

Christ Revealed - Part 4, An Open Heaven - You have come to Mount Zion
 Hebrews 12:18-25 NIV You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them.

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 Hebrews 12:18-25 NIV You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks.

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The writer of Hebrews is taking us to the depths of the revelation of Jesus Christ.

We must come know that the revelation of Jesus Christ is greater than our idealistic imagination can assume.

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The Holy Spirit wants to take us into a depth of understanding Christ that is beyond and above.

"But we are come"

What God is bringing us into is not less real than what was experienced in the Old Testament.

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In the Old Testament, the Israelites had a revelation of God that caused them to “exceedingly fear and quake.” In that manifested revelation, God was bringing Moses and the whole house of faith into fellowship with God. At that time, God was bringing them into a fellowship that was intimate and real.

It was so intense that the people cried out that they could not endure any more.

If we had been there, we would have realized how real this was.

It was not an imaginary thing.

They came into this fellowship with God.

Here is the good news, “But we are come.”

What God is bringing us into is no less real or powerful than what was experienced in the Old Testament.

I am sure that it is just as valid and real.

God has opened up heaven for us through Jesus Christ.

To the natural man the spiritual is unreal.

The natural man cannot understand the things of God.

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In Genesis 28, Jacob finds himself in God's presence at Bethel.

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The verses describe the experience as a dream in the night.

To Jacob it was more than a dream.

He knew without a doubt that he had come into the presence of Almighty God.

He knew that the place he was sleeping was Holy Ground.

He was afraid in the awesome, holy presence of God.

In Genesis 35, God called Jacob back to Bethel.

Genesis 35:10-15 NIV God said to him, “Your name is Jacob, but you will no longer be called Jacob; your name will be Israel.” So he named him Israel. And God said to him, “I am God Almighty; be fruitful and increase in number. A nation and a community of nations will come from you, and kings will come from your body.

The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac I also give to you, and I will give this land to your descendants after you.” Then God went up from him at the place where he had talked with him.

Jacob set up a stone pillar at the place where God had talked with him, and he poured out a drink offering on it; he also poured oil on it. Jacob called the place where God had talked with him Bethel.

Jacob could not believe his eyes when he caught a glimpse of what God brought him into.

He was looking into the glories of heaven.

God has given us a revelation of the treasure and beauty of Heaven

He has given us a revelation of His majesty, holiness, and power.

He has given us revelations of Spiritual Gifts.

He has given gifts of healing and miracles.

He has given Divine Manifestations of His Glory.

We have not totally comprehended all He has given us.

We have not understood the power of His Presence.

We have not understood the workings of the Holy Spirit.

We have not understood the magnitude of His will to bless and gift us.

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 God has given us a revelation of:
 • The treasure and beauty of Heaven
 • His majesty, holiness and power
 • Spiritual Gifts
 • Gifts of healing and miracles.
 • Divine Manifestations of His Glory

We must come into a fuller understanding of His manifested Glory, grace, blessing and power.
 Many things have hindered our comprehension...
 We are hindered by sin and pride..
 We are Hindered by prejudice...
 We are hindered by religious ideology and doctrines of man..
 We are hindered by man
 We are hindered by the coldness and indifference of the Church..
 We are hindered by ourselves

We need to remove the hindrances so that Heaven may be opened... And we can see Christ.

In the Exodus, the Israelites were brought step by step, and phase by phase on their journey.

It was a gradual transition from where they had been in bondage to a new land, a new promise, and a new inheritance.

Throughout the book of Numbers, they were in a constant journey.

In Old times, they journeyed.

Hebrews 12 tell us we have come to this.

All of the bits and pieces, phases and stages are accomplished and fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

Bible doctrine or religion cannot suffice or satisfy.

It is not enough to be theologically knowledgeable.

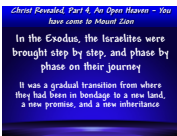
Even doctrine that is established and rooted in the Word of God is not enough.

Bible doctrine is not an end in itself.

Jesus Christ is the heart and soul of the church.

Emotional experiences are not enough.

Pure doctrine without emotionalism is not enough.



Jesus Christ is the heart and soul of the church.

If you are in Christ and Christ is in you, the Holy Spirit will have free access to work in you and teach you.

