

# THE HOLE IN THE WALL

**By: Phillip Hayes**

(This article was transcribed from a tape recorded message)

*"And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall" [Ezekiel chapter eight, verse seven].*

We let so many things hinder and stop us from the fellowship and blessing that God has ordained for us to have. *"Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."* And later he goes on to say, *"For there God commanded a blessing."* I believe the reason many are not blessed today is because folks simply do not have the desire to be together, and to be one people. When we argue and devour one another, God can't give us meat. That is why some churches never grow, because of envy, strife, malice, hatred, bickering, and fighting. That is why you see churches go on year after year, and never grow. They never go on to the deep things in God. I believe this is the reason the gifts of the Spirit are not dominant in the church today. We do not have the love we ought to have. Paul said, "I cannot give you meat because you have envy and strife among you." I believe God wants to give us the meat of His word. I believe God wants to give us all nine gifts of the Spirit. He wants us to be a spiritual body.

When we come together, we shouldn't have to depend on the preacher to preach. We should let God do the preaching though whosoever He chooses. Any one of you might stand up and speak for the Lord. Prophecy means to speak for the Lord. God has promised in the last days to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. I believe He did that on the day of Pentecost. However, He said the latter house would be greater

than the former house. The last day church will have more glory than the first church. The anointing that was on the early church, is going to be poured out once again. He said, "*and your sons and daughters shall prophecy*". What he is saying is, your sons and daughters shall speak for the Lord. That prophetic anointing is going to fall on the body of Christ in the last days, and they are going to be speaking for God. Whatever is in their mouth is going to be what God says, not what they are saying, that is the true spirit of prophecy. When you speak for God, you are the mouth piece for God, and God is going to use his whole church in the last days.

Ezekiel chapter eight is significant for our time. It is showing a lot of people a hole in the wall. A lot of people are beginning to see the abominations that are being committed by the ministry of today, as well as the body. It is not just one person. It is the whole house of Israel that is committing abominations.

The Bible tells us that the Old Testament is a shadow of things to come. The things we read in the Old Testament are for our admonition, our warning, for an example for us. In the book of Hebrews it talks about the things that were done, was for an example for us. Everything the children of Israel went through is relevant for us today. That is why the Old Testament is so important. A lot of people want to throw the Old Testament away. People say we don't need to fool with that anymore, but it is so relevant for us today. It actually tells us what we are going to go through. It is a prophetic book. A shadow is foretelling of something to come to pass. You see the shadow of something before you see the actual object. The Old Testament was a shadow of the Christ that was to come. We can read the Old Testament and it will teach us how to live our lives. It will give a prophetic warning to us. It will show us our sins: "cry aloud and spare not show my people their sins."

I believe the problem today is the preachers won't show the people their sins. Churches are filled with people that have no idea what sin is. A lot of holiness churches don't know what

sin is. A lot of Pentecostal people don't know what sin is. They will preach against smoking and drinking, but a man can have lust or evil thoughts in his heart and it will never be mentioned. They do those things that are abominable to God every single year. They commit abominations every week in their churches. They are crying out against sin, and don't know what sin is.

Thank God that He is showing a few people a hole in the wall. God is revealing what an abomination is to Him, and just what sin is! What men say is an abomination, doesn't mean anything to God. It is what God says an abomination is, and it doesn't matter if it makes sense to you are not. You need to line up to what God says. I am not interested in what the church world says, I am not interested in what man says. I'm interested in what God says an abomination is. He is the one that is going to judge you and I. You are not going to judge me.

Men call a lot of things an abomination. It is not what goes into a man, it is what comes out of a man that defiles him, but that which comes out of his heart; evil thoughts, etc.. A lot of people have been so concerned with the outward appearance. They have taken a lot of care with the hair, the long dress, long sleeves. They are so concerned about these carnal things, against beards, mustaches, against this, against that, they are so against everything that you can think of concerning the outward appearance, but the inward man is what God is going to judge. You have to get the inside straightened out. The outside will take care of itself. Get your heart clean, get your mind clean, get your spirit in tune to what God says. Outward appearance is not hard to do. It is not hard for a woman to wear a dress. It is not hard for a man to look like a man and to dress decently, and have a decent haircut. It is not hard for a woman to let her hair grow. It isn't hard for a woman to wash her heavy make-up off. That isn't hard to do. That is easy to do. What is hard to do is to live the life of Jesus inside you; bringing every thought under captivity of Christ, walking in true holiness which is after the

inward man; what you think is what God is hearing.

Sometimes people are so ignorant they think they can get by with things. They think God isn't seeing, God isn't hearing, God is not going to see this, God is not going to judge that. What they are doing is looking at people as their God. They are more worried what people think about them, than what God thinks about them. We better be concerned what God thinks. I don't care what people think about me. I want to know what God thinks about me. He is the one that is going to judge us. We spend too much time trying to line up to some kind of ordinance, a carnal church doctrine, and yet we let down on the weightier things; love, judgment, mercy, those things that are in your heart and in your mind. I want a clean mind, a clean heart. I want pure thoughts. I don't want evil thoughts in my mind. I want to put every thought under captivity of Christ. I want God, the Holy Ghost to rule my every thought. That is where living this Jesus life has got to began. Begin working at bringing yourself under subjection to the Holy Ghost. A lot of people say, "Jesus is Lord." He certainly is Lord, but have you accepted him as Lord over your life? Have you put yourself in subjection to Him as Lord? A Lord is one that rules over you. He is a spiritual Lord to rule over our spiritual life, over our minds, over our thoughts.

