben, Judah, Levi on the **NORTH**.

Joseph, Benjamin, Dan on the **EAST**.

Simeon, Issachar, Zebulun on the **SOUTH**.

Gad, Asher, Naphtali on the **WEST**.

16. See also *Deut Chpt 33 and Gen Chpt 49*. Consider delving into the deeper meanings of the inter-relatedness of the Tribes and their different sequences in the above passages. Further study on the principles involved in the sequences of the Tribes will bear much fruit.

Chapter 4

Verse by verse commentary on Revelation chapter 21

VERSE 1

See Heb 12:26-29

"Saw" in Rev 1:10 / 4:1 / 21:9

"New" = see 2 Cor 5:17

"Passed away" = compare Rev. 18:14 where it is the same word as "depart".

VERSE 2

"City" = See Mtt 5:14 and 35 / Heb 11:10 and 16 / 10:5 / 12:22-24 / Gal 4:26 / Rev 3:12

"Bride" = See Eph 5:31-32 / 2 Cor 11:2 / Rev 21:9-10

"Adorned" = The Greek word is "to put in order, to arrange". It is the same word found in Mtt 25:7 where it is translated "trimmed". In 1 Pet 3:5 it is "adorned" and in Rev 21:19 it is translated as **"garnished"** = Note it is **FOR** her husband!

VERSE 3

"Dwell" - the same word is found in Jhn 1:14. Compare Rev 7:15 / 2 Cor 6: 14 – 7:1
God is coming to **DWELL WITH MAN!**

VERSE 4

"No more death...sorrow...crying...pain" = no more curse.

"Pain" is the same Greek word as in Rev 16:10-11 which reveals the **SOURCE** of pain. Also see Rev 12:23 and John 16:21.

VERSE 5

"Write" = a command to enter the Ministry for this day and hour (see Heb 8:10 / Hab 2.1-3 and 1Jhn 2:12-13).

VERSE 6

"Omega" = Note that the Bride is **INCLUDED** in the Omega of Rev 22:17. Then compare Heb 12:2 and Jhn 7:37-39.

VERSE 7

"**He that overcomes**" = Note the **SEVEN PROMISES** to the Overcomer in Rev 2.7 and 11 and 17 and 26-28 / 3: 5 and 21 and 21.

The "**all things**" found in Rev 21:7 refers to these **SEVEN PROMISES**!

VERSE 8

"**Fearful**" - i.e. "cowards"

"**Liars**" = The same Greek word as "false witnesses" / Acts 6:13 and Rev 2:2 / 22:14f

VERSE 9

"**Angels**" = "messengers" a **MESSAGE** for us that we might take **ANOTHER LOOK** at the City, as in Ezek 40:1-4 and 43:10-12

VERSE 10

There are not **TWO** Brides: the Church (or perhaps End Time **ISRAEL?**) is the Bride, and the **CITY** is the Bride = the People of God have come to **PERFECTION** and **MATURITY**.

"**Carried me away**" - the same as Rev 17:1-3; note that John saw **BOTH** of the **WOMEN** (plural) by the **SPIRIT**.

"**Mountain**" = Mount Zion (Heb 12:22 / Mtt 5:14 / Psa 125:1) compare David's Tabernacle.

"**Shewed**" = the same Greek word as in Heb 8:5 / Rev 22:1 and 8 / compare Mtt 16:17

"**Descending**" = the same word for "come down" as in Mtt 8: 1, plus "descend" found in Mk 15:32 = note these parallels.

VERSE 11

"**Having**" (the Greek is "echo" = **POSSESS** or have in possession". It is the **REALITY** of experience. Knox in his translation calls it "clothed in God's glory" / cf. 1 Cor 15:44-49.

"**Glory**" = **HIS NATURE = HIS TRUTH = THE CITY OF TRUTH!** All truth, pure truth / Jhn 1:14 / 17:5 and 20-24 / Rms 8:17-21 / 2Cor 3:18 -47 / Eph 4:13 / Heb 1:3.

"**Her light**" **TRUTH** (Mtt 5:14) Compare the study of the Seven Spirits of God and the Branch of the Lord)

"**Like**" = His image (1Jhn 3:1-3)

"**Unto**" = **TIME** word (Eph 4:13)

"**A Stone**" (see Dan 2:1-35 and 44-45). This verse alone is worth more study.

"**Most**" = the Most Holy Place (Exo 26:33-34). Trace this word through the New Testament and see the insights that come from it.

"**Precious**" - same as in Jms 5: 7 / 1Cor 3:12/ 1Pet 1:7

"**Jasper**" See Rev 4:3 / Note that the Jasper-stone is **LAST** in Exo 28:17-20 but it is **FIRST** in the New Jerusalem, Rev 21:19 ! The Last shall be first. See also notes on the Tribe of **NAPHTALI** later in the study.

"**Clear as crystal**" - (See and study this in Exo 24 10 / Rev 21 : the **PAVED WORK**). Also see song of songs 2:17 / 6:10 / Jer 48:11 / Rev 22.1 // Ezk 1:22. It is the color of **WATER** (Jhn 7:37-39 and 16:13).

It speaks of the **WALK OF PERFECT UNION IN THE HOLY SPIRIT**, a walk in **ALL TRUTH** God lives in a 3-roomed House/ Temple: Spirit..Mind...Body.

VERSE 12

"**Wall**" = the **IMMUNITY** of His wonderful **NAME**. A **HEDGE** and perfect **PROTECTION** from **ALL** enemies His **NATURE** (See Rev 3:12 / Zech 2:1-13)

VERSE 13

"**Gates**" - See Ezek 48: 31-34

VERSE 14

"Foundations" - See Eph 2:20

VERSE 15

"Measure" refers to the SPIRITUAL **CONDITION** of that which is to be measured.

VERSE 16

"Measured" = a **CUBE** speaks of absolute perfection the same from ALL directions and every vantage point compare the truths of the **HOLY OF HOLIES**. Also see Eph 4:13.

VERSE 17

"144,000" - the number is 12 x 12 and speaks of **PERFECT ORDER**. The **WATCHMEN** on the WALL of Isa 52:7-15 / also see Rev 14:1-5.

"Man"- 1Cor 13:8-13 / Eph 4:13

VERSE 18

"Gold" = His **NATURE**, untarnished

VERSE 19 and 20

"Precious stones" speaks of **GIFTS, GRACES**, and the **OPERATIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**. (Gen 24:53 and Prov 17:8)

VERSE 21

"Street" = a **PERFECT WALK** in the **NATURE OF GOD** (Acts 9:11 / Isa 35)

"Transparent" = "appear, be seen, shine through in the Greek it is the same as "dawn" found in 2Pet 1:19. (Also see Exo 24:10 = Christ is **REVEALED!**)

VERSE 22

"Christ in you" has now become "YOU IN CHRIST" = we are **ONE** with the Lamb (See Jhn 17:21) but He still remains Lord and Exalted.

VERSE 23

We have now moved from the **SHADOW** into the very **REALITY**.

Carnal symbols have passed away as the **TRUTH** makes us **FREE!** Amen!

Chapter 5

The First Gate

REUBEN

"The NEW BIRTH"

PRINCIPLE: Each Gate is a **MANIFESTATION** of the **NATURE** of God that is **WITHIN** us by reason of the New Birth. Therefore each gate is an **EXPERIENCE** and **EXPRESSION** of God's Nature.

1. REUBEN (Gen 29:32) = "Behold / See, a **SON!**"

The **SON**; speaks of Salvation. Our experience begins here!

2. This first gate speaks of the experience of the **NEW BIRTH** It is an **IMPARTATION** and a **DEPOSIT** of the very nature of God = the divine nature **AS A SEED of LIFE**. The divine nature is in the form of a **SEED**.

