

The city wall and gates of Brussels:

new names, new identities

October 2017

A group of intercessors got it on their hearts to prayer walk the old city wall of Brussels (the inner ring) and pray a new identity over the seven gates. Why?

A city wall and its gates stand for protection against enemies and thus for security. The elders of the city had the authority to open or close the gates. In the Bible we find many references and stories about walls and gates (e.g. Nehemia), about watchmen on the wall

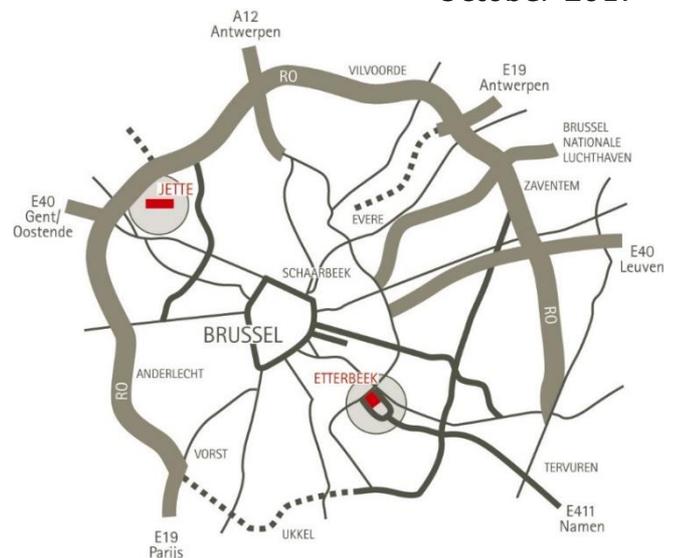
(Is. 62:6-7, 10, 52:8; Ez. 33:6-7), and God being Himself a

wall of fire around His people (Zach 2:5).

In Isaiah 60:18 we read: "but you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise" (likewise in Isaiah 26:1-2).

This inspired us to do this also for our beloved city Brussels, a VERY strategic city in the world: what happens here, has an impact on all of Europe.

In the past Brussels had two old city walls: (1) in the 12th century, with 7 gates and 50 towers (± 7 parts of it are still remaining).



Psalm 24:7-10:

Lift up your heads, you gates;
Be lifted up, you everlasting doors:
The King of glory will come in.
Who is the King of glory?
Yahweh strong and mighty,
Yahweh mighty in battle...
Yahweh of Armies,
He is the King of glory.



Remaining part of the first city wall

(2) in 1357-1384 the second wall was built, about the tracé of the present inner ring (the 'pentagon'): 8 km., 7 gates and 74 towers. These gates were each appointed to seven mighty families who guarded them.

The second wall was destroyed in the time of Napoleon (1805).

The spiritual meaning of gates is important: when the gates are destroyed, anything can come in: the protection is gone.

Several prayer groups already walked this ring of Brussels, in order to 'open up the gates' for the King of Glory, and close them for dark influences. In May 2017 we asked the Lord to give us new names for these seven gates, to speak this new identity and proclaim God's destiny over them.

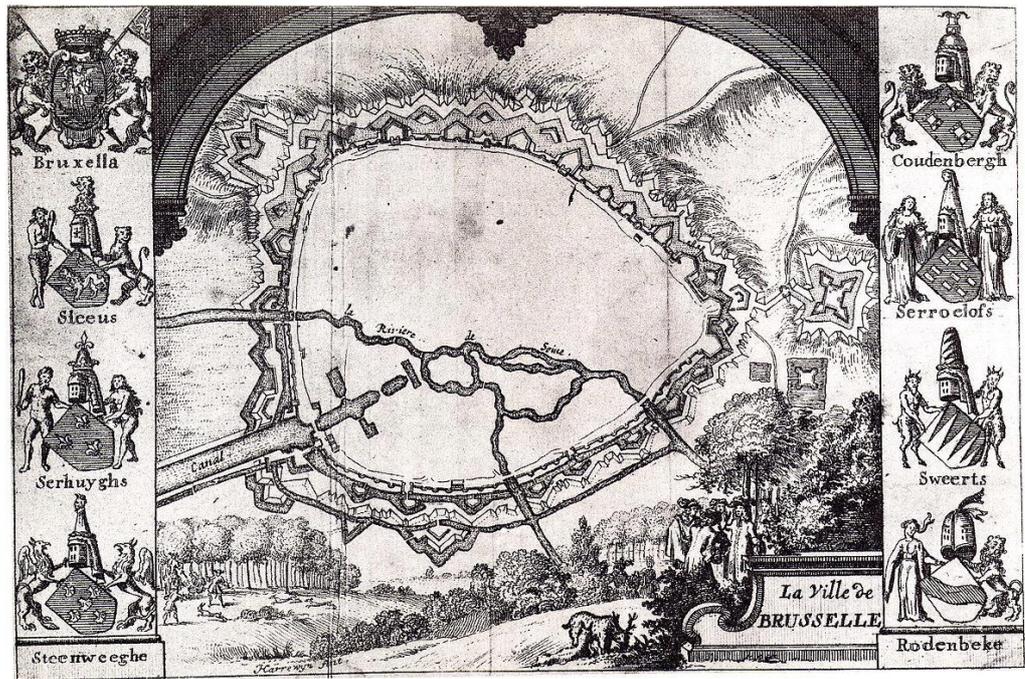
This old map of Brussels (1550) shows the first and second city wall.



