

VISIONS SERIES

DIFFERENT LEVELS OF VISUALIZING

In the last message, after outlining the various parts of our being we talked about how seeing visions should be a normal phenomena in our lives. We also mentioned that there are three types of visions, that is, the inner vision, the closed vision and the open vision. The inner vision is what you see with the eyes of your spirit and you are still conscious. The closed vision is where you are caught up into the spirit realm. The open vision is where you are conscious of both the natural realm and the spiritual realm.

We are going to look further into that so that we could understand it in a clearer way. In order for us to do it we need to first of all define the spirit, soul and body of man. It is in through our being that God is revealing Himself in order for us to see visions. Perhaps there is no better illustration than Moses' Tabernacle that illustrates the spirit, the soul and body of man. Moses Tabernacle if you remember is divided into three major sections, the Outer Court, the Holy Place and then the Most Holy Place. The Outer Court represents the body, the Holy Place represents the soul, and the Most Holy Place represents the human spirit. We would need to see that each piece of furniture that represent Jesus and represent the Christian life. We have touched on that in the study on the Tabernacle. Also, each piece of furniture represents an aspect of our spirit, soul and body. We need to outline it so that we could go deeper into seeing how the visions of God occur in our lives.

In the Outer Court, the first piece of furniture is the brazen altar. Then we have the laver. After the Outer Court, there is a veil here. When we enter into the veil into the Holy Place, we will see the candlestick and the table of showbread. When we come right before the second veil separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place, there is the altar of incense just outside this veil. When you enter that veil, you have the ark.

We have talked on the Tabernacle from a different perspective on the Christian life and on the end times and many other topics. You can draw a lot of principles on many aspects of the Christian life from the pattern found in the Tabernacle alone. But we are going to teach about the soul and the spirit of man in the area of vision. The Outer Court represents the body. The Holy Place represents your soul; there are three pieces of furniture in the Holy Place. Then you enter into the Most Holy Place and you have the ark. Inside the ark, there are Moses' two tablets, the rod of Aaron and the pot of manna.

The brazen altar is Jesus Christ the Lamb of God. The laver: Jesus the Word. The candlestick: Jesus the baptizer and the giver of the Holy Spirit. The table of showbread: Jesus Christ the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The altar of incense: Jesus Christ our High Priest. The ark: Jesus the glory of God and the fullness of God. Each also represents a part of the Christian life. The brazen altar: the power of the blood. The laver: the power of the Word. The candlestick: the power of the Holy Spirit. The table of showbread: the power of the Name of Jesus. The altar of incense: the power of praise and worship. The ark: the power of the presence and the glory of God. Each one represents an aspect of the Christian life and principle.

In the physical realm, in order for our physical body to begin to be more inclined and be fully sensitized to the things of the Spirit of God, our body (represented by the Outer Court) needs the two realms of the brazen altar and the laver found in the Outer Court. In order for our physical body to be a spiritual sensor or to be sensitive to the things of God and to be used by God, our body has to be in line with the Word and be under the blood of Jesus Christ. Let me give an example here. When the word of knowledge operates through my life God uses my body as a sensor. Somebody else's sicknesses are quote unquote in a sense but not directly transferred for me to experience in my physical body. I sensed a physical sensation. It is not caused naturally. It is not exactly like that person's sickness but there is a quote unquote symptom. If your body is sick there is no way you could be sensitive to that. If your body is not in line with the Word of God, your physical body cannot be used as a sensor for God. For example, you are having your own backache or your own headache then in your ministry's time, you sensed it and you say somebody here has a backache. It's not somebody else's it's yours. But if your body is in good physical health, your body is in line with the Word of God, redeemed from the curse of the law, and you are experiencing that, God can use your body as a sensor. In the physical realm in order for our body to be flowing easily in the things of the spirit, you will need the two realms, the power of the Blood of Jesus and the Word

of God. As these two sanctify your body, it becomes sensitive to the things of the spirit.

There are three parts to our soul. One is the will, the second is our emotions and the third area is our intellect. The Holy Spirit wants to flow to all three areas of our soul. The bible says, "Bless the Lord O my soul and all that is within me." We are not only to worship God with our will, that is the starting point, we have to worship God with all our heart, all our mind, all our soul and all our strength. Sometimes, people minister and preach as if your emotion is divorced from you. God wants our emotions to be a part of the spirit realm too. When God created man; spirit, soul and body were to function in the spirit realm and the natural realm simultaneously. So, the three parts of our soul need to be worked on by the Word of God and need to be constantly dealt with in the realm of the spirit.

