

Enter His gates
By Pastor Anison Samuel

***Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!***

***Psalm 122:2
Psalm 100:4***

Thanksgiving in Hebrew is not an emotion. It is very vocal because thanksgiving is an expression. The Bible says when you give thanks, you are publishing his good works. You are announcing the good works of the Lord. There is a voice associated with thanksgiving. Its not in the psychosis of your mind where you have a certain reflection or maybe a contemplation of what God has done for you. It has to come out as a voice .

Enter the gates with thanksgiving. Why do you have to enter with thanksgiving? Let's address this particular theme from 3 connotations or points of reference.

1.Point of a pilgrim's approach: In those days, worship was stationary or localized. People worshipped God in their homes, but God had chosen a particular place where they were required to go three times a year to worship God. That place is Jerusalem. As they walked to this place in groups, they could come under attacks of the weather, nature and other things. But their hearts were excited. They went through all sorts of difficulties to see God and worship Him in Jerusalem. And finally, they saw the gates of Jerusalem. Their hearts would skip a beat and get arrested in the glorious sense of finally being there. And when they saw the gates of Jerusalem, they started to give thanks to the Lord. The gates to Jerusalem is a path that goes higher in terms of its elevation. These pilgrims, when they saw the gates from far, were in anticipation. They could not keep quiet. They would remember of all the difficult trails and rugged terrains that they had to walk through to finally arrive. We all are pilgrims on this earth. One day we will see through the gates, the One who sits on the throne.

2. Point of worship: The only reason they were entering the gates was for worship. Stand in the gate of the LORD's house, and proclaim this Word there, and say, "Hear the word of the LORD, all you men of Judah who enter these gates to worship the LORD." Jeremiah7:2, Hebrews 12:12 There are angels in the presence of the Lord. We need to learn how to walk in the presence of the Lord and to honor god's presence.

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,
Hebrews 12:22

3. Point of prophetic fulfillment: What happens when you enter through the gates?

1. There will be peace within your walls and prosperity within your palaces. (Psalm 122:7)
2. When you enter through the gate to worship God, you forget who you are. There is only one who is great. His name is Yahweh. (Psalm 48:1)
3. Great is the Lord greatly to be praised in the city of our God! Worship will make you beautiful .