

Face to Face

By Todd Bentley

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What did Jesus say when Lazarus lay dead four days in the tomb? He said did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the Glory of God. What is the Glory of God? It is people being raised from the dead. It is resurrection power coming out of the Glory. Do you believe the Bible from beginning to end? Do you believe that Jesus is the same today as He was yesterday and that He is going to be the same forever? What a great promise we have for healing. What about the supernatural? If He is the same today, then why can't He visit me like He visited Abraham, Daniel, Isaiah, John and Ezekiel? Jesus is the same today as He was yesterday and He will be the same forever – and that makes what is available in the Bible, available today. Not just healing and laying hands on the sick and miracles, but also supernatural encounters.

Jesus was raised from the dead and spent forty days in His resurrected body. If He is alive today then supernatural things can take place. Jesus can appear to someone in a visitation. Ten years ago my eyes started to be open and I began to see angels. We seem to be ok with angels showing up and speaking to Mary and Joseph, but we do not with angels speaking to us. We are ok with Paul being taken into heaven, which he called the "third heaven". Paul and Elijah were men like us. God has to interact with somebody supernaturally. He is the same today. Why should Christianity and people's experiences with Christianity be any different today than they were in the Bible?

There was an all night prayer meeting and Peter showed up at the door and they said, "It is his angel". They did not want to believe that Peter was there, but they would believe that it was his angel. They were praying for Peter to be released from prison, but when he showed up at the door would not believe it was actually him. As God pours out His greater glory, we are going to hear about greater encounters and greater experiences. They will be based on the model of how God visited them in the Bible.

I have had some unusual experiences. I am now feeling a bit of a release to share some of those things. Jesus appeared to me this year two times. Why do we need to have biblical encounters when we have the Bible? It is about intimacy. Why wait for your inheritance? What do you expect when you get to heaven? The Kingdom of God is at hand; it is within you. I am hungry now. I am a joint heir. Thank God that one day the fullness will come and I will be in heaven, but I do not have to wait until then for my inheritance.

We need to have greater faith and expectation that He is going to speak to and visit us. Heaven is real, tangible. The glory of heaven is real and it changes everything that it touches.

I was in Redding, California earlier this year. There were 2500-3000 people in the convention center. We had to turn away about 1000 people. It was one of the first engagements that I had taken after a three week sabbatical. As soon as I stepped into the meeting I had a vision. The power of God was so overwhelming that I couldn't stand anymore. I went into the greenroom and as I was sitting on the couch, felt a certain atmosphere or realm fall on me – much like the Bible says Peter fell into a trance. I have had this type of experience before...I can tell that I am about to have an experience when this realm comes. I was sitting there with my eyes open and Jesus appeared right there in the room. He stepped right out of the atmosphere, as if He had been there and I just hadn't seen Him. I saw a trail of heaven behind Him. It was almost as described in Revelations 19 where He is coming on a white horse with the armies of heaven. It was as if a window was open and I could see into heaven. But heaven had come from the Lord. From the Lord came ten rainbows. I didn't have time to count them because it was blinding light. There were seven colors. The light was liquid, almost like paint. It was liquid that could be poured on and you would be covered in the light. The brightest color of the rainbow was pink. I asked the Lord, "why pink?" He said "for a heart of flesh." Love and emotions.

I looked into heaven and everything was an amber color, like the reddish-orange of sunset. I saw lions and lambs walking and laying down together. I saw bumble bees that were the size of loonies (Canadian one dollar coin). I remember the colors were so bright and real. The colors in heaven are amazing. God has put sound in light, in color. White light is a union of all color. God is light. And I had an encounter with God's light and sound.

One time I had an experience where I saw the throne room. In it, there was a green-blue sapphire sea. It was like crystal and you could stand on it before the throne, all nations. I was standing there and there was nothing but blinding white light. There was no appearance of a man, only white light. The white light came in the form of beams. They would come down, hit the floor, and ricochet – much like the reflection of light through a window. Then it would hit the floor and bounce, then another would come and do the same. I could hear them whip past my head. I came toward me and hit me before I could scream. Everything in me vibrated and the beam felt warm. I heard many voices singing one song, yet many words at the same time. It was like a concert or choir of angels. They were saying "you are good, you are wonderful, you are beautiful, you are lovely" over and over. It was a song of affirmation of my worthiness. It was as if the Father rejoiced over me with singing. There was healing and sound in the beams of light. They broke off rejection, fear and other things and you could feel the Father's love in the beams.