The three pieces of furniture in the Holy Place symbolize ways in which our soul can be tuned to the things of the Spirit. In other words, they symbolize how the spirit realm works through our intellect, emotions and the will. The candlestick represents the power of the Holy Spirit working. Let me explain that the power of the Holy Spirit will always have to flow through your renewed mind. I Cor. 2: 8 tell us that the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit. Anyone who has been led by the Spirit to a certain extend will know that the gift of the Spirit operates in proportion to the renewed ness of the mind. God has to deal with your intellect. Your intellect has to be touched and transformed by God, so that the gift of the Spirit can flow through. The limitations of the gift of the Spirit are limited by your thought life.

The bible says in II Cor. 10 *For the weapons of our warfare are not worldly but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every proud obstacles to the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.* Now in all teaching on the gifts of the Spirit, they will always tell you that the gifts of the Spirit function as spiritual weapons to destroy the works of the devil. So the gifts of the Spirit are the equipment that God gives to us to wage warfare against the enemy. Notice how all our spiritual weapons are not carnal but they are mighty through God. And yet, it has an association with the thought life and the thought realm.

So if you want your intellect to be submissive to God and to flow in the things of God you have to be dealt with by the Word of God in order for the intellect to be a

vessel for God to flow through, for God to use. You can talk personally to any person who stands in the prophet office or anybody who operates the gift of prophecy. They will tell you that part of what they receive come also to their mind. They may not describe it as thoroughly but their mind is also used. Of course when we speak a prophecy with our understanding our mind is involved. We are still conscious and our minds do hear the things of the Spirit of God. So the Word has to deal with the mind.

The table of showbread, which represent the power the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, represents the work of God on your will. This is where the revelation of your position in Christ comes in. Our free will is involved in the realm of our position in Christ. Like for example, you may be affected in the natural realm and be insecure if you do not know your positioning in Christ. But by the power of the Name of Jesus, you can make a choice. You could develop the realm of your freewill. Instead of choosing the doctrines and things of the enemy, you exercise your freewill to go by God's Word and the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. You choose to go by the Name of Jesus. You go by what Smith Wigglesworth always say, "I am not moved by what I feel; I am not moved by what I see; I am moved only by the Word of God." That is the freewill the free choice. You may have certain things that are in conflict and are contradictory to your normal reasoning but then your freewill chooses God. So, the Name of Jesus strengthens our freewill. And understanding our position in Christ strengthens the area of our choice and deals with the will.

And the altar of incense representing the power of praise, prayers and worship deals with your emotional realm. You notice that when you pray a lot and when you worship God a lot one of the things that is affected is your emotions. There is no way you can really give true worship to God without your emotions being changed and transformed. Worship involves your emotions. Prayer for long period of time involves your emotions. Your emotions are being transformed and changed. The power of praise and worship affects your emotions.

So, we have the will, the emotions and the intellect being instruments of God. The power of the Holy Spirit flows through and affects your intellect. The name of Jesus the revelation of Jesus Christ affects your will power. Knowledge and truth sets you free. When you know what Jesus had done, you are free. You know you could choose. Sometimes people don't choose because they know not what they have. So, the revelation of your position in Christ and of the Name of Jesus re-enforces your

will. If people do not know the things that belong to them, they will never exercise their freewill. But when you know what is yours, your freewill is strengthened because now you know your rights. If somebody comes to your house and say, "This house belongs to me," you know that it belongs to you. You will fight for your rights. You stand on your ground. But if you are not sure yourself, if you don't have any legal document and somebody comes to you and say that house is his, you say, "Is that right?" Your freewill is shaken. You are not sure whether you could stand or not. So the revelation of the Name of Jesus and your position in Christ will strengthen your freewill. Your freewill, your emotions and your intellect are affected. This is your soul area that God wants to deal with.