Take note. this is NOT New Age teaching that believes we become gods and are him!
Some in the "tabernacles" movement have sailed close to the wind in this matter and have brought confusion and deceit. Beware of where the line is drawn!

3. See Lk 1:34-35 / 15:10 / 1Pet 1:23

James 1:18 = the Father of **LIGHTS** and **SPIRITS** / we are **LIKE** our Father

Jhn 1:1-14 and 3:1-8 = be a **KIND**, a species.

We will produce what we ARE, not what we speak or teach = a "graft", which is the purpose of the New Birth; firstfruits of His **NEW CREATION**.

4. Emphasizes the ministry of the Holy Spirit as He draws an individual, and brings him to the place of **REPENTANCE** and **FAITH**.

Jhn 6:44 / 16:8-11. Note the concept of a natural **STILLBIRTH**. Eccles 3:2 and 6:3-7

5. The First Adam had a **BEAST NATURE** = it "birthed" sin through the fall. Contrast this with a study of the **LIFE-GIVING SPIRIT** of the Last Adam (the seed of the Life of God).

6. This marks the **BEGINNING** of our salvation experience. The **BEGINNING** of the descent of the New Jerusalem into the visible realm. This new nature can be **SEEN**.

7. NOTE: This six-fold **DESCRIPTION** of the New Birth.

a. **BIRTH** = the very beginning of new life (Heb. 12:9); it brings forth life.

b. **CLEANSING** = First washing of a priest (Titus 3:5 / an Old Testament type). "He that is washed/bathed" (Jhn 13:10)

c. **QUICKENING** = The spirit is made alive unto God. See Eph 2:1 and Jhn 5:24

d. **CREATION** = By the spirit (2 Cor 5:17). See Psa 104:30 / Eph 2:10

e. **RESURRECTION** = From the death of sin (Deut Chpt 28). See Rms 6:4-10 / Jhn 5:24 / 11:43-44 = salvation and baptism are linked!

f) **TRANSLATION** = From one Kingdom / Dominion into another = from Darkness into **LIGHT**. See Col 1:12-13/ 1Pet 2:9-10

8. PLEASE TAKE NOTE. See Jacob's prophecy concerning Reuben found in Gen 49:1-4. There is a good study to be made of looking at **ALL** the prophecies relating to the 12 Sons.

At the New Birth we receive these "implants" of Might, Strength, Dignity and Power! These are given at Salvation = stature begins here!

a. **FIRSTBORN** (Rms 8:29 / Heb 12:22-24)

b. **MIGHT...STRENGTH...DIGNITY...POWER**. These are the four aspects of the **DIVINE SEED** (the God- given potential) that is in us through the New Birth in Christ Jesus.

c. **UNSTABLE** (Jms 1:6-8 / Eph 4:14-15)

d. **EXCEL** "just over or to exceed" **OVERCOME!**

e. **UP** (in pride and lust in Gen 35:22). Note: Bilhah means "old, troubled, confused New converts are often joining themselves to this attitude see also 1Chron 5:1-2

These last three (c, d, e,) are characteristic of a new Christian / unstable, not grown up yet. The point we are making is "Don't stay in this condition"!

9. Compare Deut 33:6

10. The **FOURTH** stone on the Breastplate = **EMERALD** = note the DROP of three positions from birth! This Emerald stone is blood red = to "show blood" / we cannot approach God without the blood

NOTE the following points.

a) ALL the sons of Jacob **MOVED** from their position of **BIRTH** either by **RISING** or **DROPPING**.

b) This shows us that we cannot remain in the same position and also that the position of BIRTH is NOT the important principle. It is rather where we **END UP** in the final position in relationship to both the Father and the Brethren that counts.

c) We cannot in this study delve into all the prophetic understandings of the Sons; however see my study on THE TWELVE SPIRITUAL TRIBES for further insight.

Chapter 6

The Second Gate

SIMEON

"The HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM"

1. **SIMEON** (Gen 29:33) = **HEARING** / "he who hears and obeys with acceptance" (lit).

Our ear needs to be **PIERCED** like the doulos slave.

Note the Greek word for "obedience" is Hupakoe under (hupo) to hear (akouo) so we **COME UNDER** or are to **LISTEN** to what we hear.

The principle as found in Lk 6.47 is that we **COME** and then we **HEAR** in order to **DO** It is a "missionary" verse; "come" before you "go" (to the nations)

2. This gate speaks of the experience of the **BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT** (infilling). Many Christians stop here but note that there are another ten gates yet. ALLELUIA!

This gate enables us to **HEAR** the Holy Spirit; it is the **KEY** to hearing.

3. This experience really begins to move you from **TRADITION to TRUTH**. Here you really begin to **HEAR** what the Lord is saying **NOW!** This is why the modern Pharisees fight this truth so hard, because if you hear from God you will discern them!

4. An **EAR** for **HIS** voice (See Jhn 10:1-10)

5. **CRYSTAL CLEARNESS** (Water) of **ALL TRUTH = CITY of TRUTH = LIBERATED** by Truth (Jhn 8:32 / 14:26 / 16:13 / Rms 8:14)

6. This experience unlocks a **NEW UNDERSTANDING** of the scriptures. See Jhn 6:63 / 1Thess 1:5 / 2 Tim 3:16. We need HIM in 2Pet 1:20-21.

Prov 1:22-23 / move from Reuben to Simeon (from Salvation to Holy Spirit Baptism)

7. Speaking in **TONGUES** Acts / 8:21 / 9:17 / 10:46 / 19:6

Note that it is Tongues **PLUS** Prophecy **AND** Praise! Not just the usual Pentecostal teaching that Tongues **ALONE** is the evidence. Scripture shows us 3 evidences with tongues the common denominator.

8. NOTE. Gen 49:5-7 / this shows the **RESULTS** (the **CHARACTERISTICS**) when one **STOPS** at this gate.

This happens to whole Fellowships which choose to go no further than the Pentecostal experience.

a. CRUELTY = "violence, injustice" wrong dealing / damaging / false (See Psa 25:19 / 27:12 / 71:20 all the same word).

b. IN THEIR HABITATIONS = home or church. Saints in Church, Devils at home!

c. SECRET = "consultation, counsel" (See Psa 64:2) Also Gen 34: 30 and the whole chapter. Deceit in Holy Spirit believers becomes a stench to outsiders! Note the account found in Gen 34.13-16 and vs 25 and vss 30-31.

d. ANGER = "breathe hard"

e. SELFWill = "delight, please, or satisfy the self"

f. CURSED = (Rms 8:1-2)

g. DIVIDE = "separate" (Nmbrs 2:13 / 26:14)

h. SCATTER = "dash or shake to pieces; to disperse, break in pieces (Nmbrs 25:14)

9. There was no word given to Simeon in Deut Chpt 33.

10. The **FIFTH** stone on the breastplate = **SAPPHIRE**.

(Compare: Song Sol 5:14 / Exo 24:10 / Ezek 1:26 / Isa 54:11 / Lam 4:7 where "polishing" means "cut off and divide" SEPARATION).

Note the **DROP** of three places!

Sapphire stone symbolizes **SPIRITUAL HEARING**.

A TRUTH: If you STOP at the Second Gate (Holy Spirit Baptism) you will **DECREASE** just as the numbers of this Tribe decreased in the wilderness wanderings (by 50%) !

Chapter 7

The Third Gate

LEVI

“Our SPIRITUAL MINISTRY”

REMEMBER THE PRINCIPLE: Each Gate is a **PROGRESSIVE EXPERIENCE** to enter into, leading to **FULL STATURE!**

1. LEVI (Gen 29:34) = "**UNION**" twined, joined, adhesive, cleave, attached.
This **UNION** is the **SECRET** of Ministry union with God by the Holy Spirit.

