

2016-09-24

### **30th anniversary Lord appearing to me #1**

Hi all,

October 1 is the 30th anniversary of a visitation from the Lord that changed my life forever, and I want to share about the teaching part of that visitation over the next 2 weeks. Additionally, we've discounted some cd's and MP3's, and 1 DVD (US format) related to what He taught me if someone wants more detailed teaching. See the header above for details for those and the new series this month as well.

#### **Laguna de Sanchez, a small mountain village in north-east Mexico**

Carl, the missionary, Dora the interpreter who had only known the Lord for 2 months, and I were in the village because I was to minister at the little Assembly of God church that evening.

As the 3 of us walked the rocky streets while dinner with our host family was being prepared, I lagged behind, focused on what the Father would have me teach that evening. Suddenly in my spirit I felt an excitement of an intensity I'd not felt before. I'd had times when I wake up and my spirit is rejoicing, and I've learned that is often due to some yet unseen provision or spiritual victory that will become known in the natural in the next day or week, but this was different.

I was looking down at the rocks so I wouldn't twist an ankle and focused on why my spirit was so excited, when I heard myself say, literally coming up out of my spirit as I lifted up my head: 'It's Jesus!' And at that moment I saw the Lord. He was standing in a bend of the street not more than 15' away (4.5m) as Carl and Dora continued up the hill into the main part of the village.

#### **Flash forward a few minutes...**

For lack of space I will jump over the next few minutes of the visitations and get right to the teaching, which came after it occurred to me that Carl and Dora would want to know the Lord was there. I was about to turn my head and yell to them when suddenly Jesus was transformed before me from wearing 'normal' 1st century clothes to becoming pure light, and that light streamed from Him slowly outward, obscuring everything around us. As the sky, ground, village and Carl and Dora disappeared, it was just Jesus and me in the light: "I want to teach you how to hear the Father's voice."

"You'll remember the story of the rich man and the beggar Lazarus\*" He began, and then started quoting it as within me those words I had read before at some point in my life, became as fresh as if I'd just memorized them for a class report. \*Luke 16:19-31

The story (not a parable, but a story of 2 real men) is about a rich man and a beggar named Lazarus, the latter being laid at the gate of the rich man hoping to be fed scraps from his table, and dogs even came and licked his sores. Over the course of time the beggar died and was carried by angels to Abraham's bosom, while the rich man also died at some point and found himself in hell.

The rich man called out, seeing Abraham and Lazarus 'far off', asking for Lazarus to be sent with water to quench his thirst. But Abraham responded there was a wide chasm between hell and Paradise and those from there who would go over to help could not, and those over there who wanted out, could not.

#### **Foundational understanding**

I already had the proper understanding of the places depicted so the Lord didn't correct my understanding as we talked, which is important to understanding what He said later. There used to be 2 holding places in the earth; Hell, and Abraham's bosom, or Paradise as it was also known. Hell is where the unrighteous people went, and Paradise was for the righteous people. It was said to be a park-like place with lots of grass, trees, water, and the ability to fellowship with all the righteous ones.

The righteous dead were held captive in Abraham's bosom/Paradise as they waited for their redemption. After the resurrection, Paradise, or Captivity, was carried by the Lord up to heaven, and has become part of what we today call heaven.

Paul taught in Ephesians 4:8-10 that Jesus first descended into the lower parts of the earth, and then ascended on high leading Captivity captive to Himself. It was for this reason the Lord told Mary at His resurrection to stop clinging to Him\* for He had not yet ascended to the Father - He wasn't talking about His ascension 40 days later, rather He was ascending at His resurrection to bring Abraham's bosom and the Paradise saints to heaven and to present Himself before the Father as the last sacrifice for the sins of mankind.\*John 20:17-19, \*\*Hebrews 9:23-24

There remains 1 holding place in the earth, hell, where the unrighteous dead continue to go. Since the resurrection, believers now go directly to heaven as Paul said, "to be absent from the body is to be

present with the Lord", and he was caught **up** to Paradise\* or the 3rd heaven. (The 1st heaven being the air/sky, the 2nd being space.) \*II Corinthians 5:8, 12:1-4

We have judged ourselves, taking the Father's remedy for our sin, Jesus, and will only be judged according to what we've done since being saved. The unrighteous have to wait in hell until they are judged at the end of the age\*. \*Revelation 20:11-15

### **I continue...**

That was my understanding that day in 1986 and remains so to this day. After reciting this passage in Luke and by the Spirit making it fresh in me as if I was staring at the text, He continued: "Notice how they were dead, yet they retained their memory of this life, saw one another, spoke back and forth, heard each other, the rich man even felt the heat of hell and experienced great thirst. They continued to have what you call your 5 physical senses though physically they were dead."