Bible doctrine will never give life if the Spirit of life is not in us.

Whatever God presents will be dead to us, if the Holy Spirit is not present to quicken and give it life.

It is the Spirit that gives us life.

Without Jesus Christ we just have an idea or theory about it all.

Who needs theories about God?

I do not need a theory of *salvation* or *sanctification*.

I do not need a theory of *healing*. (I need healing)

I do not need a doctrine about *prophecy* or *revelation*.

I do not need a doctrine of the *last days* and the *second coming*. (I need assurance of hope in Christ)

I do not need a theory of *deliverance*. (I need deliverance)

I need the working of God. (I need His *power*)

I need to know the reality of His person and presence

If all you have is a doctrine or theory, you are lacking the vital and living part of the Church.

The Holy Spirit will teach Christ.

He is unveiling Christ's power, and glory

He is making His Righteousness and holiness known.

He is bringing Divine Healing to our bodies, souls and spirit.

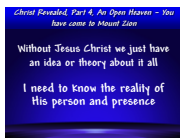
If you really want to know the doctrines of the Bible, you must know Christ in His resurrection glory.

Christ is center to the Doctrine of salvation, sanctification, and healing

Jesus Christ is what the Second Coming is all about

The Trinity is non-existent without Jesus Christ the Son.

***If you will know any doctrine,
you must KNOW CHRIST.***



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 It is impossible to know Jesus Christ without the Spirit of God working within you.
 John 16:13 NIV But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

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This is not some strange mystical experience.

The Holy Spirit does not come for sensationalism.

He ALWAYS comes revealing Christ.

He comes showing His Grace

He is revealing His Love

He is demonstrating His forgiveness

He is bringing His righteousness

He is working out His sanctification.

He is coming revealing what is happening in Heaven.

He will show us God's time table

He will open to us the Glory of God

He will make us to know the Power of God.

When the Spirit comes, He will reveal the secret things of God's word...

He is revealing the blessedness of His Love.

He is showing us the things prepared for the church here on earth and in heaven.

We must preserve a closeness with Him who is the sum total of all truth.

We must move with Him.

We must learn Him

Know the course He takes.

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 For heaven to be opened to us and Christ be revealed the self-life must be conquered.
 Jacob had to go to Bethel twice.
 Genesis 28:10-22 In his first encounter, when heaven was open to him, Jacob was not ready for what he saw, and what God was ready to do.

For heaven to be opened to us and Christ be revealed, the self-life must be conquered

Some are so involved in the fleshly life they know little of Jesus Christ.

They are engrossed in the fleshly church life.

They are engrossed in materialism and secularism.
 They are engrossed in Doctrines.
 The Church needs a deep walk with Jesus.
 Get your feet planted on the Solid rock.
 Heaven will open to you when you are rooted and grounded on the rock Jesus Christ.

Jacob had to go to Bethel twice.

The Israelites had to continue on their journey until.
Genesis 28:10-22 is his first encounter. When heaven was open to him, Jacob was not ready for what he saw, and what God was ready to do.

He saw more and felt more than he is able to receive.
 Jacob was too much of this world to get much out of it.
 He is filled with malice and strife.
 He is preoccupied with running from his brother.
 He had an evil heart
 He was not ready to be reconciled to anyone.
 He was asleep and exhausted when heaven was opened to him
 He saw the glory of God and the angels of the Lord ascending and descending.
 He saw the Glories of Heaven.
 He had a view of the splendor and majesty of God's presence.

It was a fearful and glorious thing to see what is happening at Bethel.

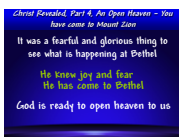
He knew joy and fear

He has come to Bethel.

This is where Heaven and earth meet.

This is where God will communicate with man.

Jacob was not ready...



He wanted to flee.

It is a privilege to come into the blessing, power and presence of God.

God is ready to open heaven to us.

He is ready to reveal the glories of God.

He is ready to reveal Christ in His splendor.

He is ready to give us a glorious change.

HE will send the Holy Spirit to us.

He will reveal the Glory of God.

His blessing will be realized in our lives.

It is my prayer that God will open Heaven to us one more time and that we will be ready for it.