Visions

Peter Tan

Visions

1. Understanding Visions

Acts 2:17 onwards And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; yes, and on my menservants and my maid servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth beneath, blood and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the day of the Lord comes, the great and manifest day. And it shall be that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

The bible promises that when the Holy Spirit comes He would cause young men to see visions. Now the words sons and daughters, young men and old men do not just refer to physical age. Taking the leadings from the epistle of I John, John used the words children, young men and fathers to illustrate the different spiritual growth and spiritual maturity. The definition of young men in the bible is in I John chapter and speaks about Christians at the peak of their spiritual life, winning spiritual battles and claiming the promises of God.

I John 2:12 I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for His sake. I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who is from the beginning. Obviously, this does not just refer to physical age. Not all fathers may be spiritual fathers. Some are old when they are born again and they are spiritual babies as far as God is concerned. So here is in reference to spiritual age.

I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, children, because you know the Father. I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

So here it is in reference to spiritual age. In speaking about the young men he particularly mentioned that young men are those who overcome

the enemy, those who are strong in the Word of God. As we grow in our spiritual life we will grow from children to young men and to spiritual fathers in the Lord. That is the spiritual age.

Taking that definition of I John as we go back to Acts chapter two we can see how that there is spiritual age that is mentioned in sons and daughters, young men and old men. We all know that is a fact because we know that young men also dream. So here the bible is referring more to spiritual age.

In our teaching series on dreams we examined the word dream in the book of Acts chapter two and we have found that the word dream in Acts two is not the usual word for dream. It's a special word that speaks about the consciousness of the vision of God, it fills your whole life, and it rests even in the sub-conscious realm. So he talks about how the vision of God, the dreams of God, and the will of God have consumed your entire being. That would be in line with spiritual age. The more you grow in the Lord the more the vision and the will of God consumes you. By the time you reach the spiritual age of a spiritual father, the things of God, the will of God and the vision of God would have saturated in your life, even in the sub-conscious level.

We want to look at the subject of how to understand visions. Basically, there are three types of vision. We must know what they are in order that we can flow along with God's manifestation. And they are part of the leadings of the Spirit of God.

1. Open Vision

There is first of all what we call the open vision. The open vision is a vision where you could see physical things and at the same time see spiritual things. Like for example if the Lord Jesus were to appear right now and stand in front here and your eyes could see Him, and at the same time you could see this plant here, you would be experiencing what we call an open vision. You are wide-awake, you are conscious and you could see Him as if He was physically there. That would be an open vision. The word open is used more to speak about your physical senses are still opened to the physical world and yet opened to the spiritual world at the same time. Now this open vision can be so real that the spiritual things look as if they are physical. You could hardly differentiate between

them at times.

In Acts 12 Peter was in a prison waiting for trial. The church in the book of Acts was praying. And it was incidentally an overnight prayer. What happened in Acts 12 was an angel came. So lets see Peter's experience of an open vision. In the book of Acts 12:5 we read about the overnight prayer being held in Mark's house.

Verse 7 And behold, an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell, and he struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Dress yourself and put on your sandals," And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your mantle around you and follow me." And he went out and followed him, he did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. He was but it was so real. And yet it was a vision.

Verse 10 When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the Iron Gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him. And Peter came to himself, and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all the Jewish people were expecting."

Here we have Peter experiencing an open vision. How do we know it's an open vision? When he woke up first of all an angel touched him. He felt real for somebody shook him up. He was sound asleep. Remember the next day he was supposed to be executed. Only if you have God can you do that. What would you do if you knew that tomorrow you are going to be executed? Most people would be sleepless. It is their last night on earth. But here Peter is sound asleep. Because he knew Jesus, he has no more fear of death. Not only that I believe that he knew that his time has not yet come to go home. He was probably still in his middle age at that time. And the Lord Jesus told him at the end of the gospel of John that when he is old then they would lead you and do something to him. But he was not old yet. So he knew his time has not come. He slept soundly and the angel shook him up. And he was not sure whether it was a vision that was really happening or not. See every thing was so real. He saw the prison gates. He tells us that he even knew that he passed through the first guard post and the second guard post. And he physically

saw the Iron Gate open physically with his eyes. At the same time the angel said, “Follow me.” So there he was the angel was walking in front of him and he was following the angel from behind just watching where the angel went. It was an open vision.