2. This Gate speaks of the experience of **SPIRITUAL MINISTRY**, through the Gifts of the Holy Spirit,

The **PURPOSE** of Holy Spirit Baptism is for us to become a "minister" of the Spirit Himself =do we go to church to get ministered to, or to **MINISTER**?!

3. There is a **VERTICAL UNION** with God in the spirit and there is a **HORIZONTAL UNION** with the brethren by the Spirit.

Note 2Cor 5:16 (especially in the Amplified Version)

Films and movies depict Jesus as the **MAN**. We should see Him rather as the **CHRIST** (without of course denying His man-ness, His humanity).

4. This is **NOT** natural or fleshy Fellowship. It is **NOT** fleshy worship which is a result of us walking in the **FLESH** outside of the church atmosphere and meetings (See 2Tim 3:7).

This explains why there is often **NO GROWTH** development, or **CHANGE** in many Spirit-filled Christians.

We are to know one another by the **SPIRIT** not by the flesh or soul, otherwise we can't go through this Third Gate.

5. A study on the word "**KNOWLEDGE**" would be very fruitful.
Knowledge = **UNION** = Love relationship.

6. We don't come to meetings to be ministered to, but to **MINISTER** unto Him and to one another. See Mk 10:45 and Jhn 13:1-5.
We do not come to church just to have "a good time" or to be entertained, as so often is the way of much in the Western church today.

The **LEVI GATE** means we are to **GROW UP** and to begin to **MINISTER**.

Remember that "*Delay is a form of denial*".

7. We are a **MINISTERING** Body (1Cor 12:13).

PRINCIPLE: Each singular one has to be healthy and right, in order for the whole to be effective.

a. Many **BOARDS** (Exo 26:15-30 / Eph 2:19-22) - the Five Fold Ministry.

b. Many **STONES** (1Kgs 6:7 / 1Pet 2:5) - "living stones".

c. Many **TEETH** (Song Sol 4:2) - teeth are LIVING things; the **BAD** tooth makes you feel its disease!

d. Many **CRUMBS** (Mk 7:24-30 / 1Cor 10:17) - one bread, many crumbs.

- e. Many **JOINTS** (Eph 4:16 / Col 2:19)
- f. Many **FLAMES** (Exo 25:31-40 / Mtt 5:13-16) - many lights.
- g. Many **GRAPES** (Isa 65:8) - new wine is found in the **CLUSTER**!
- h. Many **SOLDIERS** (Joel 2:1-11 / 2Tim 2:1-4)
- i. Many **GRAINS** of salt (Mtt 5:13-16) - one shaker; many grains of salt.
- j. Many **CLOUDS** (Mk 13:26 / 14:62 / Rev 1:7) - the Saints; see Joel 2:2.

8. EACH ONE is a **JOINT OF SUPPLY** (Eph 4:16 / 1 Cor 12:7, 11-12 / 14:26). Everyone does not minister in **EVERY** service, but stands **READY** to when the Spirit moves them.

9. NOTE Gen 49:5-7. Compare the thoughts we gave under the Gate of Simeon and apply them to Levi. All those things applicable to stopping at the Gate of Simeon, also apply to this Gate. Even in churches that move in signs and wonders, you can still find cruelty, wrath, anger, etc (Gen 49:5-7)

10. NOTE the difference of change in **SIMEON** and **LEVI**:

a. **SIMEON** = Gen 49:5-7 unto **NO** word given in Deut Chpt 33 (Compare also Nmbrs 25:14)

b. **LEVI** = Gen 49:5-7 unto Exo 32.26 and the **PRIESTHOOD**.

See too Deut 33:8-11 / Moses didn't prophesy re Simeon, because of the sin of a Simeonite in Nmbrs 25:14.

Notice that Simeon **FAILED** but Levi **CHOSE** to move on! Levi **CHOSE** to be on the Lord's side. we need to **MAKE A CHOICE** to move into spiritual ministry.

11. There was *NO* stone on the breastplate for Levi because they were a **PRIESTS**.

12. NOTE some of the "nuggets" about Levi:

- a. Designated as a Priesthood (Nmbrs 17:1-8)
- b. Sanctified for the LORD'S purpose (Deut 10:8-9)
- c. Covenant of Levi (Mal 2:1-9)
- d. Praise (1Chron 16:4 / 2Chron 5.12 and 8:14)
- e. Increase (Isa 66:15-24 / Jer 33:17-22)
- f. Degrees of ministry (Ezek 44:9-31)

NOTE: a tremendous study is involved with this Priestly Tribe. It is of special interest to note the transition of Levi from the time of Moses to the time of David.

Chapter 8

The Fourth Gate

JUDAH

“To be a RESPONSIBLE PRAISER”

PRINCIPLE: After you enter the first 2 gates (Salvation and Holy Spirit Baptism), it's then up to YOU to grow further! There's a real **TESTING** upon us after passing through Gate 2, how much do **YOU** want to move on?

1. "JUDAH" (Gen 29:35) to praise, revere, or worship with extended hands.

Judah was always the first tribe to move in the desert wanderings, and always lead the others into battle.

2. This gate speaks of the experience of **PRAISE** (confidence, faith, trust in God) coming from the nature of **JESUS CHRIST** within us through the New Birth He grants us. This actually defeats discouragement.

3. There is a **JUDAS** ("praise") that **BETRAYS** the Lord Jesus = that is, praising from the **MIND** or **TALENT**. Soul-music is a **JUDAS** that will **BETRAY** the Lord;

a. The **NATURAL** mind = mental assent to the Word.

b. The **NATURAL** ability = talent used to impress men.

4. Real praise doesn't come from the Mind, but from the **BELLY** (Jhn 7:37-39). When this **LION** of the tribe of **JUDAH** begins to **ROAR** from within you, the **POWER** of praise is released to heal, deliver and to set free! (Prov 28:1 / Amos 3:8). Song and Praise leaders shouldn't act like "cheerleaders"! That is "soul" not spirit.

5. NOTE: there are 4 kinds of New Testament **WORSHIP**:

a. **VAIN** worship insincere (Mtt 15:7-9)

b. **IGNORANT** worship sincere (Acts 17:23)

c. **WILLFUL** worship cheerleader (Col 2:23)

d. Worship in **SPIRIT AND TRUTH** lifting up our heart with our hands (Jhn 4:23-24 / Lam 3:40-41).

6. True praise DESTROYS:

a. Babylon = "confusion" (Rev 18:20 - 19:3)

b. Every prison = place of limitation (Paul and Silas in Acts Chpt 16).

7. NOTE Gen 49:8-12

a. Verse 8 = preeminence; overcomer; rulership of Psa 149:6-9.

b. Verse 9 = three stages of the growth of a LION; the whelp lion = Thanksgiving; then the young lion = Praise; and last the mature lion = Worship. These are the 3 stages in a Praiser's life!

c. Verse 10 = rulership; ministry of law of God, unites, brings together.

d. Verse 11 = abiding in union with Him; a study of the "winepress" (=Joy) would be helpful. (Isa 5:1-2)

e. Verse 12 = vision saturated with wine = eyes red with wine. You cannot be moved = wine and milk. This shows what we have been drinking = teeth have no stains.

8. NOTE there is a four-fold blessing found in Deut 33:7

1. God will hear his voice

2. God will bring him to his people

3. His ministry will be sufficient for him

4. God will defend him against his enemies.

9. Judah's was the **FIRST** stone found on the High priest's breastplate = a **SARDIUS** (this stone is pliable).

It is the color of **RED** / ruddy like David. The color of **WINE** or of **BLOOD** (See Rev 4:3)

Note the **RISE** of three positions from Judah's birth.

