

It's difficult for me to know where to start with the gateway material. I have made a number of attempts, but all look wrong. So I have just decided to start where I was led to start some years ago, and let readers make their own journey through this unusual material.

The beginning

Five years ago, I felt that the Lord was calling me to go much more deeply into intercession, so with two other Christians, we started the “Still Waters fellowship,” where we committed ourselves to listening to what the Lord was saying, and then acting on it.

It was a much harder experience than we expected. We had to learn about holiness, purity and sacrifice. These are hard disciplines, and none of us found it easy to absorb them into our lives. Others joined us, but the weight of the struggle proved too much for some, and others never understood what we were really trying to do. In the end, just a few of us carried on. We struggled, but slowly worked out a framework for listening and obeying the Lord. We found that he was often making his will and his way plain to us, and the more we responded, the more he spoke to us. Then one day, he spoke to us about Istanbul, and his word was very simple – “Go there.”

Istanbul

Istanbul has been a crossover of the world for at least 3000 years. Money, trade, religion and politics have flowed through this gateway. Asia meets Europe, and the East meets the West, as goods are transported along the Bosphorus, either to the Black Sea or the Mediterranean Sea. Spiritual issues have dominated Istanbul, from its foundation by Constantine, through the Crusades and the Muslim conquest. Still today, trade and religion strongly influence this city. Could it be possible that Istanbul is also a spiritual gateway – a place where spiritual issues flow through and into the world? Are spiritual things more clearly perceived in such places? Are there other such places? Plenty of questions, but few answers. I turned to the Bible, to see if I could get a better understanding of what the Lord was saying.

Biblical gateways?

I had an idea – now I wanted to find the foundation before I went any further. I wanted to see if I could catch a glimpse of any gateway in the Bible.

*** Isaiah and Sennacherib**

When Sennacherib threatened Jerusalem, Isaiah saw this for what it was – a spiritual flow threatening God’s sacred space. He turned it back:-

“Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent a message to Hezekiah: “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: I have heard your prayer concerning Sennacherib king of Assyria. This is the word that the Lord has spoken against him.” “That night the angel of the Lord went out and put to death a hundred and eighty-five thousand men in the Assyrian camp. When the people got up the next morning—there were all the dead bodies! So Sennacherib king of Assyria broke camp and withdrew. He returned to Nineveh and stayed there.” (2 Kings 19)

Sennacherib was a wave of evil – and Isaiah could not let it penetrate the Jerusalem gateway. So he acted to defend the gateway.

*** Isaiah and Babylon**

Isaiah did not relax his vigilance, but Hezekiah did. He welcomed envoys from Babylon, and showed them everything in the Temple. Isaiah saw this for what it was – a serious invasion of the gateway of Jerusalem. He was quick to respond, but unfortunately, too late.

“At that time Merodach-Baladan son of Baladan king of Babylon sent Hezekiah letters and a gift, because he had heard of Hezekiah’s illness. Hezekiah received the messengers and showed them all that was in his storehouses—the silver, the gold, the spices and the fine oil—his armory and everything found among his treasures. There was nothing in his palace or in all his kingdom that Hezekiah did not show them. Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah and asked, “What did those men say, and where did they come from?” “From a distant land,” Hezekiah replied. “They came from Babylon.” The prophet asked, “What did they see in your palace?” “They saw everything in my palace,” Hezekiah said. “There is nothing among my treasures that I did not show them.”

Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of the Lord: The time will surely come when everything in your palace, and all that your fathers have stored up until this day, will be carried off to Babylon. Nothing will be left, says the Lord. And some of your descendants, your own flesh and blood, that will be born to you, will be taken away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon. (2 Kings 20:12-18)

Hezekiah clearly did not appreciate the gateway in which he lived.

Isaiah did, felt the flow, and saw what had happened. It had disastrous consequences.

*** Daniel and Persia**

Daniel gives us a powerful insight into a gateway, with his struggle to be heard in the heavenly places.

“I, Daniel, was the only one who saw the vision; the men with me did not see it, but such terror overwhelmed them that they fled and hid themselves. So I was left alone, gazing at this great vision; I had no strength left, my face turned deathly pale and I was helpless. Then I heard him speaking, and as I listened to him, I fell into a deep sleep, my face to the ground. A hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. He said, “Daniel, you who are highly esteemed, consider carefully the words I am about to speak to you, and stand up, for I have now been sent to you.” And when he said this to me, I stood up trembling. Then he continued, “Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come.” (Daniel 10:7-14)

This is an amazing insight into the gateway. Daniel prayed, but the enemy hindered the prayer in a way we do not fully understand. The Lord had to send an angel to battle with the “Prince of Persia”, and after a time the battle was won and Daniel received his message. Is this how the gateways work? The Spirit ebbs and flows, and the spiritual battle ebbs and flows. We have our part to play, and so does the Lord. The enemy is, as always, seeking to spoil, hinder and obstruct. By our diligence and the Lord’s commitment we can overcome – or presumably not, if we fail to pray and stand in the gateway. What Daniel experienced was, I believe, a classic gateway experience. This, or similar, is happening in the world gateways all the time. We must be able to detect these movements, and move with them, if we are going to pray effectively in the gateway.