This is a painting of Brussels in 1665, seen from the West (Molenbeek):



The seven families who were responsible for the seven gates:

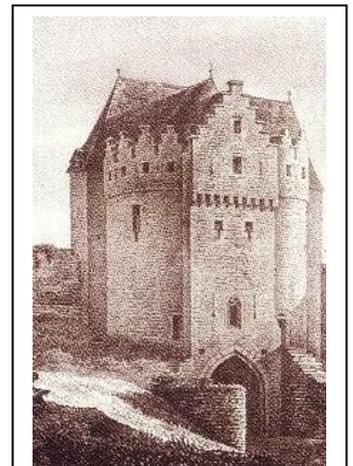


1. Porte de Schaarbeek (de Cologne) (Botanique): 'Gate of the King'

The Belgian kings went (and still go) through this gate from their palace in Brussels to the palace of Laeken; hence the name 'Rue Royale'.

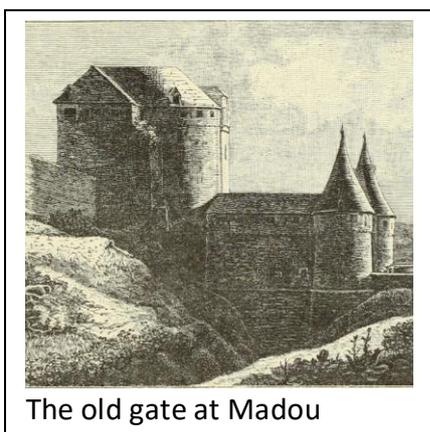
According to Psalm 24:7-10 we pray 'that the King of Glory may enter' and welcome God and Jesus Christ as King in the city of Brussels.

We pray for holiness!



The old gate at Botanique

2. Porte de Louvain (Madou): 'Gate of New Life'



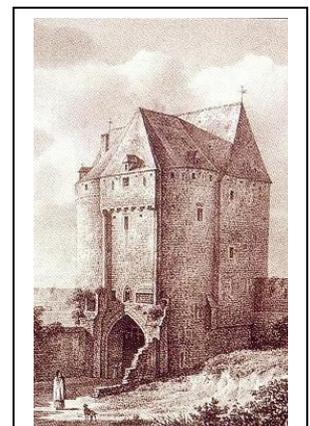
The old gate at Madou

(other keywords: Transformation, New beginnings)

This is the 'East gate' (the glory of the Lord entered Jerusalem by the East, Ezech. 43)

We sow new spiritual seeds, sow in justice (Hosea 10:12).

God is worthy!



The old Porte de Namur

3. Porte de Namur: 'Gate of Victory'

(other keywords: Light)

We proclaim Jesus' victory! Num. 10:35, Psalm 3:8, Psalm 18:5-20, 30-43.

We lift Him up as the Light of the World'

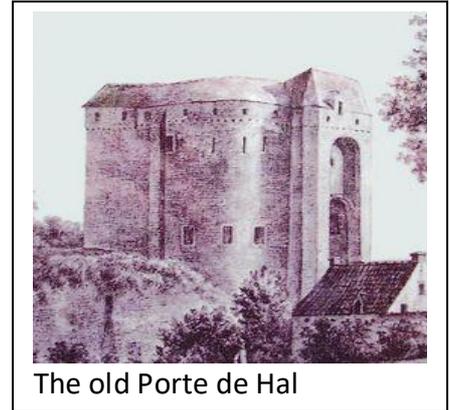
We pray for His banner!

4. Porte de Hal: 'Gate of Praise'

(other keywords: Justice, Freedom)

We praise God as the Protector, the righteous Judge, the Deliverer.

Psalm 9:1-15



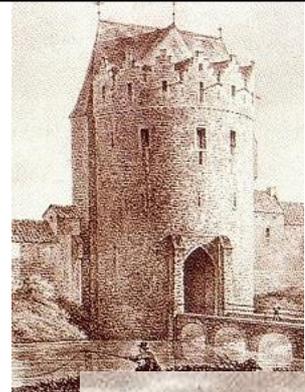
5. Porte d'Anderlecht: 'Gate of Grace'

(other keywords: Salvation, Purification)

We cleanse the 'well' (the river Senne, that entered Brussels here) - 2 Kings 2:19-22. We still find the museum of the sewers here: a sewer is something positive: removes the dirt from the city.

We proclaim God's forgiveness over the city, His purification and healing. He is abundant in grace!

Ex. 34:6-9, Is. 44:22, Rom. 5:20-21



6. Porte de Flandre: 'Gate of Joy'

(other keyword: Abundance, Prosperity; God sees!)

'The joy of the Lord is our strength'

We pray God's abundance, and His spiritual and financial blessings over the churches: Is. 60:5-6, 11; 2 Cor. 9:6-15

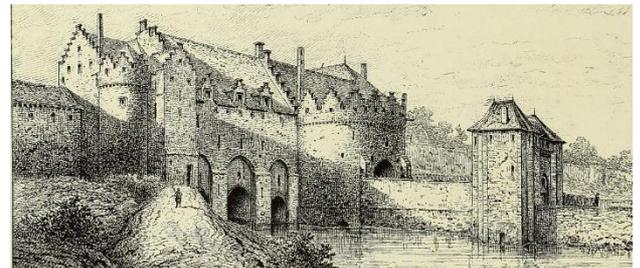


7. Porte d'Anvers/Laeken: 'Gate of Open Heaven'

Isaiah 64:1: 'that God would rend (tear apart, open up) the heavens and come down!'

Jesus is the Living Word!

We pray for the little stream of living water coming from the altar and



watering the whole land, bringing fruit and healing (Ezech 47).



To be done later...? **Cinquantenaire: 'Gate of Glory'?**

Built by King Leopold II in 1905, 'for the glorification of 50 years of independence of Belgium'