10. A separate study of this Tribe is suggested.

Chapter 9

The Fifth Gate

ZEBULUN

“Being PART OF THE BODY”

1. “ZEBULUN” (Gen 30:20) = Habitation (to be desired) from the root meaning in Hebrew to "inclose, reside" or "dwell with" = a **BASE** (like Eden); a **DESIRED HABITATION**.

This gate is for us to come to an awareness of **BEING PART OF THE BODY**. It stresses the importance of belonging to the local assembly of the Saints. Those who pass through this gate will have a richer appreciation of the local Church.

2. This gate speaks of the experience of an **IDENTIFICATION** with the Body of Christ. In a more specific sense, identification with an expression of the Body on a **LOCAL** level.

In this experience we are to leave the individual realm, and our thinking changes from "I" to "us". We need to get away from thinking "MY money, MY church, MY ministry, etc

Satan can only be defeated by a **BODY** not an individual!

3. The Church is the Body of Christ. We are the **DWELLING PLACE** of God. We are **HIS** place of **REST**!

a. HABITATION (Eph 2:19-22) = we are God's habitation!

b. TEMPLE (1) The Greek word "hieron" (used in the Gospels and Acts to denote the NATURAL literal building in Jerusalem). (2) The Greek word "naos" means "LIVING TEMPLE" or "INNER SANCTUARY" (used in ALL the epistle references except 1Cor 9:13.) See Eph 2:21 / 1Cor 3:16-17 / 2Cor 6:16 / and especially 2Thess 2:4

c. TABERNACLE (Rev 21:3) The New Jerusalem is a Tabernacle!

d. HOUSE (Jhn 14:1-3 / 2Tim 2:20 / Heb 3:6) God's House.

e. SANCTUARY = 'Holy Place' (Heb 8:2)

f. BUILDING = "Edifice" (1Cor 3:9 / Eph 2:21)

g. MANSION = Greek word is "mone" and means ABODE or DWELLING PLACE (Jhn 14:2 and 23).

NOTE the three-fold principle throughout Scripture:

HOUSE : TABERNACLE : SANCTUARY
LAND : CITY : TEMPLE.

4. You will sense Zebulun coming forth when you want to be with your brothers and sisters more and more. You will want increased teaching, deeper fellowship, etc. If you are concerned about spending money on yourself, more than spending it on the Lord and His

Body, you haven't passed through this Gate yet!

This is **CORPORATE LIFE** and not **INDIVIDUAL LIFE**. There is no life by myself! (Psa 68:6 / Rms 14:7)

5. Get to know the **FAMILY** and the **CITY** that you are going to live with for eternity! **BODY LIFE** = I in you and you in me and we in **HIM**.

6. This is more important than the **NATURAL** life of the **NATURAL** family. Many will find this teaching difficult to accept. (Lk 14:26 / note that this must be **BALANCED** and **CLARIFIED** otherwise cultish aspects may arise).

7. This identification with the Body flows from a **NEW NATURE** = our **MOTIVATION** matters a lot!

8. NOT every Christian is flowing in this realm of **BODY LIFE**. The New Birth in Christ (Salvation) of Gate One deals with the PAST not the present or the future. Many teach that the Cross sorted all our future out. It did not. The Cross dealt with sin and the penalty of our sin. We are to "work out our salvation with fear and trembling".

9. Examples of the principle of being **BODY-MINDED** are. Pray for others' healing and you too will be healed. Give to the needs of others and your needs will be met (Prov 11:25).

10. Let this gate always be **OPEN** (Deut 15:7-14 / change "land" to "church" to get full meaning of this passage for us today).

11. NOTE. Gen 49:13

a. "**Dwell**" = stay put in training; learn about sailing **BEFORE** you sail. Nazareth is in Zebulun's territory and Jesus **WAITED** (Mtt 4:13-17 / Prov 25:8). Nazareth was a **BASE** for Jesus' own preparation. Thirty years preparation for a three and a half year ministry!

b. "**Haven**" = the local Church; you identify in a refuge before you become one that gives life to others.

12. NOTE the prophecy of Deut 33:18-19 and compare with the **ISSACHAR** (Gate 6).

13. Zebulun's stone was the **THIRD** on the breastplate. It was a **CARBUNCLE** stone. He rose **SEVEN** positions from birth because of a desire to walk in this principle.

Chapter 10

The Sixth Gate

ISSACHAR

"Our ministry is NOT FOR HIRE"

PRINCIPLES TO REMEMBER about the gates so far:

a. Each gate is an experience and a step in our **MATURITY** in the Lord

b. Each gate gets **PROGRESSIVELY NARROWER!**

c. We cannot **MAKE** these experiences happen; they **UNFOLD** as you press in on the Lord.

NOTE that Issachar alone has a story relating to his conception. Why? (Gen 30:14-17)

1. "ISSACHAR" (Gen 30:18) = "Reward, hired, payment of contract, compensation, benefit, price, wages, worth".

2. This gate speaks of the experience **THAT WE LOVE OUR MASTER** and that we **CANNOT BE BOUGHT** Rather we are **BOUGHT BY THE LORD** and therefore cannot serve another master. We are under contract (Covenant) to **HIM** and He has exclusive rights to us!

Many have invested themselves in denominational systems; they have sold their birthright". Issacharites however cannot be bought and refuse to sell their birthright and soul. They refuse to lie with the Harlot Church!

3. Many owe their "life" to the system. Only after our experience at the Zebulun Gate and its understanding do we really face **TEMPTATION** and **TESTING** to accept temporal "bribes" rather than eternal rewards.

Do not let others manipulate or control you at this Gate; neither man nor system.

4. Jesus returned in the **POWER** of the Spirit after being tested in the three areas of 1 John 2:15-17 (See also Acts 1:8 and Luke chpts 1 to 4).

5. We refuse to lay with the Harlot Church system (Prov 7:6-27). Here are some of the characteristics of the Harlot (denominational church) system:

1. Flattery - Rev 7:5
2. Darkness – Rev 7:9
3. Lies in wait - Rev 7:12
4. Seeks you out - Rev 7:15
5. Is "rich, has wealth" - Rev 7:16
6. Seduces - Rev 7:21

Note these examples of those who refused to be bought and lie with the Harlot:

1. **JOSEPH** - Gen 39:7-23
2. **MOSES** - Heb 11:24-27
3. **DAVID** - 1Sam 20:24-25
4. **JESUS** - Jhn 6:15

6. If we cannot be bought, then what is our reward?

- a. The **LORD** - (Gen 15:1) - first mention
- b. The **OPEN REWARD** - (Mtt 6:4, 6 and 18)
- c. **NO ABUSE** of the Gospel - (1Cor 9:18)

7. Many think that they are going "over yonder" to heaven, among other things, to receive their reward. This could be difficult in the light of Rev 22:21! The expectation of many is that our reward is waiting for us in heaven - but Jesus is bringing it **WITH HIM** !

8. Note Gen 49:14-15

a. "**strong ass**" = an animal of great usefulness and worth in the Word. It has **POSITIVE** characteristics. Regarded as **WISE** and noble in the Middle East, not as a dumb animal as in the West. A beast of **DIGNITY** according to Scripture.

b. "**crouching down**" = strength in humility. Note that it is **COUCHING**, and not laying down. In readiness, not sleep or laziness.

c. "**between**" = balance of the following truths.

d. "**two burdens**" = the **LOST** and the **SAVED**; and the **FALSE CHURCH** and the **TRUE CHURCH**.

e. "**saw**" = vision of **FULL STATURE**.

f. "**rest**" = full stature, the **HABITATION** of God.

g. "**land**" = the promise (Eph 4:13)

h. "**bowed**" = as a servant (Jhn 13:1-5)

i. "**shoulder**" = used his authority to bear burdens and not create them; speaks of **GOVERNMENT**.

j. "**became**" = the true nature of **SONSHIP** is that of a **SERVANT** (Jhn 1:12)

k. "**servant unto tribute**" = the Greek word **DOULOS** (servant) means a "voluntary love-slave unto death". In other words, do not to be concerned with your reputation.