Of course we come to the ark. In the ark, there are three pieces of instruments there, the manna, the rod and the tablets. Those three represents three realms of your spirit man. The spirit man has three different realms of function. One is the intuition, one is the communion and one is the conscience. Intuition is what we receive from God in a sense of direction. Communion is our union with God and our fellowship and love walk with God. And conscience is our sense of right and wrong. So in those three things the tablets of Moses, the Ten Commandments that are stored in the ark represents your conscience. The manna represents those things that God imparts upon your life. Manna is something that is for partaking. So, that is representative of your communion with God. Manna is something to partake and eat. The rod of Aaron that put forth buds, blossoms and ripe almonds was a sign from God that he was God's chosen priest. His rod was then put back "before the testimony" as a warning against further rebellion (Num. 17: 1-11). Aaron's rod represents the special inner revelation of God or intuition. So these are the three parts of your spirit man.

In the last message, we described the two aspects of the soul. In your soul, you have the *dianoia* and the *dialogismos*. Then in the outer fringes of your soul, you have the *nous* that is your normal consciousness. In your soul realm, you have the *nous*, the *dialogismos* and the *dianoia*. The *nous* represents your conscious mind. The *dianoia* and the *dialogismos* rest more in the realm of your sub-conscious although part of it is in the conscious mind. About 5 percent of our mind is conscious and 95 percent is sub-conscious. That is why the sub-conscious mind is far more powerful than the conscious mind. And it affects and influences the choices of the conscious mind makes. *Dianoia* is a part of your mind that visualizes and sees pictures. The other part of your mind is the *dialogismos* that calculates one plus one equals two. It is the part of your mind that is logical. It brings a logical conclusion in your mind.

Now there are two other parts of your mind, the *ennoia* and the *enthumesis*. The *ennoia* is the part of your *dianoia* that resides in the spirit man. Your spirit man has the ability to see pictures also. Of course, the ability to reason is in a higher realm. The *ennoia*, which is related indirectly to *dianoia* and the *enthumesis*, which is indirectly related to *dialogismos* dwell and reside in the realm of your spirit man.

What we have is our consciousness. This is where we relate to visualizing. When you sleep your consciousness transfers into the realm of the sub-conscious. When you are asleep, you are not aware of your physical body at all. Your consciousness resides in the realm of your sub-conscious. There are two veils in Moses' Tabernacle. The *nous* is the conscious part of your mind. The conscious part of your mind relates to the physical world and to the soul realm. The *nous* represents the consciousness of your soul that contacts the physical world and yet it's in contact with the other world inside you, your soul and indirectly the spirit world. There is a consciousness that you will have under normal waking hours. Your consciousness is at the *nous*. You are partly conscious of your conscious mind and you are conscious of the physical world. Your consciousness stands at this veil between the Outer Court (body) and the Holy Place (soul). You are relating to two realms. You are relating to the physical world and the inner realm of your spirit and your soul indirectly. When you are asleep, your consciousness moves out from the conscious realm and goes into the level of your sub-conscious. That is where your *nous* is sort of closed up. The physical world is still there but you are not conscious of the physical world at all. Your consciousness has moved deeper.

Inner Vision

Now there are three types of visions: the inner vision, the closed vision and the open vision. The inner vision is the lowest type of vision. And in the inner vision, your consciousness is here in the Outer Court (body). So, you are conscious of the physical world but you are also conscious of the spirit world and the things of the spirit and the inner soul. What you received is quote unquote some times like an imagination. God could give you some things that come in thought or it comes in a picture form. And sometimes it's not so clear. Your clarity in your inner vision is affected by where your consciousness is. If you happen to be active in the physical realm, your consciousness is not that much of the inner realm of your soul; you are more conscious of the physical realm. And that is why when the Holy Spirit is giving you an inner vision, sometimes you have to quote unquote possibly close up your body realm. You may even need to close your eyes so that you could

concentrate to see clearly, what you are receiving in the spirit.

Watching too much T.V. or reading too many wrong things can affect the inner vision, the Holy Spirit is giving you. As you close your eyes, right now you will see some of those things from your memory echoing through your soul realm. Right now, you could actually see some things in your corridors of your *nous*. Your consciousness is right now at your *nous*. And if you close your eyes right now, don't try to think of any thing but let your inner consciousness hang loose. As your inner consciousness hang loose although you may just see a dark screen inside you - if you have been watching too much T.V. a bit of that is coming up. If you have been reading a book recently or whatever things, whatever is your latest impression comes up to the corridors of your screen. If you have been reading the bible much and praying much that comes to your consciousness. That means whatever is your latest experience you see. When you close your eyes, just now whatever was latest in your experience the latest picture came out. The most current picture comes to your mind, whether in the spirit, soul or body realm of your experience comes to your mind.