* Gethsemane

Gethsemane offers us a New Testament gateway experience.

“Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.” He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.” An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. (Luke 22: 39-46)

This is an interesting gateway experience, and again in Jerusalem – which is probably the major gateway of the spiritual world. In Gethsemane, the enemy attacks the very heart of the obedience of Jesus, which is to do the Father’s will. It is a key point of attack, and one which he has tried before, but not with such intensity. The struggle is fought out in the gateway, and becomes so intense, that Jesus has to be strengthened by an angel from heaven. In many way, this is Hezekiah’s experience again – the enemy wants to be inside the gateway, because from that point, he can cause serious damage to God’s purposes. Unlike Hezekiah, Jesus stands firm, the gateway is not damaged and victory is achieved.

Visiting the gateways 1: Istanbul

With the little knowledge I had gathered, I set off for Istanbul. When I had arrived and settled in, the journey began. I have tried to describe it as it unfolded to me, and I hope that these notes will help others who want to trace my footsteps.

The Istanbul gateway

When we had settled in Istanbul, we visited Hagia Sophia (Ayasofya), which was once one of the largest churches in the world, but is now a Muslim museum. I grieved to see the Quaranic writings on the walls, and felt the loss of such a place. I wondered why, as it was a place of the Spirit, that it should now be a Muslim place. I asked the Lord, and he said to me, “Don’t grieve for this place. I don’t grieve for it.”

Surprised, I asked why he felt this way. “Because, like Ephesus, I sent messenger after messenger to this city, telling my people not to trust in its buildings, its ritual, or its man centred power, but to listen to me. They did not listen to me, so I left them. Do not grieve, and never grieve for places I have abandoned.”

Agasofya - neither holy nor a place of the Spirit. Perhaps in its inception it was planned to be, but no longer. Or was it ever? But there is a deeper issue here, one which affects the gateway of Istanbul. What is this building anyway? A place for the Lord or a triumph of architecture and an exaltation of man? Where is the Agasofya of intercessors? That is what was and still is really needed in Istanbul. A triumphant tower of watchmen and women, a power packed group of intercessors, who will stand in the gateway, repelling the evil and pleading for the good.

Why did not, and why does not, the Church seek to build an Ayasofya of intercessors? Why don't we commit our efforts, financial and spiritual, to what really matters, rather than to majestic mausoleums? Intercession matters. Guarding the gateway matters. Seeking the Lord's will in prayer matters. Buildings, seen against the move of the Spirit, do not matter.

I cannot find an Agasofya of intercessors in Istanbul. Can I find them anywhere? I wonder if Agasofya represents one of the great failings of God's people – that we aim for doctrinal soundness, good buildings, good programmes, good worship, and we spend our money on all of these – only to find ourselves an Ayasofya, neither holy nor spirit filled. We have been deceived into things which look good to us, but actually confine and control the Spirit. Have we been deceived, and is that why there are so few intercessors, so little attention paid to prayer and watching, and so much to buildings, programmes, books, DVD's and the cult of fame and success which riddles the church? I suspect I know the answer to this already.

The gateway of Istanbul has been damaged by the failure at Agysofya. God's people never saw the significance of this place. They settled for fine architecture and fine worship, totally missing the nature of what they were, and what they were called on to do. I fear that nothing has changed. This damage remains unhealed. The gateway is damaged, mostly unguarded and empty. Whatever sweeps through here, from North, South, East or West is unchecked, unprayed for, and unexpected.

A place where we should have been powerfully in touch with the move of God has been damaged by our neglect.

I didn't expect all this when I visited Hagia Sophia, and I returned to my room somewhat confused. Then the Lord said to me. "Now you understand, come into the gateway and see." I looked, and I was shocked by what I saw.

No one was there! Everywhere I looked, I saw desolation, desert, barrenness, dry and parched land, and broken houses. It looked like nothing had grown there for years. Then I saw a child, who was wandering hopelessly around. He was crying. I heard him say "Who will take care of me? Who will give me safety and protection?" I looked around, but there was no one. The scene changed, and I saw God's people. I called to them "Come and help this lost child." But they looked puzzled. "What lost child?" they asked. "We see no lost child."

The gateway was damaged, but God's people, now and in the past, had failed to see the lost child, or respond in prayer to the need. They had failed to enter and repair. Why had they failed? Laziness? Unwilling to sacrifice? Ignorance? I remembered the story of the Sower, where the seed had been snatched away by the birds, or choked by riches and cares. The world invaded the church, and blinded men's eyes to spiritual reality, so blind that they say "What child?" I think we need to lay this at the feet of the church in Istanbul – or do we? Is the wider church to blame, past and present?

