



Gates and Doors

Hebrew Bible

Genesis 28:10-22

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba, and set out for Haran. ¹¹ He came upon a certain place and stopped there for the night, for the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of that place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² He had a dream; a stairway was set on the ground and its top reached to the sky, and angels of God were going up and down on it. ¹³ And the Lord was standing beside him and He said, "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac: the ground on which you are lying I will assign to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All the families of the earth shall bless themselves by you and your descendants. ¹⁵ Remember, I am with you: I will protect you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is present in this place, and I did not know it!" ¹⁷ Shaken, he said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the abode of God, and that is the gateway to heaven." ¹⁸ Early in the morning, Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He named that site Bethel; but previously the name of the city had been Luz.

²⁰ Jacob then made a vow, saying, "If God remains with me, if He protects me on this journey that I am making, and gives me bread to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹ and if I return safe to my father's house — the Lord shall be my God. ²² And this stone, which I have set up as a pillar, shall be God's abode; and of all that You give me, I will set aside a tithe for You."

י וַיֵּצֵא יַעֲקֹב, מִבְּעַר שֹׁבַע; וַיֵּלֶךְ, חֲרָנָה . יֵא
וַיִּפְגַּע בַּמָּקוֹם וַיָּלֵן שָׁם, כִּי-בָא הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ, וַיִּקַּח
מֵאֲבָנֵי הַמָּקוֹם, וַיִּשֶׂם מִרְאֲשֵׁתָיו; וַיִּשְׁכַּב, בַּמָּקוֹם
הַהוּא . יֵב וַיַּחְלֵם, וַהֲנִיחַ סֵלֶם מֵצֵב אֲרָצָה,
וּרְאִשׁוֹ, מֵגִיעַ הַשָּׁמַיְמָה; וַהֲנִיחַ מְלֶאכִי אֱלֹקִים,
עֹלִים וְיֹרְדִים בּוֹ . יֵג וַהֲנִיחַ ה' נֹצֵב עָלָיו,
וַיֹּאמֶר, אֲנִי ה' אֱלֹקֵי אֲבֹתֶיךָ אַבְרָהָם וְיִצְחָק;
הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה שֹׁכֵב עָלֶיהָ--לְךָ אֶתְנַנְנָהּ,
וּלְזֶרְעֶךָ . יֵד וַהֲנִיחַ זֶרְעֶךָ כַּעֲפַר הָאָרֶץ, וּפְרָצְתָּ
יָמָה וְקִדְמָה וּצְפֹנָה וְנִגְבָּה; וַנִּבְרָכוּ בְךָ כָּל-
מִשְׁפָּחַת הָאֲדָמָה, וּבְזֶרְעֶךָ . יֵט וַהֲנִיחַ אֲבָנֵי עַמֻּד,
וַיִּשְׁמְרֵתֶיךָ בְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר-תֵּלֶךְ, וַהֲשַׁבְתִּיךָ, אֶל-
הָאֲדָמָה הַזֹּאת: כִּי, לֹא אֶעֱזָבְךָ, עַד אֲשֶׁר אִם-
עָשִׂיתִי, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-דִּבַּרְתִּי לְךָ . יֵז וַיִּיקֶץ יַעֲקֹב,
מִשְׁנָתוֹ, וַיֹּאמֶר, אֲכֹן יֵשׁ ה' בַּמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה; וְאֲנֹכִי,
לֹא יָדַעְתִּי . יֵח וַיִּירָא, וַיֹּאמֶר, מֵה-נִוְרָא, הַמָּקוֹם
הַזֶּה: אֵין זֶה, כִּי אִם-בַּיִת אֱלֹקִים, וְזֶה, שַׁעַר
הַשָּׁמַיִם . יֵט וַיִּשְׁפֹּם יַעֲקֹב בַּבֶּקֶר, וַיִּקַּח אֶת-
הָאֲבֹן אֲשֶׁר-שָׂם מִרְאֲשֵׁתָיו, וַיִּשֶׂם אֹתוֹ, מֵצֵבָה;
וַיִּצֹק שָׁמֶן, עַל-רֵאשֵׁה . יֵכ וַיִּקְרָא אֶת-שֵׁם-
הַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא, בַּיִת-אֵל; וְאוֹלָם לוֹז שֵׁם-הָעִיר,
לְרֵאשֹׁנָה . יֵל וַיִּזְרַר יַעֲקֹב, נֹדֵד לֵאמֹר: אִם-יִהְיֶה
אֱלֹהִים עִמָּדִי, וַיִּשְׁמְרֵנִי בַדֶּרֶךְ הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי
הוֹלֵךְ, וַנִּתֵּן-לִי לֶחֶם לֶאֱכֹל, וּבְגָד לְלַבֵּשׁ . יֵמ
וַשְׁבַּתִּי בְשָׁלוֹם, אֶל-בַּיִת אָבִי; וַהֲנִיחַ ה' לִי,
לְאֱלֹקִים . יֵנ וַהֲאֲבֹן הַזֹּאת, אֲשֶׁר-שָׂמְתִי מֵצֵבָה-
יִהְיֶה, בַּיִת אֱלֹקִים; וְכֹל אֲשֶׁר תִּתֵּן-לִי, עֲשֹׂר
אֶעֱשְׂרֶנּוּ לְךָ .