What you do is that when the Holy Spirit wants to lead you in visions. He can lead you either through the inner vision, open vision or close vision. Most His general leadings function in the inner vision realm. That is why we have to develop a sensitivity to learn how to close off our physical realm so that you could concentrate on what you are receiving from God. In other words, the signals that you are receiving from the Holy Spirit are weak and you need a quiet room in order to concentrate on that. You could turn on the radio and you could find some signals are loud and clear from your local radio station. But some other signals from far off places are a bit weak. They can be received but they are weaker. And some times in order to receive it you need to filter it. You need to be in a quieter atmosphere. You will find it very hard to do if you have about one thousand children running all over the place and screaming. You need a quiet place. You may need to create an atmosphere to receive that signal. When you are receiving a signal from the Holy Spirit in leading your life and you are in the *nous* realm, you are awake and it is coming to you, you may need to have a certain quietness to bring about that inner vision. One of easiest way is to close off your physical eyes.

Open Vision

Now when the Holy Spirit gives you an open vision, your *dianoia* is more toward your inner realm of your sub-conscious soul. If you were having an open vision right now, you would be able to see the physical world and the spiritual world at the same time. Yet, you are more conscious of the spiritual than the physical. So, God is allowing you to experience the spiritual world and the natural world. You actually are quite close to this veil between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. You are conscious of the spirit realm and you are conscious of the natural realm at the same time. You are somewhere in between. That is why it is the middle part of the vision, that is, it is between the lowest vision (inner vision) and the highest vision (close vision). Your consciousness is still there. If I were to tie a rope between the two veils, the rope would touch your consciousness which is somewhere in between. That is the open vision. You are more conscious slightly of the spirit realm but you are conscious of the natural realm. If somebody is running round, you could see the person running. If an angel were flying, you could also see the angel. But you are seeing and experiencing the physical world and the spiritual world at the same time. That is the open vision. That is not too much of a problem like the inner vision where you got to close yourself up.

Closed Vision

In a close vision, the person's *nous* or consciousness has completely entered into the spirit realm. Your consciousness has gone into the spirit realm. You are completely unaware of the physical world. You are quote unquote caught into the spirit world and caught into the spirit realm of God. Like Revelations 4 John was caught up into the spirit. Acts 10 Peter fell into a trance. He was caught into the spirit realm. Paul in II Cor. 12 says I know a man in Christ who went into the third heaven, he knows not whether in the spirit or in the flesh. There is no more consciousness of the natural realm. You are caught in the spirit realm. And your spirit realm is experiencing all those things and your natural body has lost its consciousness completely.

You notice in the positioning in Moses Tabernacle that laver is placed before the first veil. And the altar of incense is placed before the second veil. To get through the first veil and the second veil you will have to get to the laver first and then pass the altar of incense into the second veil.

What does the laver represents? It represents the Word. In order to experience inner

clarity you would need the Word of God to be constantly be upon your *nous*, so that you could clearly receive the signals from the Holy Spirit. For example, it's easier to receive the signal from the Holy Spirit if He is giving some things in the inner vision or spiritual vision where your mind is dwelling upon the Word of God. If your mind is not dwelling on the Word of God but on some thing else, you cannot receive that signal from God. Your mind must be dwelling on the Word of God and your mind must be flowing with the things of God. Like John 15:3 Jesus said, "*My Word has made you clean.*"

To have a close vision, you have to be in the spirit realm or the Most Holy Place. You would notice that the altar of incense is just before the Most Holy Place. Usually you would be deep in prayer to enter into the close vision.

Let me take some illustrations from the natural. One of the things that happen before a person fall asleep is that there is rhythmic breathing. Now there is a technique for getting to sleep very fast. There are different stages of sleep. There is the earlier stage then the later stage, which is quite quiet. Then the deepest one is R.E.M. or rapid eye movement sleep. At a certain level of your sleep, you won't be able to hear noises or sounds. But at the lower realm of your sleep, it can wake you up. Some times within one night, you could have a cycle. Let us put it as three phases of sleep: just getting into sleep, quietness and R.E.M. So, you could have stage 1, stage 2 and stage 3. At a certain point in your sleep if a noise is made you could wake up. But at the R.E.M. point when noise is made you won't wake up at all.