What does this gateway vision imply? The gateway has been abandoned, like the child. So the protection which is in the gateway - the protection of the prayers of God's people going through the gateway - has been lost. This is not a neutral issue - "well, the gateway is broken, but it doesn't really matter." It matters, because, as the protection is not there, the suffering of God's people goes on. This is what abandoning the gateway means. The enemy has free reign, and the suffering and destruction of the church goes on.

And the church? These are the people who were supposed to enter the gateway, to make their home there, to watch, to resist the thrust of the enemy, to release the power to drive back the enemy and release the blessing. They are not there. The gateway is empty.

Some pictorial help

Having explored this gateway, I knew I needed some help to move on. The Lord showed me a number of pictures, which helped me.

* **The rock**

I was standing in a vast open space. All around me, on the horizon were different sorts of weather - storms, lightning, snow, rain, sun. It was bewildering. Then I realised I was standing on a rock in the middle of a great ocean. Huge waves came from different directions, rushing past me to break on some distant shore. The Lord spoke to me:-

“You could easily prophecy about each of these waves couldn’t you prophet? Where they are going, what their intention is, what they bring?”
“Of course Lord” I replied. “That’s what you have equipped me to do.”

On rolled these mighty waves, coming from different directions, rushing past me. I began to reflect on what I was seeing. Is this what a gateway looks like in the heavenlies? If so, do we have any effect on the waves? Or can we? Or are we supposed to - or is our job to see them, identify them, and warn or encourage those to whom they are heading? I was trying to understand how to interpret the vision of the waves, when I realised that they had different colours. Again, I think this was to try and help me understand what I was seeing.

* **Some are gold and some are silver.** “Lord,” I asked, “what is this?” He replied – “Gold is my greatest blessing. It brings the greatest honour to me and pours blessing onto the land. Silver is the blessing of purity. Those touched by this wave see and understand me in a new way. Through them I am able to purify any land.”

* **Some waves are grey, filled with sorrow.** “These waves must not be allowed to touch the land, They bring nothing but sorrow – the sorrow of being outside of my will.”

* **Some waves are white.** “These waves bring healing – healing at every level to a nation - healing of the heritage, healing of the empty wombs, healing of ruined economies, healing of a future and a hope.”

* **Some waves are black.** “These waves are filled with deceit. The land touched by them has very little hope. These waves can be turned away

by prayer, by hearts willing to call out to me, by sacrificial prayer and intercession. Nothing else can turn them away.”

*** Some waves are filled with diamonds.** “These waves bring my gifts to a nation – peace, security, hope, healing, joy. Blessed indeed is the nation touched in this way.”

*** Some waves are rainbow coloured.** “These lands receive my covenant blessing - I will never leave them or forsake them.”

The Levant wave.

While I watched, I saw a wave sweep down through the Levant, and it destroyed all the churches in its path. When it had passed, there was little left of the people of God. I felt these words:-

Darkness swept down.

You were unprepared.

It engulfed you.

Within it the enemy found room to move – to deceive, to mislead, to control.

My people forgot my word “Watch and pray.”

Now they are lost.

Can they be found again?

Must I go into the darkness again?

Suffer again?

Break the enemy again?

How many more times?

My love for you constrains me.

Watch and pray.

This appeared to be an old wave. It has already broken, and put God’s people into a desperate situation - even more desperate because they often do not know it. What was it? I wondered if it began with the destruction of Constantinople by God’s own people. This weakened the protection of the Church in the whole of the Levant. When the Muslims conquered Constantinople, then all the protection was stripped away. So - were God’s own people ultimately responsible for the destruction of the church in this area? I think by letting me see this wave, the Lord was trying to teach me how these waves, uncontrolled, can cause incredible damage. Perhaps like those reading this, I couldn’t understand why the

Lord would allow such a thing. But one thing I did grasp – old events can still have a profound effect today. I suspect that all too often, we don't appreciate this truth. We pray for the present, when we should be praying and breaking the consequences of past events as well – perhaps even more so.

*** The holocaust wave**

Later, I experienced another wave. A great sadness came to me as this wave went past me. There was so much suffering and sorrow in the wave, that I could hardly believe it. Voices cried out “We were deceived.” This wave did not seem to be going anywhere specifically. It just seemed to be going round and round – as it passed, so it came back again. I came to understand that this wave was called “holocaust.”

*** Trumpets**

I heard trumpets sounding. The Lord gave me the explanation:- “These trumpets alert you to which waves you are to speak about. There are so many, that I need to help you know which are the ones you should look at.”

*** Golden light**

As I continued to reflect, I saw the most incredible golden light rising over the waves. It grew brighter and brighter, until I could no longer look at it. I looked at my hands - and they were gold in the reflection of all that was happening. A voice said, “I am from everlasting to everlasting. I reign in the gateways.” Then all was still, and I was standing on my rock. I was reminded of the words of the Transfiguration, which end with, “Then the cloud departed, and they saw only Jesus standing there.”