9. There are three attitudes toward **SERVING GOD**:

a. "What can I get from God?" = for **HIRE** = little children.

b. "What can I do for God?" = burden **BEARER** = sons.

c. **NO APPARENT REWARD** = Faithful in all things = fathers.

The attitude of the heart is what counts here.

10. As a **PRISONER OF LOVE**, we are **FREE** to do as we **WANT** or **DESIRE**.

This is the principle: I am free to do whatever I want, but I don't want to...or desire to do... to do anything that does not bring pleasure to HIM (Exo 21:1-6).

11. Note the prophecy in Deut 33:18-19

12. Issachar has the **SECOND STONE** on the breastplate. It was an **AMETHYST** (some translations have "Topaz"). This stone speaks of **ROYALTY**, and especially of "balance and poise".

He was the 9th son in the natural, but **ROSE** seven positions from his birth.

Chapter 11

The Seventh Gate

DAN

"Speaks of **PURE JUDGMENT**"

By now the gates are getting narrower - and the footsteps get fewer! This Gate speaks specially to those who are called to **RULE** the Church; **ELDERS**. Elders must "judge" themselves before they can judge the Church; they need to be **PROVEN**.

Notice that **ISSACHAR** (cannot be bought) comes before **DAN** (= pure and righteous judgment) so that the Elders will not judge out of bribery, seduction, etc they are to judge

only from a **PURE** and **RIGHTEOUS** judgment.

1. "**DAN**" Gen 30:5-6) = "**Judge**; umpire, execute judgment, minister judgment". Compare ADONAI = "*the lord master or rule*"

2. This gate speaks of the experience of **PURENESS** and of **RIGHTEOUSNESS** in judgment flowing from within to produce **LIFE** in others.

The **OLD NATURE** can do nothing but minister death and condemnation.

The **NEW NATURE** can do nothing but minister life.....there is NO condemnation in Christ Jesus (Rms 8:1-4)

3. We should ask ourselves this question: "Who is **QUALIFIED** to judge?" The answer is. "Only the Eldership"

There are too many Christians giving advice, and too many Christians running around seeking advice from too many sources. This is not to say you can't approach other believers for help, advice and prayer, but Biblical Counsel should only come from the Qualified Eldership

4. Jesus did not say **NOT** to judge in Mtt 7:1-5; He told us **HOW** to judge (Jhn 7:24). Here in Jhn 7:24 the word "judge" means to *select, choose, to resolve, to discern to examine*.

Judgment is **PAST, PRESENT** and **FUTURE** There is a people being judged **NOW!** The Lord is really dealing with the **MOTIVES** of ministry until we **LOVE** righteousness and **HATE** iniquity! This is what Jewish Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) is really about.

5. NOTE the **BASIS** of this righteous judgment (Psa 96:13). It is to be a righteous judgment, not a **HASTY** one!

a. It is NOT based on our good or bad experiences. Many say "*MY experience has been such and such, so God has to deal with others the same way!*" This is not true, for He will always **CONFOUND** the **PHARISEE** in us!

b. The BASIS of this judgment is **BEING LED BY THE SPIRIT** (Rms 8:14). We are to **KNOW HIS VOICE**.

c. God's judgments are unsearchable! We must learn to judge each situation **DIFFERENTLY**, and not fall into the pattern of going by "knowledge" in the matter. (Job 38:1-2 and 18-23 / 40:1-5 / 42:1-6 / 1Cor 2:9-15 in Amp).

Treat each situation as **DIFFERENT** and **NEW**. Jesus only did what He saw the Father do! **EXPERIENCE** is "sense" knowledge, and can be dangerous. Righteous judgment is **SPIRITUAL** judgment, and can be trusted.

NOTE Gen 49:16-18 (especially for Leaders)

a. "**as one of**" = not overlords (1Pet 5:3)

b. "**serpent**" = this stresses **WISDOM** (Mtt 10:16 / 1Jhn 3:14). Jesus AND the devil are a serpent and lion!

c. "**added**" = the Hebrew word is "**SNAP AT**" (also "*twist; thrust out the tongue*") other renderings of this are in Gen Chpt 49 "overwhelm break bruise" a result of the **MINISTRY** stopping at this Gate (Psa 58:4 / 140:3). Ministries who stop at this gate become **CRITICAL** and **DESTRUCTIVE**; they twist and snap at people, and their wisdom gets **PERVERTED!** We will either break the enemy or the saints! We will bless on this path....or become a **MENACE** causing others to **BACKSLIDE**.

d. "waited" = for HIS answer; Heb is "bind together, collect; gather together, expect, look patiently, tarry, wait for." (See Psa 40:1-10 / Isa 25:9-12 / 26:7-9 / 33:2 and 5-6).

6. Note the prophecy of Deut 33:22 : Boldness needs wisdom. In Genesis Dan was a **SERPENT** (wisdom) but in Deut he's a **LION** (boldness). Dan's was the **TENTH** stone it was **BERYL** ("subdue or break") a hard, transparent stone (See Song Sol 5:14 / Ezek 1:16 / Rev 21 :20)

7. Dan **FELL** five places from the position of his birth (those who **CRITICIZE** shall fall).

Chapter 12

The Eighth Gate

GAD

"We are PREDESTINED TO BE SONS"

We are now **two-thirds of the way** into the City! When we **CHOOSE** to enter Gate number 8 nobody will have to tell us how to walk, how to dress, how to talk etc. No one has to tell a Son about his position - he **KNOWS** it! When we glimpse the truth that God has a plan for **US** we'll forget our problems.

1. "**GAD**" =(Gen 30:9-11) "**TROOP** or **GOOD FORTUNE**" *...to crowd, assemble by troops, army, band of men armed and prepared.*

2. This gate speaks of the experience of **PREDESTINATION**, that is, an experiential **KNOWING** of our being in the **TROOP OF SONS** that has ever been in the **BOSOM** of the Father.

3. Predestination is not meant to be a **DOCTRINE**, but an **EXPERIENCE** that causes us to **KNOW** that we were in God's **MIND, PURPOSE** and **BOSOM** even before the foundation of the world

We have been **SET APART** and **SEPARATED** and our lives have been **PRE-PLANNED** in His wonderful foreknowledge. Even though we have been predestined to come into our calling and ministry, it is not automatic. **WE** must want to walk through this Gate.

4. This **TROOP** is a many-membered **SON** (corporate) that has been the desire of the Father (Rms 8:28-29 / Gal 4:1-6 / 1Jhn 3:11-3 / Jhn 1:12).

Note that the word "**PRE-DESTINATE**" from the Greek means.

a. From two words "to determine before; something that has been determined beforehand".

(1) "**pro**" = before; (2) "**horizo**" = set a boundary.

b. Rms 8:29-30 / Eph 1:5 and 11 (same as "determined" in Lk 22:22 and Acts 17:26)

5. There is a **THREE-FOLD KNOWING**.

a. ginosko = to know **BY EXPERIENCE** as in 2Pet 3:18 / Jhn 8:32 and 17:3.

b. epignosko = to know **FULLY** (plus **REVEALED KNOWLEDGE**) Lk 24:31

c. hoida = to know **ABSOLUTELY**, we **BECOME** knowledge. Heb 8:11

6. John 13:1-5 the pattern for this **TROOP**. We come from the Father's bosom.

7. Note the Greek word "**PERSUADED**". It's meanings are - **(a)** "assurance" confidence; to believe. A definite knowing; having faith in Truth. **(b)** Acts 21:14/ Rms 8:38-39 / 2Tim 1:12.