Now there are different levels of moving into the things of the Spirit. There are different levels of vision. Although vision is classified into three main areas spiritual vision, open vision and close vision, yet between them there could be degrees of growth. There could be degrees of levels of consciousness that we develop in God. Through growth a person can develop where they are constantly able to picture the things of the spirit with great clarity almost like an open vision. When you are new to the things of the spirit sometimes, God gives you a vision. Kenneth Hagin calls it a mini vision or flash vision. I call it a fast one. You could be worshipping or doing some thing and suddenly you saw a picture that came by. And sometimes, it's blurring and sometimes it's very clear. Sometimes, it's only for a few split seconds. Sometimes, it retains for a long time.

What causes the length of time? The level of your consciousness in the realm of the spirit. The further in you are in the realm of the spirit the longer that vision will remain. But when your *nous* is only in the physical realm or Outer Court, the vision can only come and go off very fast. You could miss it. You could miss the direction of God in visions.

Let me give you some scriptures as we close. Lets look at Acts 10. We will take an illustration from the deepest realm of moving into the close vision realm. Acts 10:10 *And he became hungry and desire something to eat; but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance.* He fell into what I call a close vision. In verse 9 *Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour.* Notice what he was doing. He was praying. That tells you the altar of incense just before he entered into the close vision.

Revelations 1: 10 *I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet.* What John was experiencing is a close vision. To be in close vision he says, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day." What does he mean when he says "I"? His consciousness, his whole soul was like in the spirit realm.

And moving into the realm of the close vision has its type in the natural. The natural world is like a parable to the things of the spirit. In the natural world, before you fall asleep into deep sleep there is a way could do it. Barring the interference of demons, which you could take authority over, there are many other physical causes or organic causes for insomnia. But under normal circumstances if you find it hard to sleep, it is because your mind is thinking of too many things. You try to sleep with your mind thinking hard and long, you will find it hard to sleep. My mind sometimes gets very active too. But I have learnt a natural art of sleeping. It's very easy for me. Knowing how the body operates and how to get into deep sleep, I just keep my mind quiet. Let your mind concentrate on other things into rhythmic pattern. I learned that when I was traveling on a train.

Today scientists have discovered a way for babies to sleep. They put a microphone into a mother's womb and recorded the sounds that the baby would normally hear while in the mother's womb. They could hear the heart beat of the mother. They could hear some sounds from the stomach. When a baby is born and is always crying, they play that tape and the baby hears the sounds exactly like in the mother's womb. What does the baby do? It falls asleep.

When my mind is active and when I know that my body needs rest I would just concentrate on my own breathing and try not to think of anything else. When you are asleep, your breathing is actually rhythmic and heavy. But when you are awake, your breathing is not that deep.

Keys to the Spirit Realm

In the spirit realm, there are certain keys to get into the spirit. You have to have what I call rhythmic yielding. There are many ways into that. One could be praying in the Spirit. When you pray in the Spirit, you could put to automatic gear. I would pray very rhythmically and allow my body to flow with the prayer. Out in the world when they play those pop songs in the departmental stores, the worldly people start doing the disco. The tune sets their feet dancing. We all respond to music; there is a rhythm. So likewise, in prayer we realize that we could flow in the rhythmic of the prayer. Imagine keeping that on for hours. It sort of builds your consciousness into the spirit world and you could see the things of God easily. I am showing you practical keys of getting into that realm. When I want to move in the Spirit I have to prepare myself. When I minister, I move into the Spirit. That is why people who minister in the Spirit like music because music helps them to get their consciousness into the spirit realm. Once it get into the spirit realm, it's so easy to take off with visions. So there is a rhythmic pattern of prayer, a rhythmic pattern of worship and a rhythmic pattern of singing. See we are taking illustration for moving from the soul realm into the spirit realm. These are what I call general principles. Outside of that God could any time any place just grant the gift of discerning of spirits and zoom you are in. But I am talking about the normal development of growing our consciousness into the spirit realm.