An open vision is interesting for when you receive one or you experience one it looks like the spirit realm and the physical realm are just one. It’s quite hard to differentiate the two. It all just happened together. It is what you call the fifth dimension happening. Men live in three dimensions. The fourth dimension as described by Albert Einstein is time. Time is one of the dimension scientists discovered in the universe. The fifth dimension is what we call the spiritual dimension. Man has not fully discovered the spirit world yet. So here we have the spirit world being experienced as if it’s a daily part of life – an open vision. That is the first type of vision.

2. Closed Vision

The second type of vision that a person can experience is called the closed vision. The closed vision is where you only see the Spirit world. Many times, if you experienced it you would probably not be aware whether you are in the body or in the spirit. Your physical senses are completely closed up. You are not aware of. If somebody came and shook you while you are having a closed vision you wouldn’t know. You are in a quote unquote trance like state. You are not aware of your physical surroundings at all. All your total conscious awareness is the spirit world. It was one of these experiences that Paul received when he says he knows not whether it was in the spirit or in the body. That is the experience of a closed vision. The word closed is applied to your physical senses. Your physical senses are closed up. And you don’t experience them any more. The full state of it is in a trance. When I mention the word trance in Asia, people think of the wrong kind of trance where a temple deity would possess a person acting as a medium. But the bible uses the word trance so it’s all right to use that word.

Look at the book of Acts chapter 10 except we must understand that this is the Spirit of God working. Verse 10 And he became hungry and desire something to eat; but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance, and the heaven opened and something descending. And in that vision, he heard a voice, he saw the animals, three times it happened. It was a

closed vision. When he came out of it, the vision was gone and he did not fully understand the meaning of that vision. That would be a closed vision.

The first two types of visions are not so common. And the first two types of visions come as the Spirit wills. There is nothing you can do about trying to get them. When God wants to show you those things He will show you. As a young Christian, I used to desire for all these things but as you mature in the Lord, you learn not to live by them. You reached a point where you don't desire anything, you are just happily praising and serving the Lord, and then it can just suddenly happen. So the first two types of visions there is no training that is required. You could be a young Christian and yet you could be given an open vision or closed vision. There is nothing you can do about it except to understand its interpretation, which we are going to see.

3. Inner Vision

But what we are going to focus most of our time is on the third type of vision. Which to us is the most important because let me put it this way it's the only kind of vision that we can develop, train and recognize. So the third type of vision is called the inner vision or some call it the spiritual vision. But to make it clearer I like to call it the inner vision. The inner vision is a vision that you see inside the corridors of the canvas of your spirit. You are consciously awake and somebody touches you, you would be aware of it. But yet you see an inner picture when you think and it is something akin but quite different to the pictures you see. Now that third type of inner vision is called a spiritual or inner vision. And that is the only type where we can be trained and that is the most common type of vision.

Let's illustrate with God's voice. God can speak with His audible voice. I heard it only once in my lifetime. God can speak through the voice of the Holy Spirit inside you. That is inside you but its authoritative and loud. Some times it sounds like outside but you know it's inside. And then thirdly God can speak through the inward voice of the human spirit. So you can see that we could learn to recognize God's audible voice, the voice of the Holy Spirit and the voice of the human spirit. Most of the time, God will speak to you through your human spirit, less often through

the Holy Spirit and thirdly, very infrequently or sometimes none at all through the audible voice of God.

Vision also has a relationship to the voice. The most common type of vision that God bring forth is called the spiritual or inner vision. And then less often is what I call the closed vision. And less often still is the open vision. You can't do anything about the first two visions except to be opened to them. But there is a lot you can do about the third type call the spiritual or inner vision.

