ENTER HIS GATES

Dung Gate

The Dung Gate was located at the southernmost point of the city, near the pool of Siloam.

It was the main exit to the valley of Hinnom, where the city disposed of its garbage, the landfill if you will.

It was called that because more "waste" was carried out through this gate to the "dump" than through any other gate.

The first mention of dung is about sacrifices. The law required that the dung and certain parts of the animal not be burned on the altar, but outside the camp.

Dung was used as fuel.

(Still used today as fertilizer)

During the summer, in some villages, it was gathered and mixed with straw, made into cakes and dried, and used for heat in the winter or for cooking all through the year when there was no wood or other fuel. It burned slowly like peat and met the needs in various places.

While the Valley Gate teaches us how to walk through testing and trials and their importance, the Dung Gate speaks of the works of the flesh reminding us to put off the old was.

In Proverbs 4:24, we are admonished to put off perversity.

- Perverse - falseness of the mouth - to turn away

- In Proverbs we learn that your speech reflects the character of who you are. Your speech should glorifying God.
- If what proceeds from your mouth causes you or someone else to turn away from God, its perverse.

James 3:16 reminds us to get rid of rebellion and evil-speaking, envying and strife, or there would be confusion and evil work.

In his letter to the Ephesians (4:22-32) Paul tells us to:

- put away lying.
- refuse to give place to the devil.
- put away stealing.
- not corrupt the communication that comes out of your mouth.
- not grieve the Holy Spirit of God.
- let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour and evil-speaking be put away from you, with all malice.

Seven Blessings of Walking With the Lord:

- 1. Maturity--no longer children (Eph. 4:14)
- 2. Established in the faith--no longer of doubtful mind or tossed to and fro like the waves (Eph. 4:14; Jas. 1:5-8)
- 3. Rooted and grounded in truth--no longer carried about by winds of doctrine (Eph. 4:14; Jn. 8:32-36 Eph. 3:17; Col. 2:6-7 2Pet. 1:12)
- 4. Freedom from deception--able to discern truth from error (Eph. 4:14; 2Tim. 2:15; Heb. 5:11-14 Jn. 8:32-36)
- 5. The ability to speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:15; Rom. 15:14; Col. 3:16)
- 6. Constant growth in spiritual things (Eph. 4:15; 1Pet. 2:2; 2Pet. 3:18)

7. Harmony with all others in Christ (Eph. 4:16; 2Cor. 1:10; 2Cor. 13:11)

- spirit of your mind - "The renewal of "the spirit of our mind" means that when the thought is clear and pure ... then the spirit is rightly joined to it. They are so coupled as if by a cohesive glue that we no longer speak simply of spirit but of "the spirit of our mind."

He also tells us in Galatians 5:16-26 to walk not after the things of the flesh, but after the things of the Spirit.

Take the dung outside the city and dump it. It has n to place in the life of the believer.