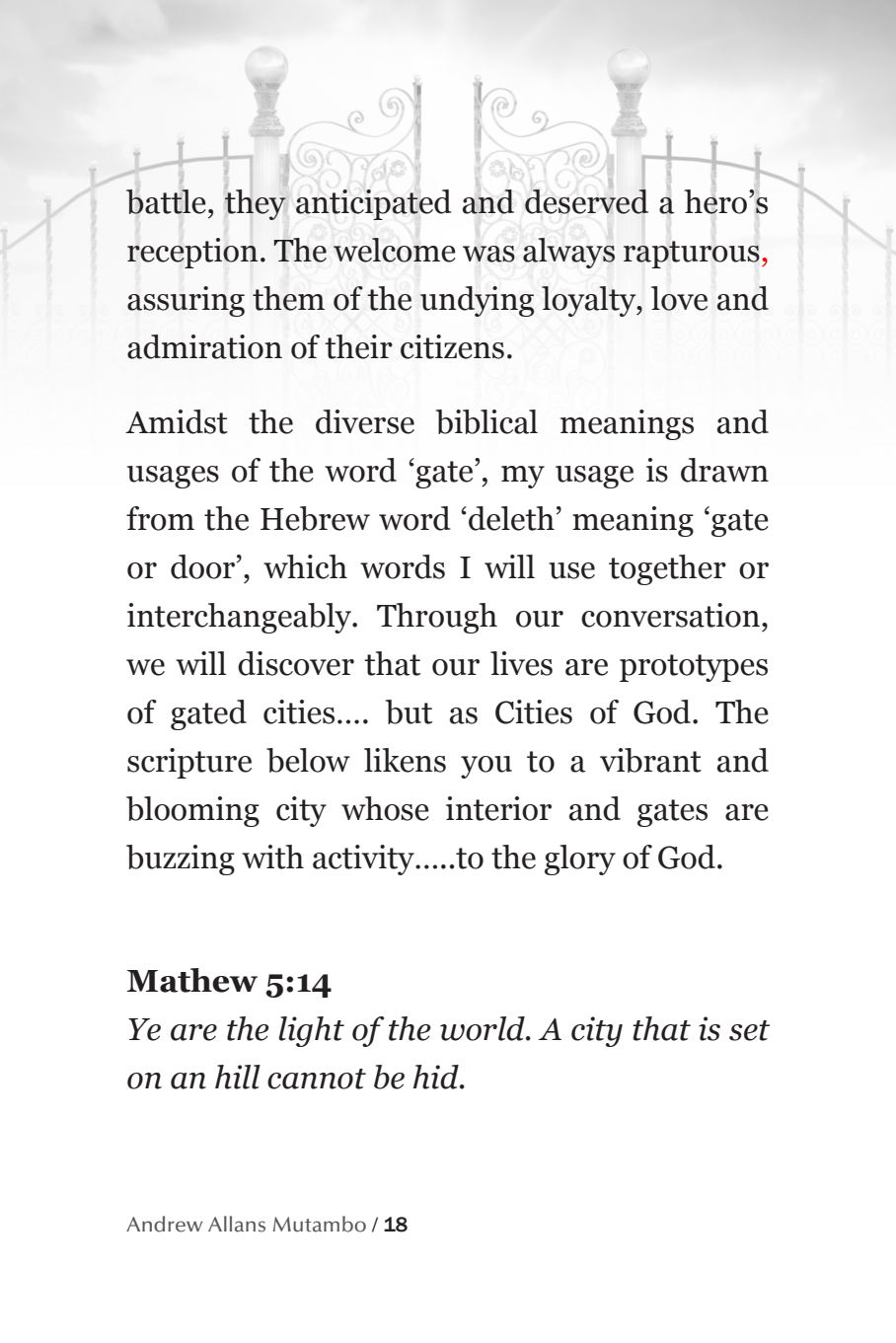


Chapter One

AN OUTLOOK ON GATES



Friends, in our study about ‘gates of worship’, we will focus on the Christ King making his entrance into our lives on a continuous basis. Paul while writing to the Philippians says, ‘*work out your salvation with fear and trembling*’. Our ‘work out’ centers on making the most of the avenues God has created in us that warrant his entrance into our lives daily. As previously noted, conquering kings of old easily, freely and blissfully strode through the gates of their kingdoms because of the warranted reception of their subjects. After being out for long periods in the heat or cold of