He told me our 5 physical senses have their root in our spirit man and those senses actually flow out to the physical body, and are connected, and for those who want to be sensitive to how they function, they can learn. He said this is how people smelled a heavenly aroma, or even the stench of death and/or demons, and how others heard angels singing - He said that isn't with physical senses because physical senses only relate to the physical realm.

### **I need chapter and verse on this!**

I told Him, "Peter said though He saw you transfigured before him on the Mount, he said 'we have a more sure word of prophecy', meaning as great as that experience was, the scripture must always agree with any spiritual experience, vision, or dream or that experience has to be set aside as unscriptural - so I need chapter and verse on this Lord!" \*II Peter 1:16-21

He smiled and then referred to examples from His own life: "I'll give you a couple of examples; You remember when I was in the house and the man was let down through the roof." Instantly by the Spirit I saw the passage in Mark 2:1-12 as fresh as if I'd just read it a minute before. I pictured in my mind what that scene must have looked like and He interrupted my thoughts: "The house was smaller than what you're thinking." So I shrunk it down in my mind, scanning in my mind's eye around the room from left to right, it all happening so naturally and so fast I didn't have time to analyze the conversation with the Lord. "That's about right, and there were people at the windows. That's close enough." as I adjusted my thinking to what it must have looked like.

"It says the scribes were reasoning in their hearts when I told the man his sins were forgiven, and that I perceived in my spirit that is what they were thinking. I didn't read their minds, I perceived it in my spirit. The Word uses several words to describe the process by which the mind picks up on the senses in the spirit: Perceive, discern, witness, among them."

At this point I'll interrupt due to the fact I'm running out of room. Several times in the teaching He said, "You must train yourself in this." He likened the soul/mind as the middle point of a teeter totter, first looking one way to the flesh on one end, and looking the other way to the spirit. He talked of the power of agreement, that if the mind and spirit agreed the body would follow, and when the body and mind were in agreement the spirit would follow - sometimes being grieved by the decisions we make. He spoke of living spirit outward to soul outward to body, and to continually switch my attention between physical senses and spiritual senses.

He used examples from my own life, one of them being when I was in a store and noticed an older woman who by her body language just seemed depressed. When I paused to sense in my spirit her condition, I got exactly that - depression and poverty. I helped her get something off a high shelf, but she wasn't open to conversation. The Lord reminded me of that event and walked me through how I noticed her body language which caught my attention, then I paused to check spiritually what was going on.

I'll continue next week. The last thing I'll say is that praying in the spirit/Spirit is the #1 best way I've found for being sensitive to the things of the Father. I do so under my breath all the time, sometimes reminding myself if I get lax that I need to pick it up again - when you pray in tongues as Paul said, your spirit is active, and that life flows outward to your mind - if you let it - if your mind is thinking in that direction...more next week, until then, blessings,

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**30th anniversary Lord appearing to me #2**

Hi all,

I'm sharing some details these last 2 weeks about the visitation with the Lord that changed my life the most. I had first seen Him in April of 1986, but on October 1st of that year He appeared to me saying, "I want to teach you how to hear the Father's voice." What He taught me wasn't like I would have thought up to that time - thinking the Father's voice was only to be heard as a loud speaker in my brain - He shared not only about the verbal, but many of the 'non-verbal' ways the Father communicates as well. That's the part that I am sharing.

### **In the middle of talking about the rich man and Lazarus...**

He reminded me of John 16:13 which says the Holy Spirit does not speak of Himself, but only speaks what He hears and will guide us into all truth, and will show us things to come. He mentioned only 1 of the 3 (speak, guide, show) is verbal - speaking. Thus to listen for only a voice will cause us to miss much of what He communicates to us.

He also reminded me of I Corinthians 2:9-16 which the same thing a bit differently: It says the things of the Father aren't communicated by what we can see, hear, or think in our minds (circumstances & imagination), but by the Holy Spirit who searches the deep things of the Father for His provision for our lives.

That revelation - not to read circumstances as His will or not His will - rearranged my theology greatly, yet it was as clear in the scripture He was quoting as the nose on my face: "Eye hasn't seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the imagination of man the things the Father has for them. But these things are revealed by the Holy Spirit who searches all things, yes the deep things of the Father."

His words were explosions of revelations within me - a personal revelation means it is nearly impossible to tell another person about all that you are suddenly understanding, for it all suddenly falls into place and is known within.

I can honestly tell you I must have looked confused because every book I'd read, every bit of church culture, was built upon the foundation of God 'out there' dropping circumstantial clues like a person dropping bread crumbs along my path in the hope I will desire Him enough to properly interpret each 'sign' - all of church culture made the Father the adversary, having to be convinced and manipulated into answering prayer and making each of us a code breaker of His cryptic ways of communicating.

