

STANDING AT THE GATE

Pastor Steven L. Shelley · October 14, 2001

Three times before Tuesday night, twice since then, I have stood at a gate, a beautiful gate. A gate that was not wide open, but a gate that was closed. The last time I saw the gate was just yesterday. And the gate that had been completely closed four times was now partially, part of the way opened, as though it had just sort of swung on its own. It was just opened a little bit, not a whole lot.

I've been able to see this beautiful gate that was standing before me. And in the vision I've been able to look past the gate, beyond the gate, and know that I was looking into the very spiritual Kingdom of God.

But the thing that baffled me the most in this vision was... Although there was a slight desire for that which was beyond the gate, for that peace that I could see in the Spirit on the other side of the gate. The thing that has stayed in my mind until I can't erase it, I can't seem to get away from it at all, was the desire to stand by the gate.

You know, when you see a door that's partially open, you feel the desire to go through and see what's there. When you look and you know that you're seeing into the Kingdom of God, any believer in his right mind would want to push through the gate, and go and inhabit that.

I knew in my heart that everything beyond that gate was mine. I knew that it was mine. And I had a strange feeling that I had seen all of that before. And I knew that it belonged to me. It was my inheritance. It was my possession.

But this great overwhelming feeling was, “I have positioned you here. There is a burden for you to be here. ” That pull, and that pressure that I was to stand there at that gate, and not go in to enjoy that which was on the other side. But for such a time as this, it was time to stand by the gate.

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"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Hebrews 13:8