*** The waves going towards China.**

The spiritual world, from where I was standing, appeared to be in turmoil. Waves seem to be crashing in every direction. I looked to the East, towards China. The waves seemed to be running powerfully in that direction - a very troubled and unsettled tide. There was real danger in the wave moving towards China. This wave had a name - “power and control.” These twin demonic strongholds have been buried deeply in the Continent of China. Now they are waking up again. They are not a blessing, but a curse to the world. They gain their position by economic power. The land will have so much economic power, that the nations of the world will be afraid to confront China. On the contrary, they will

appease, commend and exalt this land. The nations of the world will feed the very enemy which will bind them.

*** Tibet.**

Tibet lay in the path of the China wave. Inevitably, it was suffering. This was the vision:-

I see anvils, all over Tibet.

Men are labouring at the anvils, smashing something beautiful.

When I look more closely, I see that on the anvils is the very soul of Tibet, being crushed, smashed, destroyed, turned into something ugly.

Cambodia and Riga

The Lord took me into the gateway of Phnom Penh, capital of Cambodia. As I looked down, I saw below me a cloud. But not a normal cloud. This one was made up of what looked like ropes or cords. Each one was very tight, and they were all twisted together. There seemed to be so much anger and spite in this cloud.

As I looked through it, I saw millions of people, trying to live under the shadow of this anxiety and tension. There seemed to be little freedom. Then suddenly the wave began to sweep around me – I felt pain, shame, spoiling, sickness, and despair. They were ugly waves and seemed to have freedom to move as they wanted to. I was very troubled by this. What hope was there? Then I saw a small wave, very beautiful, waiting to come. It was filled with love for this whole area, and I heard a voice in the wave saying “I will restore.”

My attention was turned almost immediately away from Cambodia to Riga, capital of Latvia. I saw huge columns of fire shooting up into the air. In the columns I saw the word “freedom”. But a strong wave came, and it pulled the fire down. The hope of freedom grew smaller. Then the Lord spoke to me:-

“Who will guard the fire?

Who will turn the wave away, so that the light of the fire can illuminate the lands around? The enemy hates this land, and has tried to destroy

the fire again and again. He wants it extinguished for good, so that it is not spread to other lands. Who will guard it, so that it can burn on down the generations?"

While I was reflecting on this, suddenly I was high up in the fire, and I looked across the Baltic, and across Russia. Everywhere I looked, I saw children – young children – crying. They were lost, and crying for help, for hope, for love. I heard their voices, crying "Where are you? Help us."

I was deeply distressed, and asked the Lord what this was about. He replied:-

"The waves of pain have come, and gone.
This is what they have left.
Someone must search for these lost ones,
and bring them home."

This picture disturbed me when I first saw it, and it still disturbs me today. Later in the year, the Lord added to it. I became aware of the glory of the Lord in the heavenly places. The whole sky was filled with golden light, and I rose up through it in prayer and praise. But suddenly the scene changed, and I was standing below dark clouds. There was rain and cold wind, and no joy. This experience came to me as I was praying in the Riga gate, and looking out over Russia.

Jerusalem gateway

I woke up early one morning, and the Lord said, "Today, Jerusalem!" So I was prepared for where, but not what I would experience. My first impression of this gateway was noise - I heard noise – people calling and shouting. But when I looked into the gateway, all was still. It was so still, that I was uncomfortable. But then I became aware that I was entering the Jerusalem gateway, which was a place of intense holiness – holiness which has been here for thousands of years. I was suddenly aware of the majesty and glory of the Lord in a very powerful way. This gateway was very different. Then the Lord spoke:-

“This is the gateway of the world.
Here, I reign.
Nothing moves through here without my command.
Here, my sovereignty is supreme.
Here I hold the creation in my hand.
When I speak, it is done.”

For four years, I have been praying with a group of people every week, and holiness and purity has been our theme. It has not been easy. The holiness of God is not only awesome, but it shows up our unholiness, and demands that we purify ourselves. It also demands a very high level of commitment. We had to make huge personal sacrifices - financial, spiritual, emotional – to be able to endure the holiness, and even then, we struggled. We came to understand the price we would have to pay if we wanted to enter that very holy place - sacrificial living, sacrificial commitment, sacrificial willingness to lay down everything, and a sacrificial willingness to ignore all the consequences. So when I passed into the presence of the holy God, I knew what to expect, and what would be demanded of me.

After I had entered the gateway, I received a series of pictures, which helped me understand what this gateway was, and how it functioned.

*** Diamonds**

I saw clouds of diamonds, covering the earth. The Lord spoke:-
“I bless from here - I bless my creation, all of my creation.
I have favour on the world I have made.
I am not an angry God.
Even when I judge, there is blessing in time.”