Gates and Doors

New Testament

Acts 5:17-25

17 Then the high priest took action; he and all who were with him (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, ¹⁸arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors, brought them out, and said, ²⁰'Go, stand in the temple and tell the people the whole message about this life.' ²¹When they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and went on with their teaching.

When the high priest and those with him arrived, they called together the council and the whole body of the elders of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. ²²But when the temple police went there, they did not find them in the prison; so they returned and reported, ²³'We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them, we found no one inside.' ²⁴Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were perplexed about them, wondering what might be going on. ²⁵Then someone arrived and announced, 'Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!'

¹⁷Ἀναστὰς δὲ ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς καὶ πάντες οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ, ἢ οὐσα αἴρεσις τῶν Σαδδουκαίων, ἐπλήσθησαν ζήλου ¹⁸καὶ ἐπέβαλον τὰς χεῖρας ἐπὶ τοὺς ἀποστόλους καὶ ἔθεντο αὐτοὺς ἐν τηρήσει δημοσίου. ¹⁹ἄγγελος δὲ κυρίου διὰ νυκτὸς ἀνοίξας τὰς θύρας τῆς φυλακῆς ἐξαγαγὼν τε αὐτοὺς εἶπεν, ²⁰Πορεύεσθε καὶ σταθέντες λαλεῖτε ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ τῷ λαῷ πάντα τὰ ῥήματα τῆς ζωῆς ταύτης. ²¹ἀκούσαντες δὲ εἰσῆλθον ὑπὸ τὸν ὄρθρον εἰς τὸ ἱερόν καὶ ἐδίδασκον. Παραγενόμενος δὲ ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς καὶ οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ συνεκάλεσαν τὸ συνέδριον καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν γερουσίαν τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἀπέστειλαν εἰς τὸ δεσμοτήριον ἀχθῆναι αὐτούς. ²²οἱ δὲ παραγενόμενοι ὑπηρέται οὐχ εὔρον αὐτοὺς ἐν τῇ φυλακῇ, ἀναστρέψαντες δὲ ἀπήγγειλαν ²³λέγοντες ὅτι Τὸ δεσμοτήριον εὔρομεν κεκλεισμένον ἐν πάσῃ ἀσφαλείᾳ καὶ τοὺς φύλακας ἐστῶτας ἐπὶ τῶν θυρῶν, ἀνοίξαντες δὲ ἔσω, οὐδένα εὔρομεν. ²⁴ὥς δὲ ἤκουσαν τοὺς λόγους τούτους ὁ τε στρατηγὸς τοῦ ἱεροῦ καὶ οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς, διηπόρουν περὶ αὐτῶν τί ἂν γένοιτο τοῦτο. ²⁵παραγενόμενος δὲ τις ἀπήγγειλεν αὐτοῖς ὅτι Ἴδου οἱ ἄνδρες οὓς ἔθεσθε ἐν τῇ φυλακῇ εἰσὶν ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ἐστῶτες καὶ διδάσκοντες τὸν λαόν.