*And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I sat in mine house, and the elders of Judah sat before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell there upon me. [Ezekiel 8:1]*

What do you feel like that means? The hand of the Lord fell there upon me. When Paul struck a man blind he said, "*behold the hand of the Lord is upon thee.*" The hand of the Lord struck him blind.

Everybody wants a man to lay hands on them, but I want God to lay hands on me. The hand of the Lord can come upon me. When the hand of the Lord comes upon you, something is going to happen. In this case something began to happen to the prophet Ezekiel.

*Then I beheld, and lo a likeness as the appearance of*

*fire: from the appearance of his loins even downward fire; and from his loins even upward, as the appearance of brightness, as the colour of amber. [Ezekiel 8:2]*

What really happened to him is he entered into a spiritual vision. He entered into the spirit right here. You remember in the scriptures where Jesus took Peter, James, and John into the holy mount, and there they saw Jesus transfigured, and Moses and Elijah standing there talking to Him. One of the writers described that and said, "they entered into a vision with the Lord." When John was on the isle of Patmos, the angel said, "*come up hither.*" John did not physically leave the earth and go up into heaven, because the next thing he said was, "*immediately, I was in the spirit.*"

Something happened to me not too long ago. I was fasting and seeking God in my trailer and I had been fasting about twenty of a thirty day fast. One night all of a sudden I began to lift off of my bed. I felt a wind blow against my face. My eyes were open. I was wide awake. I heard the wind blowing against my face. I could feel the wind. My body began to lift off the bed. I lifted all the way to the top of the ceiling of that trailer. I don't know if I really did that, or if that was a vision. Paul said, "whether in the body, or out of the body, I know not, I knew a man above fourteen years ago that was caught up into the third heaven and given things unlawful for him to speak. Sometimes it is such an experience. Here with Ezekiel, it was so real. He didn't know if it was a vision, or actually real. I believe it was a vision of the Lord because the hand of the Lord was upon him. Remember, God is a spirit. God does not need to physically take you any where. He can translate you. The kingdom of God is right here. It parallels the natural. We need to comprehend that the spiritual realm parallels the natural, it is a dimension. It is right here. One of these days we are going to step right over, we are going to step from this carnal, natural, physical life, right into the spiritual realm. I believe we are going to be amazed at the things God has prepared for us. The Bible talks about how we can look at the things that God has created and know what

God has prepared for us. I want you to understand that entering into a vision is not physically leaving or going anywhere.

So the hand of the Lord was upon him. He saw something. It was a likeness. It looked like a person or something, but it was fire. From the loins down it looked like fire and from the loins upward it was an appearance of brightness a color of amber.

*And he put forth the form of an hand, and took me by a lock of mine head; and the spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north; where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy. [Ezekiel 8:3]*

Remember it doesn't say a hand. It says, "the form of a hand.". He picked him up by the hair. How would you all like to have a vision like that? That is what he was seeing happening in this vision. Remember he is in the spirit. He is not in the natural. He is in a spiritual realm, just like John on the Isle of Patmos was. Everything he sees is of spiritual significance, not natural.

In the spirit he was brought to Jerusalem. In Ezekiel's day Jerusalem would have been a natural city. In our day it is the New Jerusalem that comes down out of heaven.

In the book of Revelation an angel told John, "*come and I will show you the Lamb's wife*" How many of you feel like you are the Lamb's wife, the bride of Christ? He said I'll show you the Lamb's wife and he took him, (still in a vision in the book of Revelation) and he showed John the heavenly city, New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. He was talking about the church, so the church is the Jerusalem of today. In Ezekiel's time it was natural Jerusalem. Today it is spiritual Jerusalem.

He took him to the door of the inner gate. He showed him the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy. What is an image? In this case it is an idol. He saw in a vision an idol, an image of something. Right there at the

inner gate of Jerusalem where no idols should be allowed, because the commandments are. "Thou shalt not make any graven image," and "hear oh Israel the Lord thy God is one Lord." They stoned them that worshiped idols. Right here in the inner gate was an idol and his name was jealousy.

*And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, according to the vision that I saw in the plain.*

*[Ezekiel 8:4]*

Previously Ezekiel had seen the glory of the God of Israel in a vision. You can read where it looked like a wheel within a wheel and all these living creatures.

*Then said he unto me, Son of man, lift up thine eyes now the way toward the north. So I lifted up mine eyes the way toward the north, and behold northward at the gate of the altar this image of jealousy in the entry. [Ezekiel 8:5]*

He looked at the way to go to the altar and that image of jealousy was standing between him and the altar. Not only at the gate, but there it was before you could get to the altar, you had to go through that image. This image was the intercessor before you could go to the altar. They would use the idols to intercede to go to the altar. Jesus is our intercessor.