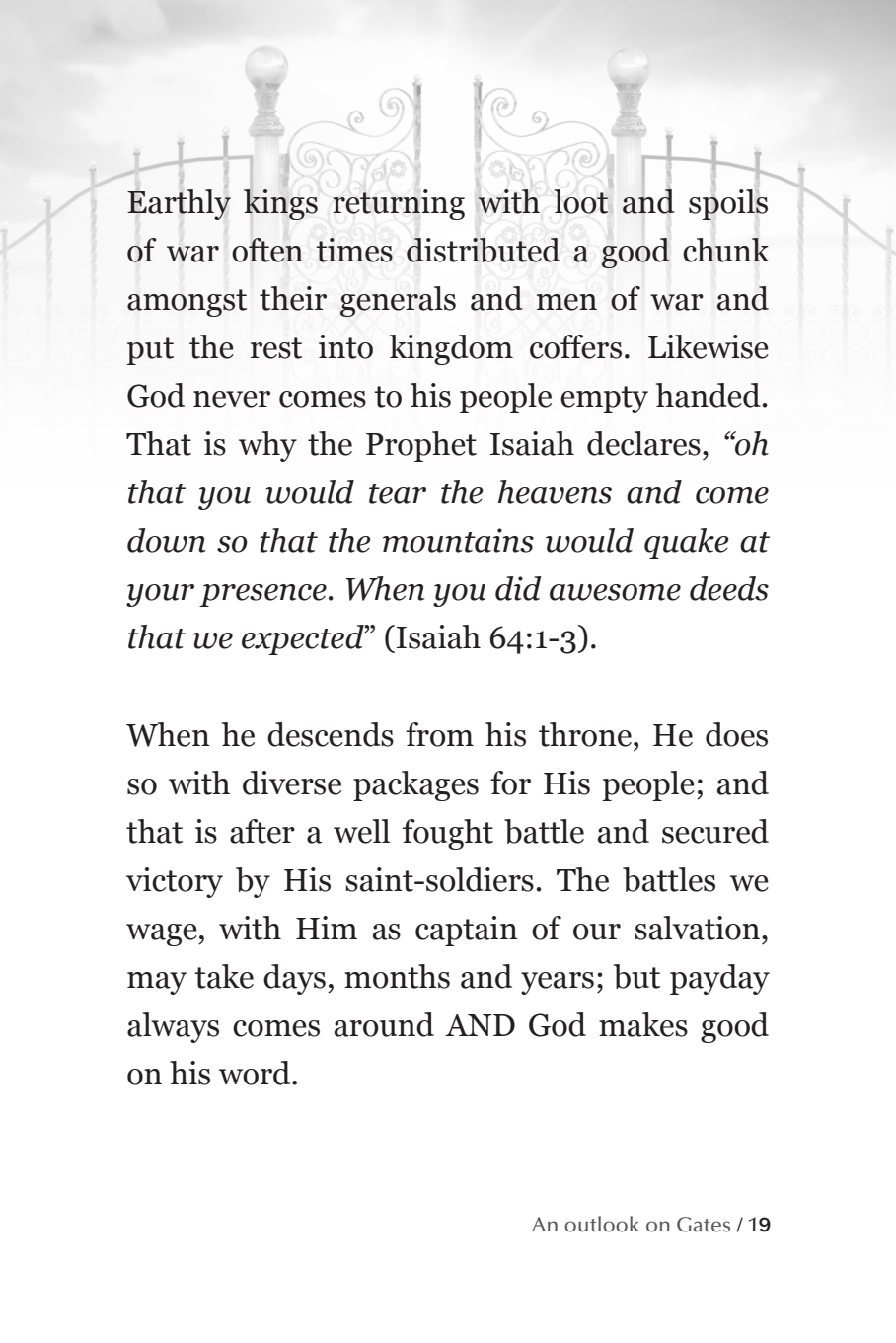


battle, they anticipated and deserved a hero's reception. The welcome was always rapturous, assuring them of the undying loyalty, love and admiration of their citizens.

Amidst the diverse biblical meanings and usages of the word 'gate', my usage is drawn from the Hebrew word 'deleth' meaning 'gate or door', which words I will use together or interchangeably. Through our conversation, we will discover that our lives are prototypes of gated cities.... but as Cities of God. The scripture below likens you to a vibrant and blooming city whose interior and gates are buzzing with activity.....to the glory of God.

Mathew 5:14

Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.



Earthly kings returning with loot and spoils of war often times distributed a good chunk amongst their generals and men of war and put the rest into kingdom coffers. Likewise God never comes to his people empty handed. That is why the Prophet Isaiah declares, *“oh that you would tear the heavens and come down so that the mountains would quake at your presence. When you did awesome deeds that we expected”* (Isaiah 64:1-3).

When he descends from his throne, He does so with diverse packages for His people; and that is after a well fought battle and secured victory by His saint-soldiers. The battles we wage, with Him as captain of our salvation, may take days, months and years; but payday always comes around AND God makes good on his word.