Now Jesus was standing before me in pure light, quoting scripture point by point, causing me to remember instances in my life where I'd accidentally stumbled into listening to His witness, revelation, voice in my spirit...realizing when I'd followed my spirit and peace it all worked out, and when I tried to force it or force myself to 'hear' His voice nothing happened. It all suddenly made sense.

### **The conversation continues: The man let down through the roof...the scribes thinking...**

I asked if body language helped in any way, and He said, "Body language can draw your attention in the natural to someone when the Father or I have something to share, though not always. I wasn't reading their minds." (The scribes thinking in themselves, 'Who does this man think he is, only God can forgive sins') But when I looked at them and the looks on their faces, I knew in my spirit by the Spirit what they were thinking."

"Remember reading of me going to Jairus' house and the woman with the hemorrhaging condition touched my clothes. (Suddenly that memory of Mark 5:30 & Luke 8: 46 was vivid in my mind) The street was more narrow than what you are thinking. (I adjusted my thoughts down in size of the street) It was more crowded than what you are thinking. (I adjusted) That's about right. My physical senses were all going off - the crowd jostling me, the sights, smells, and sounds - but I was continually shifting my thoughts between my physical senses and spiritual senses. That's why Luke 8:46 says I 'perceived power going out from me.'" (KJV)

"You must train yourself to continually shift your attention between the natural world and senses, and your spirit man and the spirit man's senses. Again, they are connected, but unless you train yourself to respond to your surroundings and what you see and hear especially, by checking with your spirit, comparing those things you see and hear with your spirit, you will miss many things the Father is trying to communicate."

"Do you remember that store on Boulder's Pearl Street Mall? You went in looking for a gift but immediately sensed another spirit present. It wasn't until you looked at all the Buddhist statues and belongings and talked to the clerk that you realized what you sensed in your spirit and what you saw with your eyes confirmed one another, and you left the store."

"You know what the spirit associated with that religion feels like in your spirit, and your mind remembers that witness. This is how people who have experiences with spirits they grew up with - like addictions, lust,

and other things - can now in Me immediately recognize a person with those spirits. They remember their own experiences and what they (the spirits) felt like, so when they come across someone with those spirits it bears witness with their spirit through the Spirit of Truth within them, and their mind 'picks up' on that witness, so they know what that person has."

### **Another example**

"I'll give you another. Remember Paul in Lystra (again by the Spirit, the passage sprang to my mind fresh and crisp) and the man who had never walked? Acts 14:9 says Paul perceived he had faith to be healed after he had 'steadfastly' looked at him. Do you know what Paul was doing? As he spoke he was focusing on something he perceived in his spirit about the man and his faith, and it took that focus for him to correctly determine the situation. Paul had to stare at him while he spoke to perceive the man's faith. You must train yourself like that. When you sense something in your spirit, focus on that for clarity, otherwise you'll miss what the Father has."

I've used that many time since, often looking over a congregation and sensing the Spirit more heavily on 1 person, so as I teach I'll keep coming back to them, making eye contact, sometimes pausing as I perceive what the Father has for that person. Often once I do focus, I'll see a mini-vision played out above or beside them like the visitation, seeing both in the Spirit realm and the natural at the same time. He continued...

"When you give a prophecy how do you do that?" I responded, "Well, I sense something in my spirit, like the first lines of a sentence, or have a sudden knowing of what you or the Father want to say to them, then I wait for an opportunity to share what I have." "Do you give that prophecy with your eyes open, or closed?"

"Closed." "Why?" He asked. "So I can concentrate on what is in my spirit. It helps to block out everything around me (suddenly I was getting His point) so I can concentrate what is in my spirit." "Exactly. You do what you can to shut out your physical senses so you can concentrate on your spiritual senses. As you continue in these things and become more experienced, you'll not only be able to prophesy with your eyes open, but I'll enable you to see both physical and spiritual realms at the same time - what you call an open vision or mini-vision..."

### **Flash forward**

There was much more teaching but I don't have room here.

The rest you can read in *Pursuing the Seasons of God*, and I'm not trying to drum up sales, but I'm out of room here and had the realization that 30 years had passed since then, and some might be interested in the visitation that changed my life the most. The Lord is amazing, meek, lowly in heart, and He truly loves us. But He is strong in the sense He doesn't pander nor bend to our flesh - He is Truth - so if we want to grow in Him it requires us to live in Truth, because He will move on and go on about His business anyway.

But if we will grow, change, mature, decide for the fruit of the spirit and Christ-like character in all things, He is there to bring us along in sensitivity to His ways...I'm sure not perfect nor have I 'arrived', just ask Barb or our kids or daughters in law or CWOWI leaders (though I think most of our grandchildren are young enough they still think grandpa is pretty much perfect, lol) - but I have learned a few things. I hope to be a blessing. New subject next week, until then, blessings,

John Fenn

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