NOTHING CAN TURN US BACK = this is now the **POINT OF NO RETURN!** (Eph 4:19 / 1Tim 4:2) **NO** stumbling block, and **NO** offences! (Acts 20:24 and Psa 119:65)

Once you're at this Gate you are entering the place where you will never fall: but it takes 8 gates to get there!

8. NOTE Gen 49:19.

a. "overcome him" = some defeats; overcome or be overcome; to rule with Christ you must first rule your own spirit. Gate 8 is for overcomers; "overcomes" is found 8 times in the book of Revelation it's a revelation by the Holy Spirit.

b. "at the last" = in this battle, it is the **END** result that counts....see 1Chron 5:18-20. This is that experience of being aware and knowing that we will arrive at **HIS** full stature! We **SHALL** overcome the issues of life; sometime, somewhere we shall overcome!

9. Note the prophecy of Deut 33:20-21 and compare it with 1Chron 12:8 and 37-38. In Deut 33:20-21 there are three characteristics of those at Gate 8:

1. Men of war
2. Those who could keep rank
3. Had a loyal heart

10. Gad has the **SIXTH** stone on the breastplate, and it is a **DIAMOND**. Note Jer 17:1 / Ezek 3:9, You need to be **HARDENED** like a diamond is, in order to hold onto this truth.

Jer 17.1 = the Lord will raise up a **TROOP** that will pin-point the sin of the Church = and only a hardened, enduring ministry will do this = Gad!

Gad experienced a **RISE** of one position from his position of birth

Chapter 13

The Ninth Gate

ASHER

"To be **CONTENT** in all circumstances"

PRINCIPLE: Each gate is a **PEARL** (Rev 21:21) = this is a costly, painful, and gradual unfolding of the Lord in us. Being content in every circumstance will **STUN THE WORLD**. The eight earlier gates are steps that lead to **DELIVERANCE** from worry and anxiety.

1. ASHER (Gen 30:12-13) "**HAPPY**, to be level or straight or right; to go forward; be honest; prosper; **BLESSED**."

2. This gate speaks of the experience of being **CONTENT** in whatever life throws at us. This is manifested by **WORSHIP** in every circumstance. This is not gritting your teeth while

quoting a few "faith" scriptures; it flows from a **NATURE** deep within. If this doesn't flow (super)naturally, then it's not really within us at all! "Worry" is a sin because it manifests itself in **UNBELIEF**.

3. This inner **NATURE** cannot be **BOUND** or tied down. Paul wrote from **PRISON** remember. (2Tim 2:9-13 / Phlp 4:6-10 = joy and peace!)

4. This nature will flow even while hanging from a cross. Jesus was anointed with more **JOY** than any other (Heb 1:9). Yet the common paintings of Jesus on the cross show Him to be a sad figure.

We need to know what it will **COST US** to follow Jesus - then we will have **CONTENTMENT** because we're not surprised what is likely to befall us, even death.

5. "I cannot be destroyed, for **I AM**". On the way to the cross Jesus said "don't weep for me, but for yourself".

6. We endure EVERY testing that comes our way. (Job 1 What a place to be spiritually!

7. NOTE Gen 49:20.

a. "**out of**" = **MINISTRY** (Prov 15:15). At this gate a **MINISTRY** shall come forth.

b. "**yield**" = **TO GIVE** (See Lev 26:4). A "giver" is a happy person, "worriers" are takers.

c. "**dainties**" = "delicacies, pleasures, delights". Joy will come forth to others **WHEN** you give of yourself.

8. NOTE Deut 33:24-25.

a. "**children**" = multiplication of blessings; there must be a **REPRODUCTION** of this contentment.

b. "**brethren**" = who envy him; the brothers envied him.

c. "**dip**" = "dip or plunge" (same as in 2Kgs 5:14) -walk in the anointing; saturate yourself in the anointing; carry the anointing to others.

d. "**iron and brass**" = judgment and strength (1Chron 12:36).

9. Asher had the **ELEVENTH** stone on the breastplate. It was the **ONYX** stone (see Gen 2:12 / Exo 28:9 and 39:6 shoulders speaks of government and rulership).

God wants Asherites who are content and willing to rule. NOTE that the **SHOULDER STONES** on the high priest's shoulders were made of Onyx stone! Onyx is a **FLESH** color (Jdgs 5:17) and is **PRECIOUS** (Job 28:16 / 1Pet 1:7).

Note that Asher FELL three places from the position of his birth. That is the result of **REFUSING TO MINISTER** this life (anointing) to others. Asher refused to go to war. That is, the tribe held back their Ministry, and so denied Jacob's prophecy to "go out" (Gen 49:20)

Chapter 14

The Tenth Gate

NAPHTALI

"Being an OVERCOMER, and PREVAILING"

REMEMBER: The "City" is a **PEOPLE**, we are to come to know the brethren amongst whom we will dwell for all eternity. This gate is number **TEN** & in Scripture that number means **TESTING, RESPONSIBILITY**.

1. "NAPHTALI" (Gen 30:7-8) "WRESTLING" from a Hebrew root word meaning "to twine or struggle".

Remember that there is a **CARNAL** fleshy wrestling, and there's a **SPIRITUAL** wrestling. Many get these two mixed up and call God's work the devil's, and vice versa! Wrestling in St. Paul's day was usually **TO THE DEATH** hence why he uses it so much in regard to our spiritual growth. There are 2 natures within us fighting.

2. This Gate speaks of the experience of **BEING AN OVERCOMER** who is releasing the **CREATIVE WORD**. Please note there is a vast distinction between "releasing the Creative Word" scripturally speaking, and doing what cults, the New Age, the Occult, or even some "christian" ministries teach! It is NOT the same.

3. The pattern for this is seen in Gen 32:24-32

- a. "**left alone**" = meeting God face to face (Gen 32:24) - note that Jacob was **ALONE**.
- b. "**a man**" = God was the aggressor. Jacob had been running from God for 20 years, so God initiated the struggle!
- c. "**until the breaking**" = the Old Nature. Something in Jacob had to give way.
- d. "**day**" = the rising of the "*daystar*", Jesus coming forth in His children.
- e. "**touched**" = same as "*smote*" in KJV Job 2:7 and "*smitten*" in Isa 53:4 (Uzziah). We don't need "a **TOUCH**" but we do need to be **SMITTEN**.
- f. "**hollow of his thigh**" = that which the Old Nature produces is always **EMPTY**.
- g. "**I will not let thee go**" = "overcoming" God by refusing to release Him. Note that Jacob was **BOLD** to take the initiative / see Jabez in 1Chron 4:10.
- h. "**what is thy name?**" = name speaks of **NATURE**; they are linked.
- i. "**Jacob**" = *supplanter, deceiver, phoney, hypocrite*. When God asked Jacob his name, he finally was honest before God (after 20 years) and spoke his true nature, Supplanter!
- j. "**Israel**" = *prince with God*; his new name.
- k. "**prevailed**" = now is an **OVERCOMER**.
- l. "**Peniel**" = *face of God*. This is the place where we have to be willing to **FACE** God.
- m. "**sun rose**" = a **NEW DAY** and a **NEW WALK**; these two go together!
- n. "**halted**" = a **distinct WALK** of the overcomer.
- o. "**shrank**" = see Jhn 3:30 / the Old Nature must **DECREASE** so that the New comes forth. After the New has come, **DON'T TOUCH** the old again!