This is an amazing picture. It’s amazing to believe that despite all the hurts, storms, and rejections over millennia, the Lord still has favour not just on his own people, but for the creation he has made. His heart is to help, to heal, to call home, to love and to bless. This is his nature. Even when he has to judge, there is blessing to follow. It reminded me, in a way, of the word from Tierra del Fuego, but in the Jerusalem gateway, it is not a word, it is an essence – the essential nature of God, pouring into me.

*** Storms**

I saw storms raging everywhere – violent storms. The Lord spoke:-

“The enemy seeks to destroy.

He has been a destroyer from the beginning.”

Every destruction has brought a great wave of pain to the heart of God – not just the pain of feeling it, but of knowing that because of his commitment to us, he cannot just sweep it aside. He spoke again:-

“I feel the pains of my creation, but when they abandon me, they move outside of my protection.

In that darkness there is great pain – for them and for me.”

*** Attacks**

I saw massive attacks in the gateway. The enemy tries in every way to damage this gateway, and get control of it. If he can, he can get control of the spiritual world. Every attack is thrown back, but he is getting stronger. His hour is coming.

I cried out “Lord, what can we do?” He replied

“Watch, pray and be ready.”

*** All the gateways.**

The whole vision changed, and I saw various gateways of the world all operating at once. Standing in the Jerusalem gateway, in the power and the praise, I saw, far away on the South the Tierra Del Fuego gateway, pouring love constantly, like an eternal fountain.

I saw the Istanbul gateway, broken and ineffective. I saw the fire rising up in the Riga gateway, and the heavy cloud dropping over Cambodia and the surrounding area. I saw the blackness of Rome, reaching out over the world, like a black stain. Far away, I saw the troubled land of America, struggling with confusion and decline. I saw that some gateways were dead. Once Ephesus had been a gateway for spiritual things, but it is not now. It is a ruin. The Lord said to me, “Beware ignoring my word.”

This was as far as I got at this time. Subsequently, I have got better understanding of the Jerusalem gateway, but I know that at this moment, I am just at the beginning.

Washington gateway.

I saw the Washington gateway, in America. All I saw in this gateway was confusion. The waves were crashing together, as they do when various flows meet in the ocean. I could see for a long way, and the waves were choppy, disturbed, troubled. Then the Lord spoke to me:-

“This gateway has been badly damaged.

The enemy has gained entry, and caused great destruction.

Now confusion is everywhere.

Through this gateway should have flowed forgiveness and healing.

But all that flowed was more violence, the desire for revenge, for man centred security. The future is uncertain.”

Rome gateway

In the Rome gateway I saw burnt out buildings and burnt out land – the result of the damage from the spirit of control. As I looked, I saw that any who want to move in the flow of the Spirit, who want to know the freedom of the Lord, are covered in chains, to put them into a greater bondage than even Rome itself.

But the reason is encouraging - the enemy fears the effect of just one Spirit filled person within this empire of control.

I was getting very tired by this time, and wondered how much more I could absorb, and then the Lord took me again to one of the most beautiful gateways in the world – the gateway of Tierra Del Fuego, where the love of God pours out day and night over his creation.

(Tierra del Fuego.) South America gateway

I had experienced Tierra del Fuego before, as part of visionworld27, and readers can see it there in the Visionworld material. Now the Lord showed me Tierra again, and this time I saw pure glass - purer than I have ever seen. It was just like pure ice. The Lord said:-

“I placed this gateway far away from the affairs of men, so that it could remain unbroken and pure. From here, a wave of my love, my agape

love, breaks eternally over my creation. No matter what they do, my whole creation lays in the shadow of my love for them.”

Time to reflect

After this visit to Istanbul, I had lot of thinking and praying to do. A small group formed, and we tried to understand what God was saying to us. We all had similar questions – what was this all about? What were we supposed to do? What effect could we possibly have? Who else might agree with us! I have included some of our thoughts later, but I began to understand that for myself, this was where the Lord wanted me to work, and that my job was to watch and share. Like so many things, it looks easy in print, but was not so easy to do in reality. After a few months the Lord asked me to return to Istanbul, and I felt that this time I would either get some idea about what I was doing, or it would all come to an end. The trip was privately funded, and off I went, back to the same place I had left just a few months before.

Second trip. Istanbul

I returned in prayer to the Istanbul gateway, and I realised that there was great pain in the gateway - pain of loss and pain of accusation. The loss is the loss of this place, a city build at the command of the Lord to Constantine, and destroyed by his own people – how grim is that! With the loss of this place, the whole of the church in the Levant came under threat and is now no more. That would be pain enough for anyone. Why did it happen? Somehow the child got lost. Somehow God’s people failed to keep watch in the gateway.

And the accusation? What might be Satan’s accusation in the Istanbul gateway? It could be the failure of the church to stand by the true nature of this challenge:- “if anyone will come after me he must deny himself, take up the cross and follow me.” This verse was a call to sacrificial living, but the Crusaders turned it into an excuse for invasion, pillage and murder. This distortion of biblical truth led to the loss of much of the church in this part of the world. Does Satan daily accuse this city of distorting the word of God, and deviating from its God given root and foundation?

