

# Ezekiel 40:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then measured he the porch of the gate, eight cubits; and the posts thereof, two cubits; and the porch of the gate was inward.

## Analysis

---

The porch's specific dimensions—eight cubits with two-cubit posts—add to the cumulative architectural picture. Eight often symbolizes new beginning or resurrection (circumcision on eighth day, Leviticus 12:3; Christ rose on eighth day/first day of new week). The two-cubit posts represent stability and witness (two witnesses establish truth, Deuteronomy 19:15). The phrase 'the porch of the gate was inward' indicates it faced the temple interior, emphasizing that approach to God moves progressively deeper into sacred space. These measurements aren't arbitrary but divinely prescribed, teaching that God's standards are exact, unchanging, and purposeful. Reformed theology emphasizes that just as God prescribed worship patterns (regulative principle), He prescribes salvation's way—Christ alone, faith alone, grace alone, Scripture alone, glory to God alone.

## Historical Context

---

The eight-cubit measurement (approximately 14 feet) provided substantial porch depth for gathering before entering the gate passage. Ancient city gates served multiple functions: defense, commerce, justice (legal matters settled 'in the gate,' Ruth 4:1). The temple gate's porch served spiritual preparation—transition from outer court to inner sanctum. The two-cubit posts (approximately 3.5 feet) provided structural support while maintaining proportional aesthetics. Nehemiah's rebuilt gates included porches and chambers (Nehemiah 3). The 'inward' orientation emphasizes that worship always approaches God, never moves away—

pilgrimage's direction is always Godward. This contrasts with pagan temples where worshipers might circle or leave through side exits. Biblical worship has directionality—toward God's presence.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. Does your worship move 'inward' toward deeper intimacy with God or circulate superficially at comfortable distances?
2. How do the precise measurements challenge relativistic approaches that claim all paths to God are equally valid?
3. What 'posts' (stable supports) in your spiritual life provide structural integrity for approaching God?

## Interlinear Text

---

וַיִּמְדָּ	אֶת	וְאֵלַיִם	הַשַּׁעַר	שְׁמֹנֶה	אֹמֹת
<b>Then measured</b>	<b>and the porch</b>	<b>of the gate</b>	<b>eight</b>	<b>cubits</b>	
H4058	H853	H197	H8179	H8083	H520
וְאֵילִי	שְׁתֵּי	אֹמֹת	וְאֵלַיִם	הַשַּׁעַר	מִהַבִּיתִּי
<b>and the posts</b>	<b>thereof two</b>	<b>cubits</b>	<b>and the porch</b>	<b>of the gate</b>	<b>was inward</b>
H352	H8147	H520	H197	H8179	H1004

---