4. Note that Jacob "overcame" God by refusing to stop at the 10th gate **BOLDNESS** to take hold of the inheritance. "Let me know *YOUR* name.. *YOUR* nature.. NOW we can produce a **BENJAMIN!**"

Benjamin came forth only after a struggle, and he came forth of our a NEW MAN, no longer "Jacob" but now called "Israel"!

5. There is a **NEGATIVE** side to Naphtali:

- a. Born as a result of sister wrestling enviously against sister strife between the brethren. Wrestling against **FLESH and BLOOD** (Eph 6: 12) will cause us to **FALL** from sixth place to LAST! (Prov 16:32 / 25:28)
- b. The same mother as **DAN** (meaning to "*judge*" / Dan fell from 5th place to 10th!). Bilhah means "*timid, fearful, old and confused, troubled*" (Gen 49:21).

This system (traditional denominations) will always produce in-fighting!

6. NOTE Gen 49:21

a. "**hind**" = female deer. The root Hebrew word means **STRENGTH** or **MIGHTY MAN** (see Job 39.1 / Psa 29.9 and 18:33, and the title of Psa 22 / Prov 5:19 / Song Sol 2: 7 and 3:5 / 2 Sam 22.34 / Hab 3:19 / Jer 14:5).

b. "**let loose**" = "*send forth, shoot forth, or sow*" (same word as in Lev 14.7 and Job 30.11 where the "bridle" is Eph 4:11)

c. "**goodly**" = *glisten, made fair, acceptable, beautiful*. See Deut 32:1 / Job 6:25 / Psa 19:14 / 138:4 / Hose 6:5). "*Goodly words*" is in fact the old way of saying "Godly speech". Jacob's "words" came out of his Old Nature, but now he is re-named, and so his speech changes! This is true of us also.

7. Note the prophecy in Deut 33:23 where Naphtali is commanded to "**POSSESS**" ("*occupy by driving out the previous tenants*".)

8. His is the **TWELFTH** stone on the breastplate and is a **JASPER**. (see Rev 21:11)

9. He was born in 6th position but ended up **LAST** The principle is simple: if you fight your brother or sister you will **FALL**!

Chapter 15

The Eleventh Gate

JOSEPH

"The PRESERVER of LIFE"

PRINCIPLE: The more we go Into the City the more dedication is required.

1. "**JOSEPH**" (Gen 30:1-2 and 22-24) = "**LET HIM ADD**" or "*augment, continue to do a thing*". Also from Gen 41:45 = "abundance of life".

Joseph was "**SENT AHEAD**" to preserve life (and family), hence he is a type of Jesus. He can also stand for the End Time saints who will be pathfinders and pioneers into greater realms of the Spirit and so preserve "life" in the Body.

2. This gate speaks of the experience of **BEING A PRESERVER OF LIFE** to others (and to family). We shall liken **BOTH** Joseph and Benjamin to what is called the "**100 fold**" who constitute a **FIRSTFRUITS COMPANY**.

3. Note this brief analysis of Gen chapter 37 through to chapter 47:

Chpt 37 - **Favored**; a vision of the throne, misunderstood and **persecuted by his brethren**, favored by the father.

Chpt 39 - He **refused the harlot** and was **imprisoned**.

Chpt 40 - He **interprets the dreams** of the butler and baker; **was content** in his circumstances (Like Gate 9, Asher).

Chpt 41 - Pharaoh's dream interpreted; he is then **EXALTED** to 2nd place in the kingdom; God has a ministry for us that will answer man's needs.

Chpt 42 - Joseph **tests** ("proves" KJV) **his brothers**.

Chpt 43 - Benjamin, the **full brother**.

Chpt 44 - The cup in Benjamin's sack; **hidden**.

Chpt 45 - Joseph **reveals himself** (and God's plan) to his brethren.

Chpt 46 - **God reveals Himself** to Jacob.

Chpt 47 - Joseph **nourishes his family**, places them "in position" and **subdues the land**.

He saw beyond the present-hour into the Throne Room - this speaks of the Feast of Tabernacles where '**LIFE**' is found. Joseph is a **PRESERVER OF THIS LIFE!**

4. For further reading on the themes expounded here do some private study on: Psa 105:16-23 / Acts 7:8-15 / Heb 11:22 / Exo 13:19 / Josh 24:32.

5. Note these **PRINCIPLES** about Joseph:

a. Gen 37:3 He is a Son of the Last Days; **COAT** (=royalty; birthright) of 7 colors (=rainbow; 7 spirits of God) given by the **FATHER** He received his coat **ONLY** because of the Father's favor.

b. Gen 37:4 Was hated and envied by his **HALF-BROTHERS**, for they did not share his vision of the throne. Jesus also was misunderstood by his half-brothers.

c. Gen 37:5-10 He was a **DREAMER** of the throne! His brothers hated him for his dreams **AND** his words. Notice he had dreams at harvest time and about the harvest End Times harvest dreaming!

d. Gen 37:23-24 He was stripped; made a prisoner in the pit. There was only one way to look -up!

e. Gen 37:31 He was a **SCAPE GOAT** (speaks of Shame). Can you bear the reproach that will come with dreaming?

f. Gen 39:5-12. He refused the **HARLOT**, he loses his **REPUTATION** he is stripped a **SECOND TIME** and put in prison. We have to refuse the false church (harlot) and probably lose our reputations.

g. Gen 39:20-23 He was made a **KEEPER** in the prison = you can't stop a dreamer! Even in prison Joseph prospers.

h. Gen 40:5-23. Here he interprets dreams.

i. Gen 41:1-13 Note that everything is done by his **WORD** Verse 13 - "he" refers to Joseph not Pharaoh. Joseph is in control. Compare Elijah in 1Kgs 17:1 (this is also the theme of Gate 10).

j. Gen 41: 14 He was **SHAVED**; his **THIRD** stripping cleansed and accepted!

k. Gen 41:15-39 Joseph has **ALL THE ANSWERS** wisdom abounds. He is 30 years old (vs.46) the age of **SONSHIP**.

l. Gen 41-40-46 He is **EXALTED TO RULERSHIP**, and from this position is able to **FEED THE PEOPLE** (Nation).

m. Gen 42:25-28 Joseph begins to feed **THE BRETHREN**; a "father" figure, apostle-like.

n. Gen 45:1-13 He is now **REVEALED** to his brethren.

6. Note. Gen 49:22-26

- a. vs 22 - well of living waters; ministry
- b. vs 23 - hated by other archers (ministries)
- c. Vs 24 - Joseph **WON'T MISS** (pierces the heart)
- d. vs 25 - blessed by God; six blessings; abundant blessings will flow from this End Time company
- e. vs 26 - **SEPARATED** from his brethren; a special relationship to God.

7. Note the prophecy in Deut 33:13-17. There is too much there to note specifically, but one is impressed with the word "**PRECIOUS**". Also note the use of the words "**HORNS**" in verse 17 as we compare that with "**HORNS**" in Rev 5:6 GALL power and authority) and the ministry of a **COMPANY** of sons who are energized by the 7 spirits of God (=FULLNESS of the spirit).

8. Joseph received a **DOUBLE PORTION** in his two sons:

- a. EPHRAIM = "*doubly fruitful*"
- b. MANASSEH = "*causing forgetfulness*"

See Deut 33:17b / Gen 41:51 and Chpt 48.

9. Joseph **ROSE** a total of **SEVEN** places on the two stones of the breastplate

- a. Ephraim = **SEVENTH** stone = **LIGURE** (Amber)
- b. Manasseh = **EIGHTH** stone = **AGATE**.

Joseph was born number 11; in his two sons he rose from 11th position to 7th, and 11th to 8th; a total of **SEVEN** positions. A separate study on Ephraim and Manasseh is suggested for personal profit.

