

Ezekiel 46:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the prince shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate without, and shall stand by the post of the gate, and the priests shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate: then he shall go forth; but the gate shall not be shut until the evening.

Analysis

The prince would worship 'at the threshold of the gate' but not enter—he wasn't a priest. Even rulers worshiped with limitations, acknowledging distinctions in sacred roles. This teaches that leadership doesn't eliminate accountability or boundaries. Everyone, regardless of status, approaches God according to His prescribed order.

Historical Context

Some Israelite kings (Uzziah, 2 Chronicles 26:16-21) wrongly assumed royal status granted priestly privileges, bringing judgment. This vision's regulations prevent such presumption, maintaining proper distinctions.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How do you maintain appropriate boundaries and reverence in approaching God?
2. What does it mean that all believers have equal access to God through Christ (Hebrews 10:19-22) yet maintain appropriate reverence?

Interlinear Text

וְכָ א	הַנָּשִׁי יָא	דֶּרֶךְ	אוֹלָם	וְהָשָׁ עַר	מִחוּץ	
shall enter	And the prince	by the way	of the porch	but the gate	without	
H935	H5387	H1870	H197	H8179	H2351	
וְעָמַד	עַל	מִזְוֵה ת	וְהָשָׁ עַר	וְעָשָׂ ו	הַכֹּהֲנִים יִם	אֶת
and shall stand	H5921	by the post	but the gate	shall prepare	and the priests	H853
H5975		H4201	H8179	H6213	H3548	
עוֹלָתוֹ	וְאֶת	שְׁלָמָ יו	וְהִשְׁתַּחֲוָה ה	עַל		
his burnt offering	H853	and his peace offerings	and he shall worship	H5921		
H5930		H8002	H7812			
מִפֶּתַח ׀	וְהָשָׁ עַר	וְיָצָא א	וְהָשָׁ עַר	לֹא		
at the threshold	but the gate	then he shall go forth	but the gate	H3808		
H4670	H8179	H3318	H8179			
יִסָּג ר	עַד	הָעֶרֶב:				
shall not be shut	H5704	until the evening				
H5462		H6153				

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 44:3 (Parallel theme): It is for the prince; the prince, he shall sit in it to eat bread before the LORD; he shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by the way of the same.

Ezekiel 46:8 (Parallel theme): And when the prince shall enter, he shall go in by the way of the porch of that gate, and he shall go forth by the way thereof.