Before we go into scriptures in this area let us make this statement further. The first type of vision is called the open vision. The second is the closed vision. The third is the spiritual vision. Of the three types of visions, the highest type of revelation is the third type, the spiritual or inner vision. And the lowest type of vision is the first type of vision the open vision. This statement is not only made as I discover the things of the Spirit but other men of God have also made the same statement. I believe Kenneth Hagin did say the same thing in his book "I Believe in Visions." He says that the Lord Jesus visited him in the hospital when he went into the permissive will of God and got himself into trouble. It was an open vision. And the Lord taught him about visions. Then the Lord described to him the different types of visions. And the Lord also said the same thing that the lowest type of revelation is an open vision. And the highest type of revelation is the inner or spiritual vision. But the highest type of vision is the open vision. And the lowest type of vision is the inner or spiritual vision. There are three types of visions: open vision, closed vision and the inner or spiritual vision. The highest vision that you can reach into the realm of the Spirit is the open vision. Second is the closed vision. Third and the lowest type of vision is the inner or spiritual vision. But when it comes to revelation the highest type of vision is the reverse. And the lowest type of revelation that you can receive is the open vision.

These can be compared to the voice of God. The highest type of revelation that comes through would be not through the audible voice but through sensitivity and development through your inward spirit. Robert Liardon made a statement close to this about what God wants to do in these last days. That God is training His people to the extend that they would know God's thoughts and feelings and that they would just move into it without necessarily hearing from God. He is saying that God's

people would reach a point of union with God where they will sort of just move what they want to do. In the past, it has always been man has to hear from God in an audible voice before they could operate. But the more we move into the end times we have to learn that revelation is progressive and it's going to its fullness. And that is why we had to teach on visions so that we understand what God is doing and what God intends to do and move in our lives.

Now here is the reason why open vision is the lowest revelation although it is the highest vision. And inner spiritual vision is the highest revelation although it is the lowest vision. If you see an open vision, you don't require much faith. If Jesus were to appear to you right now stand in front of you and say, "I want you to go right now to a house No. 3 Washington Street and you will be a person there whose name is John Smith. You will find his wife lying on the bed. And she has been lying there for 18 months. I want you to go there and raise her up from the bed." You don't require much faith since Jesus just talked with you. He appeared to you in an open vision. You saw Him and you heard His voice ringing in your ears. It doesn't take much faith. All you have to do is just go and obey.

But suppose he received an impression in his spirit that God wants to say something to him and he could not get it quite so clearly. And so, he has to go to God in praise and worship and get into the realm of the Spirit. Get his mind quiet. You have spiritual noises but mental noises some times hinder. Then he began to have the very same picture coming. And he sees a house, and he sees a road. And he saw the number there on the house No. 3 Washington Street. He saw a person there in a very faint vision. As he comes out from that inner vision, he wonders whether it is his imagination. See it's easier to doubt an inner vision and impression than it is to doubt an open vision. I know it's easy to doubt what somebody else shares that Jesus just met him in the street. We would look incredulously at him. But if Jesus appears to you, it's not so easy to doubt, when you heard His voice and have seen His face. It's easier to doubt an inner or spiritual vision than it is to doubt an open vision. For that reason it requires more faith to obey an inner vision. Since faith is proportional to pleasing God, things that demand a greater faith are classified under a higher spiritual revelation. The inner or spiritual vision is regarded as the highest form of revelation because it demands more

from you. It demands more from your life. It demands more faith from you.

As we see all these things then God in these last days would want to work in our lives to the extend that He began to deal in our lives to show many spiritual and inner visions. And we can walk with God so much that what God thinks and what God sees is automatically channeled into our spirit and we have an inner knowing of flowing with God. Robert Liardon spoke a little about that about the last days where the church would move like it never did before. We will really know God's heart; really know God's mind. We will just move into the things of God.