I saw that light again when I saw the Lord and the trail of heaven. I could see rolling hills. It was like looking directly into Psalms 23. In Revelation 2:7 we are given a promise:

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God

That is what I saw. I was taken right into the midst of the paradise of God. Jesus came in the form of the son of man. He had on an ephod that was the color of the earth, a tan or brown. He had a golden sash and sandals and curly hair that hung to His shoulders. He also wore a purple or blue robe. I looked right into His eyes. They were so brown like those of a deer. I felt like I could go right into His eyes. They were like doves' eyes, or milky almonds. He had a short beard.

I could see into heaven at a distance that seemed twenty or thirty miles. I saw the tree of life at a distance. I wanted to go there and eat from it. As quickly as I had the thought, I was there. Communication in heaven takes place by thought. Everything is open and transparent, nothing is hidden.

I saw a bridge and a small flowing river. I wanted to be on the bridge and as soon as I had the thought, I was there. Nothing dies in heaven. When I stepped on grass, it would spring right back up. Everything is full of life. The grass seemed so full of life that when I looked at it, I thought it was going to speak to me. I was sitting on the bridge when Paul appeared. He was a small man and he sat down next to me. He was holding a blank scroll and a pen, something like a quill. As he would write he said "Eat this." I began to eat, but realized I wasn't eating through my mouth but by my belly. At a distance I could see Abraham and David.

Paul took me to his house, which was a cabin. Wall to wall was books, scrolls, diaries. I saw every book of the Bible and also Paul's journals. He said, "Not everything is in the Bible, Todd." All of my revelation is based on the Bible. He didn't give me anything new. He took the book of Titus and said, "You need to eat this." He stuffed the scroll down my throat. I said, "Why do I need to eat this?" He said, "Because it is my apostolic son in the faith. I want you to get an impartation of what it really means to be an apostle, to have sons and daughters, what it really means to be a son." And we spoke more about the apostolic that is coming.

We were in a room which was round in shape. I asked, "What happens in this room?" It didn't seem large enough to fit more than twelve people. He said, "This is a room where I teach people who died prematurely and are in heaven today." He then took down another scroll which was 1 Corinthians chapter 2. He said, "Eat this." I said, "Why do you want me to eat this?" He said, "Because this is what I am breathing on in this hour." And he spoke more to me about a supernatural faith, Gospel and experience.

He gave me one last book, which was Hebrews. I ate the book and then he told me who authored it. He explained that he in fact wrote the book but left it unclear because some of its content was given to him by supernatural visitation from Abraham.

I stepped out of Paul's house. In the backyard was a ladder that was not being supported by anything. The Lord said, "Get on it." I said, "Yes." The minute I had the thought, I was on it. I went up until I was in white clouds. I actually got scared because when I looked down I couldn't see anything and the ladder was not being supported by anything. I pulled the clouds back and something like an emerald colored paint poured out through the opening onto my face. I had to close my eyes and wipe my face, but there was nothing there. It was green light. It was as if the color that surrounds the throne was pouring through the opening in the heavens. I then climbed up into the throneroom. The only other thing that I remember is that I was in the fifth, sixth and seventh heaven.

We are in the first heaven. The second heaven is the invisible realm where spiritual warfare takes place. The third heaven is paradise (2 Cor. 12). The fourth heaven is the throneroom (Revelation 4). The fifth atmosphere that I saw was the heavenly city (Rev. 22). The sixth atmosphere was a city for angels. In the seventh atmosphere I saw universe. I saw planets and solar systems. I saw flashes of white light falling like stars and I asked "Lord, what realm is this?" He said, "This is the realm of creation. My nature is creation. I have not stopped creating." I asked what the flashes of light were and He said they were angels going on assignments. I was able to see the angels departing this seventh realm with their commissions for earth.

I share this because I want to bring heaven close. Anything can happen when the Lord appears. We want higher realms of Glory than we presently have. The Lord promised that we would eat the fruit of the Tree of Life. I pray that you will make yourself available for a new realm of Glory. Let the windows of heaven open!

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CONTACT INFO

Fresh Fire USA
P.O. Box 820
Pineville, NC 28134

info@freshfireusa.com
803.802.0932