While I was trying to grasp this, I saw the gateway full of light - like a million mirrors, reflecting the light around – so many colours! I have never seen such beauty. I began to sing and dance in the Spirit. Such hope! What a mixture – judgment and love.

What does this mean for the future - not tomorrow, but the coming centuries? For I am convinced that I stand in the middle of something. I have to gather up the gateway knowledge and pass it on for others to use. I get great inspiration from the Moravian one hundred year prayer watch. It was toughest for those who lived in the middle. They didn't have the excitement of seeing the start, nor the end. They had to struggle through the barren years, where nothing seemed to happen. But they were the essential bridge from the beginning to the end. That's where I am. The gateways - I never saw the beginning, and I won't see the move of the Spirit which I believe will flow from them at the end. Somehow I have to pass on the knowledge. Not an easy position, but a privileged one. While still thinking about the light, another strange experience began to unfold.

I heard a voice calling me, from far far away. It was weak, and very faint. "Help us. We are almost lost. Come and sit in our gateway. Bring your knowledge. Strengthen us." I think this is what the Lord is equipping me for. Not only to watch, but to protect the gateways, the small ones which are desperate, not yet broken, but almost. Perhaps the Istanbul gateway called for similar help before it was broken.

But where is this call coming from? It must be coming from within a very dark place – where the gateway is being overwhelmed.

The dream of the children

The next day began with me trying to resolve a very disturbing dream from the night. I was in a country where many children were being abandoned, because of civil strife. I arranged a place where they could come, and called people to come and take them to their homes. Each child was washed, and then I found people waiting outside the tent to take them home. There was one left, which I cuddled and took to the queue and gave to one of those who had come I think these children represent the gateways. A number of them have been represented to

me as children - the lost child in Istanbul, the calling children in Riga, the frightened child in the Caucasus, and “faint calling voice” of yesterday. Before I could really get any understanding, the ministry rolled on.

I was in the middle of a storm. It was in a gateway. Cold icy winds were smashing into me, and the sea rough and cold, breaking, crashing down to destroy. In the storm, I saw a child, abandoned and alone, crying. It kept trying to stand upright, but another gust of wind would tear it down, and press it onto the ground. The waves broke over the child. It was wet, cold, tired, abandoned, and without hope. This was its end. Faintly, above the storm, I heard the child crying, sobbing - “Someone help me.” “But I can’t find you” I shouted.

Then the Lord spoke. “This is how gateways die. My people fail to occupy them. Just one or two hang on, but they are not strong enough to resist the destructive violence of the enemy. But there is still time.”

“But Lord, where is this gateway?”

“These places are not easy to find. They have been buried by the forces against them. Look for the old places, the ancient paths.”

The Caucasus

It was becoming obvious to me that I was collecting a lot of questions, but not many answers. Somehow that didn’t seem to matter. Perhaps answers would come later. The truth is that when God moves, we don’t have a lot of say in what he shows and shares, and I remembered that I was basically a watcher and listener. Then I read a story from Ingushetia about the trouble there, and this drew my heart and mind to the Caucasus, not for the first time. The Caucasus is a very sad crossroads. So many years of fighting and terrorist activity. So much lawlessness and insecurity. The very area cries out for mercy, and the blood of the innocent cries out for justice. The living parable is Beslan, where the faces of the murdered children challenge in their very muteness. These children cry out, “You took our today, and we have no tomorrow.”

This is a new area of gateway thinking, which I haven’t fully worked out yet. Is there a gateway somewhere in the Caucasus? They are certainly one of those significant crossovers, which usually indicate gateways. My

thoughts have been drawn there initially by Beslan, and now I certainly feel the pain of the land, and the cry for justice. This was the Lord's word to me for the Caucasus in general:-

Darkness deeper than you can imagine.
Such darkness.
Sorrow on sorrow
Sorrow on sorrow.

Here my love
can find no way
to heal.

Generation on generation,
hate filled, pass on hate
until it seeps into the very ground,
into the very land which I created.

Children cry,
children die,
but still this sacrifice to evil
Is not enough.
More is demanded,
more evil, more hate.

The land cries to me,
the blood cries to me,
the enemy accuses.

Yet despite all,
my love is deeper,
can still reach out and overcome.
Yet the burden to bear the pain,
and the burden to go on loving is great.
Who can bear it?
Who will share it with me?

Later, when I was reflecting on this, the Lord spoke to me again about Beslan and the Caucasus. I saw a frightened child, trapped in a room, running around trying to find a way out. But there was no one to help. A great sadness swept over me. I remembered the song I sang in Pastor

Kolbe's cell in Auschwitz. "Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom." I remembered that when I sang it in Auschwitz, it rose up into the darkness of the cells around me, and the darkness had to move back from the sound of worship. I saw myself standing outside the Gym in Beslan, There were many mothers there, and they asked me "Why should we let you in?" I replied "because I am very sad." They parted and I went in, and stood in front of the faces of the children. Then I knelt at the cross and sang "Jesus, remember me." Then I heard many children, crying all across the Caucasus. It was deafening, and I tried to stop my ears because it was so painful. The first crying child was Armenia.