Gates and Doors

Qur'an

Sura 39:68-75

68 the Trumpet will be sounded, and everyone in the heavens and earth will fall down senseless except those God spares. It will be sounded once again and they will be on their feet, looking on. 69 The earth will shine with the light of its Lord; the Record of Deeds will be laid open; the prophets and witnesses will be brought in. Fair judgement will be given between them: they will not be wronged 70 and every soul will be repaid in full for what it has done. He knows best what they do.

71 Those who rejected the Truth will be led to Hell in their throngs. When they arrive, its gates will open and its keepers will say to them, 'Were you not sent your own messengers to recite the revelations of your Lord to you and warn you that you would meet this Day?' and they will say, 'Yes indeed we were.' But the sentence of punishment will have been passed against those who rejected the truth. 72 It will be said, 'Enter the gates of Hell: there you will remain. How evil is the abode of the arrogant!'

73 Those who were mindful of their Lord will be led in throngs to the Garden. When they arrive, they will find its gates wide open, and its keepers will say to them, 'Peace be upon you. You have been good. Come in: you are here to stay,' 74 and they will say, 'Praise be to God who has kept His promise to us and given us this land as our own. Now we may live wherever we please in the Garden.' How excellent is the reward of those who labour! 75 You [Prophet] will see the angels surrounding the Throne, glorifying their Lord with praise. True judgement will have been passed between them, and it will be said, 'Praise be to God, the Lord of the Worlds.'

وَنُفِخَ فِي الصُّورِ فَصَعِقَ مَنْ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَمَنْ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا مَنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ ثُمَّ نُفِخَ فِيهِ أُخْرَىٰ فَإِذَا هُمْ قِيَامٌ يَنْظُرُونَ (٦٨) وَأَشْرَقَتِ الْأَرْضُ بِنُورِ رَبِّهَا وَوُضِعَ الْكِتَابُ وَجِئَتْ بِالنَّبِيِّينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ وَقُضِيَ بَيْنَهُم بِالْحَقِّ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ (٦٩) وَوُفِّيَتْ كُلُّ نَفْسٍ مَّا عَمِلَتْ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا يَفْعَلُونَ (٧٠) وَسِيقَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا إِلَىٰ جَهَنَّمَ زُمَرًا ۖ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءُوهَا فَتَحَتْ أَبْوَابُهَا وَقَالَ لَهُمْ خَزَنَتُهَا أَلَمْ يَأْتِكُمْ رُسُلٌ مِّنكُمْ يَتْلُونَ عَلَيْكُمْ آيَاتِ رَبِّكُمْ وَيُنذِرُونَكُمْ لِقَاءَ يَوْمِكُمْ هَٰذَا قَالُوا بَلَىٰ وَلَٰكِن حَقَّتْ كَلِمَةُ الْعَذَابِ عَلَى الْكَافِرِينَ (٧١) قِيلَ ادْخُلُوا أَبْوَابَ جَهَنَّمَ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا فَبِئْسَ مَثْوَى الْمُتَكَبِّرِينَ (٧٢) وَسِيقَ الَّذِينَ اتَّقَوْا رَبَّهُمْ إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ زُمَرًا ۖ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءُوهَا وَفُتِحَتْ أَبْوَابُهَا وَقَالَ لَهُمْ خَزَنَتُهَا سَلَامٌ عَلَيْكُمْ طِبْتُمْ فَادْخُلُوهَا خَالِدِينَ (٧٣) وَقَالُوا الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي صَدَقَنَا وَعَدَّهُ وَأَوْرَثَنَا الْأَرْضَ نَتَّبِعُ مِنْ الْجَنَّةِ حَيْثُ نَشَاءُ ۖ فَنِعْمَ أَجْرُ الْعَامِلِينَ (٧٤) وَتَرَى الْمَلَائِكَةَ حَافِينَ مِنْ حَوْلِ الْعَرْشِ يُسَبِّحُونَ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّهِمْ ۖ وَقُضِيَ بَيْنَهُمْ بِالْحَقِّ وَقِيلَ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ (٧٥)