NOTE: In the last days of Israel's Life (i.e. Jacob) JOSEPH came forth. So too in the last days of the Church's life another Joseph, JESUS will come (again).

FURTHER TRUTHS from this Gate.

The "Joseph" company is like the Joshua generation (3rd Company of End Time saints). His **HALF BROTHERS** wouldn't accept him because of his visions and dreams. The principle here is; "don't tell your dreams to your half brothers" (Prov 11:13) because they will rise up against you and try to take your soul/life.

It's important to notice that here were **THREE STRIPPINGS** of Joseph:

- a. He was stripped of his **COAT** of many colors = **30** fold stripping = this will happen in the Outer Court if you tell them your dreams.
- b. Stripped of **CLOTHING** by Potiphar's wife = **60** fold stripping = the harlot system will try to seduce you, and imprison you.
- c. Stripped of his **PRISON CLOTHING** = **100** fold stripping = the king will send for you and you will be cleansed to appear before him.

The **SECRET** of these **THREE STRIPPINGS** was another coat, his **INNER COAT** (the Inner Man) of character. The "inner coat" will bring you through the three "outer strippings", and bring you to the Throne.

Chapter 16

The Twelfth Gate

BENJAMIN

“The FULL BROTHER on the throne”

1. “BENJAMIN” (Gen 35:16-20) = **“SON OF THE RIGHT HAND”** (Rev 3:21).

We started with Reuben (=“*behold a Son*”) and finish with “Son of the Right Hand” - This is a **LONG** road!

2. This gate speaks of the experience of **SITTING WITH HIM IN THE THRONE** as a **FULL** brother. This would include the **ADOPTION** and our coming into the **FULLNESS** of His stature

3. JOSEPH = JESUS = our ELDER BROTHER. “*He shall ADD*” another son! (Rms 8:29)

4. A wonderful study could be made of LEAH and RACHEL:

a. **LEAH** = *law, bondman, old order*

b. **RACHEL** = *grace, free-woman, new order.*

Rachel stands for the True Church; she **PREVAILED** in hard labor to bring forth the **LAST SON** (the End Time church) - see Rev.12:2.

5. NOTE the typology of **JOSEPH** representing **JESUS**, and the similar pattern:

a. Removed Rachel's (Israel/Church) reproach (Gen 30:23)

b. Sold for pieces of silver

c. Went to prison (grave) and came forth out of prison

d. Became the bread of life and was exalted to the right hand of Pharaoh / Father (Gen 41 : 43)

6. BENJAMIN = SON COMPANY

(1) Gen 35:16-20

a. Some will want to call you “*sorrowful*” (Gen 35:18)

b. The Father however will call someone to be a **“BENJAMIN”**!

c. Rachel = the Church in travail (Rev 12:2)

d. Ephrath = “*fruitful*”

e. **MIDWIFE** = prophetic ministry that assists in the birth; deals with the flesh and a “*cutting away*” (Exo 1:15-22). Preserved **LIFE** on the earth during the time of Pharaoh's **WRATH**.

f. Rachel **DIED** in bringing forth (Gen 35: 18).

g. “*Weep with me!*” **NO** for I will **RULE!** = stick to **YOUR OWN** calling.

(2) Gen 42:3-4

a. Hidden away and preserved by the Father; the Benjamin company at the End of the Age will be kept, preserved and hidden by the Father.

(3) Gen 42:20

a. Verifies the Word; preserves life.

(4) Gen 43:1-3

a. He won't see Joseph's face without Benjamin; Benjamin and Joseph need to **"MEET"** one another! So too the End Time church!

(5) Gen 43:1-6

a. A banquet is prepared and provided for the brethren.

(6) Gen 43:29-30

a. Joseph's desire; at first.. Benjamin doesn't know Joseph because he had not had a **CUP** (=authority; perfection through suffering) in his sack yet. Joseph **KNEW** Benjamin and wept for his coming forth! Jesus will weep when the End Time church comes forth!

(7) Gen 44:1-2

a. **"MY CUP"** = Mk 10:35-40 / Rev 3:21 (a "cup" hidden in our sack!). "Cup speaks of 'authority' as well as 'perfection'".

b. **"SILVER"** = a redemption of the BODY and a redemption of Creation as well.

c. **"CUP"** = perfected through suffering.

(8) Gen 45:22 (See also Gen 43:33-34)

a. Eph 4:11 = to **CHANGE** and to **CLOTHE** you. The Five Fold Ministry will take us from change-to-change until the "robe" of perfection is complete! Humility will be paramount for this Ministry lest it becomes proud and arrogant in the carrying out of its calling.

b. Benjamin eats 5 times (Compare Jhn 4:34)

c. Compare the 5 stones for the 5 giants of the 5 natural senses (1Sam 17:40 / 2Sam 21:15-22).

(9) **NOTE** that there were two men of the Tribe of **BENJAMIN**

a. **SAUL**, king in the Old Testament = the beginning of **Kingdom**

b. **SAUL (PAUL)**, of the New Testament - revelation of **Sonship**.

(10) **NOTE** also Gen 49:27

a. **"ravin"** = "tear up" = swallow the flood mentioned in Rev 12:16. The Benjamin company will "help" the Church, that is, guide, protect, teach, etc.

b. **"devour the prey"** = in a **NEW DAY**. morning = the **EIGHTH DAY**.

c. **"divide the spoil"** = ministers at **NIGHT** (Isa 60:1-5 / Rev 21:23-24). During the Tribulation night.

d. **"wolf"** = **FIERCENESS** is tamed = fierce (rule) and pliable (mercy)

7. Benjamin was the **NINTH** stone on the High priest's breastplate. It was a **JASPER** (sometimes translated as "Amethyst"). Notice that the "Jasper" stone was the **LAST** on the breastplate, but **FIRST** on the foundation of the New Jerusalem (Rev 21:19).

"The first shall be last, and the last shall be first". He had a **RISE** of three positions from his birth.

8. Note that Benjamin was the **ONLY** son born to "Israel" (= "prince with God") after he had **CHANGED**. Gen chpt 32 marked a change of **NATURE** for Jacob, now re-named "Israel".

Joseph was the **END** of the **OLD NATURE** and now Benjamin has come forth in the **NEW NATURE**. End of the "soul" and "carnal flesh" church, and the birth of the "truly spiritual" church.

Chapter 17

POINTS TO REMEMBER

When studying the Gates of the Heavenly Jerusalem, it is good to reflect on what "present truths" come from understanding these gates. At the start of this study I mentioned that there were at least four principles that govern the study of the gates; these are.

1. The Twelve Gates are twelve **EXPERIENCES** of God.
2. Each Gate or Experience brings us **PROGRESSIVELY** into more (but not new or "extra") revelation.
3. The Heavenly City is in fact a **PEOPLE**, the End Time mature Church.
4. There is only **ONE STREET** found in the City and this speaks of One Walk as far as spiritual issues go.

Some other principles to bear in mind having done the study are:

- (a) The Spiritual realm **COMES DOWN** to this natural realm
- (b) We are to prepare ourselves by becoming **MATURE** in spiritual things
- (c) We will be held **ACCOUNTABLE** for the revelation we receive, and what we do with that revelation; whether we act on it or not
- (d) The Spirit is calling us to **HUMILITY** in these days
- (e) We will need to gather together as **SPIRITUAL TRIBES** respecting one another's calling and being "compact like Jerusalem" (Psa.122:3)
- (f) Jesus will **COME IN** His Church before He comes for it.
- (g) Entering these Gates / Experiences is a **CHOICE** we have to make.

The greatest hour is just ahead! Read the Songs of Ascent (Psalms 120-134) to get feel for what the Spirit is doing in these days to bring us through many experiences in preparation for attaining our Full Stature!

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