Armenia

There is a very deep wound in the soul of this land. This was the first nation to respond to the Lord's new order. The enemy has hated it ever since, and taken revenge. Now the land is small, broken and full of pain. It is in danger from every side. Like a child, it is beaten and beaten again.

Yet the glory is still in the soul of this nation. It is faint but not extinguished. The land was to be a light to the nations around. The Lord has not forgotten this. I saw a hand reach down, and take the child. I heard the Lord speak. "I have not forgotten you."

I expected the Lord to speak more to me, but immediately, another picture began to form in my mind, and I looked to Singapore.

Singapore

This gateway functions, but not very well. Strong currents swirl around it, from Malaysia on one hand, and from wealth and power on the other. My first impression in this gateway is of pride and arrogance. This gateway is not broken, but damaged, struggling against the wealth, power and pride of Singapore. It is also under threat from a powerful wave sweeping down from Malaysia.

The wave has already gathered, and I see it is full of broken bits of buildings. These represent the many thrusts against God's people

which have weakened and threatened them. This is the consequence of the weakness and failure of this gateway. I saw that around this gateway, the enemy was slowly building a hedge of thorns and briars. He is moving against this gateway, and he must have some reason for thinking that he has the prospect of success.

Suddenly I was lifted up into the glory of the Lord. This was a dazzling sight, beyond describing. The glory was like a million diamonds, all reflecting and shining at the same time. I saw that this glorious light was reflected down into the creation. This glory penetrates and enfolds all. The whole of God's creation is enfolded in his glory. But then I felt such intense pain, the echo of the Bali bombing. This event has changed the spiritual dynamic in this area, just as 9/11 changed the spiritual environment of the world.

Quite a mixture of experiences and emotions, and there was more to come. The next morning began with this strange vision – strange in that it was such a huge contrast to where I was yesterday, in the cloud of glory.

The tower

I was in a very dark place. There was a tower, with a light- a search light - but it was switched off. No one went to turn it on. The Owner of the tower was sad. He was saying, "I provided light, but no one sees it, nor uses it." I wanted to turn the light on, but the owner said "No. It is not for you to do this." I was very sad. I remembered these words – "men preferred darkness rather than light." Now the journey for me began, though a series of biblical passages. First Ezekiel:-

"Then he brought me to the entrance to the court. I looked, and I saw a hole in the wall. He said to me, "Son of man, now dig into the wall." So I dug into the wall and saw a doorway there.

And he said to me, "Go in and see the wicked and detestable things they are doing here." So I went in and looked, and I saw portrayed all over the walls all kinds of crawling things and detestable animals and all the idols of the house of Israel. In front of them stood seventy elders of the house of Israel, and Jaazaniah son of Shaphan was

standing among them. Each had a censer in his hand, and a fragrant cloud of incense was rising.

He said to me, “Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel are doing in the darkness, each at the shrine of his own idol? They say, ‘The Lord does not see us; the Lord has forsaken the land.’ (Ezek 8:7-13)

From here, the Spirit led me to reflect on Babylon, a place which is evil and rotten through and through.

“Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. They said to each other, ‘Come, let’s make bricks and bake them thoroughly.’ They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. Then they said, ‘Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth.’”(Gen 11:1-3)

Then to Pergamum, where Satan’s throne was to be found:-

“These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. I know where you live—where Satan has his throne.” (Rev 2:12)

I got more and more depressed as this list of things unfolded before me – and there were many more. For this is the very opposite of the vision of glory. This is almost a vision of evil, or of the depths of the roots of evil. I felt darkness flowing around me, although I was not afraid, and knew nothing could harm me. Then in a moment, I was at the foot of the cross, and saw all the evil gathered around Jesus. But it could not crush him. Suddenly, the glory shone out again, and the darkness had to retreat. It would not admit defeat, but it knew it had been defeated. The glory was overwhelming, like a million searchlights shining in my face.

Then I was back at the dark tower, with the search light turned off, and the people not caring. How could they be so foolish? Then I understood the true meaning of “men preferred darkness rather than light.” It was an act of will – a positive decision to turn against the light, and embrace the darkness, believing that the darkness held the future for them, but the light was evil.

Not for the first time in my life, I appreciated what it means to be blind to the truth. It is not a neutral position, but a positive decision to stay blind. In the gateways there is a true battle between glory and darkness, active powerful darkness. It is a brutal, basic, and fundamental fight between the glory, and those who have deliberately chosen darkness. This is where the enemy works, and where he accuses.

This is his accusation:- “They have rejected your glory. They have chosen my path, so they can no longer be yours.” This is what motivates the waves of despair and destruction, which form the foundation on which Satan can try to regain his eternal position and rule.