How many in our time do you think are using idols as an intercessor to get to the altar? In what way can we use an idol as an intercessor today? We can use man as an idol. Doesn't the Catholic church go before the priest as an intercessor between them and the altar? Are they not using a mere physical man as an intercessor? Do they not use Mary as an intercessor? Don't they use the Pope as an intercessor? Don't they have crosses and symbols to intercede for them? How many has the St. Christopher's medal for protection? Many Catholics have them in their cars as protection to intercede for them. They pray to Mary to intercede for them.

God was showing Ezekiel a vision of the condition of the house of Israel. He was showing him the condition of a people that had forsaken God, yet they were giving the pretense of serving God. They were still going to church. They were still

doing their thing. They still had the temple. They still had all their ceremonies, but in the spirit, God saw them. God knew that they were not doing the way they ought to. Behold northward at the gate of the altar, how many know what a gate at the altar would mean? It is a door to get to the altar. In this door was an idol, an image.

*He said furthermore unto me, Son of man, seest thou what they do? even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary? but turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations. [Ezekiel 8:6]*

He is talking about the whole church here. He is not talking about a particular person. He is talking about the whole body. We are the new Israel today. Even though we are the new Israel today, Paul warned us that although the natural seed (natural Jews) had been cut off that we might be grafter in; that God was able to cut us (the gentiles) off, and graft them back in again. We are to take what happened to Israel, and the abominations they were committing as a warning to us

God is revealing their sins in this vision. In the next chapter God marks every man that is crying out against these abominations. He begins to cut off those that were doing these abominations.

First, God always warns His people by His Word through a prophet. The prophet of God will cry out against their sins, their abominations, and what they are doing that they might return and repent of all their evil. The next thing comes is destruction. Right now we are seeing the revelation God has given Ezekiel concerning the early house of Israel. We need to take heed today, because we are the spiritual Israel and many are committing the same abominations.

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What God is saying is see all these great abominations,



My Spirit should leave this place. God is not going to put His blessings on sin. How many understand what Ichabod means? Ichabod means the spirit of the Lord had departed. That is what God is saying, the Spirit is departing, because of these abominations. He is asking Ezekiel a question, "you see all these abominations. Shouldn't I leave!" *I should go far off from my sanctuary, but turn thee yet again and thou shalt see greater abominations.* The idols were abominations enough. Just the one thing you are doing. You are putting something before me and you. When you put your husband, wife, children, job, television, anything you put between you and God is reason enough for God to go ahead and leave right then. The idol was enough, the image was enough, it sit right there before the altar.

*And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall. [Ezekiel 8:7]*

Now, let us go into the outer court. There was an outer court, an inner court, and there was the holiest of holies. The Gentile people were in the outer court. The only ones that could go into the holiest of holies were the priests, to offer up the sacrifice once a year. Right now he is just going into the outer court. He has already seen the entrance to the altar. Now, he is going to go to the outer court. The wall was there, *"when he brought me to the door and when I looked behold a hole in the wall."* Something had already started working, tearing down.

*Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold a door. And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. [Ezekiel 8:8-9]*

God is saying, there is a hole in this wall. I want you to dig down in that hole. Ezekiel started to dig down in that hole in this vision. When he dug down, he saw a door. God said you go in that door and I am going to show you their abominations. What he is doing now, he is entering right on into the church. He saw these things happening outside the church. He saw this abomination of the idol standing between

the people and the altar, now he is going to go right in to where the people are at.

Many of you would be shocked if you could see the church world as God sees it! I believe there is a hole in the wall today for those who are seeking the truth, for those desiring to have a revelation from God. I believe God has pointed us to a hole in the wall and has asked us to dig a little deeper. Most people won't dig a little deeper. They won't study the Word of God. They won't really strive to enter in the straight gate, but God said to dig a little deeper. Get down there, get on your hands and knees and start digging for revelations and knowledge, and God will fill us with revelations and knowledge.

He is not going to give anything to anyone that won't hunger and thirst after righteousness. People today are not hungry for the Word of God. They are not digging in the Word of God. They say, "oh my church believes this, and my preacher says this."

Bless God, I don't know about you, but I am going to dig in the wall. I am going to dig deep. How many of you that are hearing me would like to know what is going on?

Brother Hayes preached this message over 20 years ago. Most of you will agree the church is in far worse condition today. There has been no real move of God in years! The church has moved further away from God's Word and fallen deeper into the traditions, teachings and commandments of men. I encourage every reader to "make their calling and election sure" (2Peter 1:10). Jesus is coming soon! Apostle Paul preached to a people called the Bereans (See Acts 17:10-12). They didn't accept Paul's teaching until they searched the scriptures to see if what Paul preached was the Truth. The majority of Christians today merely accept what they hear and never question their Pastors or television evangelists if what they are being told is the Truth or a lie. It's your soul my friend! Get back to the Word of God! First Thessalonians chapter 5, verse twenty one tells us to "*Prove all things; hold fast that which is good*". Have you made your calling and election sure and have you proved all things?