I realised that there is a timetable in the heavenly places. Satan is working to a plan – each wave building on the last, all built into the one plan. The glory thwarts his plans again and again, but the cost to the kingdom is high. Only sacrificial surrender, sacrificial prayer and sacrificial giving can release the waves of glory. Laying down our lives becomes the very essence of the movement of the Spirit in the gateways.

Jerusalem

After quite a gloomy day, I wondered where I would go next, and to my delight, it was back to the Jerusalem gateway, and I became aware of the most beautiful sounds of rejoicing. I passed through this beautiful sound, into the presence of the Lord. In the gateway, I saw light reaching out into the dark places of the spiritual world. Wherever it shone, it showed up the darkness. Its function was to confront the enemy, to confront the darkness, and show who was the Victor and who was the vanquished. Yesterday, at the cross, the darkness would not admit its defeat. Today, the light of Christ made that defeat clear. This is part of what I understood yesterday – that there is a process in the heavenly places. The enemy showed his arrogance yesterday, and the Lord is responding. Gateways are active places, when they are functioning.

This confronts the accusation of Satan, that men have chosen darkness. This is his lie. Not all of them have “chosen” it, but many cannot tell the difference, because the god of this world has blinded their eyes. From the Jerusalem gateway, the Lord is refuting the accusations, and challenging the lie of darkness.

Strong gateways

Some gateways are consistently strong, reflecting the glory and the power. I knew that **Tierra del Fuego** was a strong gateway, but where were the rest? The Lord showed me golden light, and I remembered the golden sunset I had seen in Panama, as the sun set in the Pacific, and the vision of the powerful figure of Jesus, standing over Panama. Is this a strong gateway? The Lord showed me a very cold region – ice and snow as far as I could see. Somewhere over the wastes of Siberia the Lord has a strong gateway. Where? The Lord showed me a dry and dusty place, far from the beaten track. There is a strong gateway here. Where? I saw a monastery. This place has maintained its prayer watch for a thousand years. It is beneath, or at the entrance to a gateway. Where? The Lord showed me a place of intellectual strength and integrity. Where?

There was no time to answer these questions, as the Lord began to speak to me about **Chile**. The words “Fallen! Fallen!” pushed themselves into my mind. A great sorrow filled my spirit. What has fallen? How has it fallen? Why has it fallen? I saw a child, standing alone in the dark. It was not afraid, because it had given up all hope. It was a wasted child – it spoke of wasted hopes, wasted potential, wasted joy, wasted love.

I found this difficult. We are planning a trip to Santiago as part of our work with the Tierra gateway. That gateway pours out love without limit to the world. How can a place so near not be touched by that love? Have men preferred darkness, or has the God of this world been at work? Chile is a blank space in the heavenly places.

Straight on from Chile, came the **Czech Republic**. I don’t know if we have to consider Prague, or the Czech Republic as a whole being a gateway, a place where the Lord can restore hope. A restoring gateway – that would be wonderful. But how would that work? Do gateways work both ways – giving us access, and the Lord access? Time to think would have been nice, but immediately I was led to reflect on **Cuba**. Surely Cuba can’t be a gateway? It certainly is a strategic country. The Lord’s reply was swift: “Don’t assume because of what you see today that a place cannot be a gateway. I have always had a passion for this place.”

That evening the Lord continued to lead me. I saw a mother desperately looking for her children. I began to understand that this refers to a

gateway, and a gateway where there is lostness. I suppose we have to lay this alongside the Czech Republic, where there was a feeling of restoring and renewal. On reflection I think this is OK. The gateways reflect what has and is passing through and around them. Put another way, they have a kind of “history” or “memory” of the spiritual things they represent. We know this every time we break the bread. We are remembering, and sometimes the atmosphere is so powerful that we almost feel we are at the event.

This lostness is in the gateway of **Argentina**. At that point, I was glad to put my notes away, and sleep!

Answers?

The next morning I had many things to reflect on. I started with the dry and dusty place, and one of my praying group suggested that the dry and dusty place might be Ethiopia. I have wondered whether Africa itself is a gateway, just as the Czech republic might be. Gateways don't have to be spatial – size is not the issue here. Is Africa a place where we can easily enter the heavenly places? It is now, but what about the past? We have to remember that Jesus has been on African soil, which must raise Egypt up into our minds. Then I began to reflect on the icy place – that might be Greenland. Greenland has all the hallmarks of being a gateway – far away, very simple, possibly pure. Next, I began to think of the place of strong intellect, and Alexandria came to my mind. I have been studying and reflecting on it for some time. It has had a big impact on church theology.

This was the end of the journey in Istanbul. I was exhausted, and got on the plane home, knowing that there was much more to come.

Gateways Fellowship

Since returning from Istanbul, I have set up the “Gateways fellowship.” This is a group of people who are committed to praying with me into this area. We are a very committed group. If you are interested, then first, have a look at what the fellowship involves on the “gateways fellowship” page of www.gateways27.org.

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