The three ways in which visions can appear to you are similar to the three types of dreams. Vision can appear to you in what I call an allegorical vision. Or it can appear to you as a message vision. Or it can appear to you as a clear-cut real life situation vision. You find all those things in the bible.

Allegorical Vision

For example in Acts 10 we have just read, Peter had this second type of vision called the trance or close vision. He had the allegorical type of vision. He saw in Acts 10 animals coming down and going up three times. And in that cloth that brought the animals down, he saw all kinds of unclean animals. Then God said, "Peter rise kill and eat." And he said, "Lord I have never eaten anything unclean." Then the vision went up and repeated a second time. And again, the voice said, "Peter rise kill and eat." Peter replied the same thing, "I have never eaten anything common or unclean, Lord." It went up and next time it happened a third time. The vision came down and said, "Peter kill and eat." Peter said, "No, Lord I have never eaten anything common or unclean." And then it went up and it stopped. The vision stopped and he came out of it.

The bible says in the book of Acts 10 Peter doubted. He was wondering what it meant. See allegorical visions are very hard to interpret. You need the same Holy Spirit to give you the interpretation. It's just like dreams that we talked about in our teaching series on dreams. The symbols again followed the same principles in dreams. The symbols have to be scriptural. That is if a dog represents some thing bad in the bible then in your interpretation a dog in your dream or vision should be interpreted as

some thing bad. Your interpretation must be in line with the scriptures. Or if it's an unclean bird then it symbolizes something that is not good. Your interpretations of the symbols in your dreams and visions have to be in line with the bible. If you see a white snake that says, "Hello," it is still bad even though it's white and friendly. Your interpretation of the white snake can only be that it is evil, like a wolf in sheepskin.

And so, Peter here was wondering what it meant. And suddenly here come these three Gentiles downstairs and they are looking for Peter. Look at it three Gentiles; they were symbolized by the white cloth coming down three times. Obviously, we need a lot of good interpretations otherwise Peter would think that since God also said, "Go kill and eat," he might think that God was telling him to kill and eat the Gentiles. That would make him a cannibal. What God was saying is go and minister to them. Peter later understood that the vision was telling him to go and minister among the Gentiles. So, that is an allegorical type of vision.

Message Vision

The second type of vision can come to people is what we call a message vision. For example in the book of Acts 16 Paul went to Mysia and then to Bithynia And the Holy Spirit told him not to go to these places and he went in the end to Troas which is a sea-side town. And while he was there he saw a vision in the night in Acts 16. A famous vision we call The Macedonian Man vision. In that vision, he heard a man dressed in Macedonian garment saying, "Come over here and help us." Later you read in the book of Acts 16 Paul went into Macedonia and the first place he landed was the capital of that area called Philippi. As he landed in Philippi, he did not look for the man. He just went wherever he found people meeting and he ministered the gospel. In fact, the first people he met in Philippi were women who were praying at the seaside. It's funny he had a vision of a man calling him and he is among women. Then we have these women there. Now Paul understood the vision. The vision is what we call a message vision. It is the same like your message dream. There may be many things in the vision but there is only one main message. And the message was go to Macedonia and minister there but not to go and look for the man. If Paul were to take it as the third type of vision then it would have been different. But he understood it as a

message.

Clear-Cut Vision

The third way is a clear cut direct vision. A clear-cut vision is one that you don’t need interpretation. You take it as it is. An example of this vision is found in Acts 9 where Paul has just been born again on the road to Damascus. Paul was waiting in a house and while he was there fasting three days, Jesus in Acts 9 appeared to Ananias and Jesus told Ananias who Paul was and what his name was, the house he lived in, the Street he stayed in. and part of his future life and ministry. And all Ananias had to do was to go and lay hands on the apostle Paul. Paul was not an apostle yet but he was called to be an apostle. So the third way a vision can come is a direct vision. You don’t need interpretation; take it as it is, nothing to interpret. A clear-cut vision is just like a clear-cut dream.

Basis For Spiritual Or Inner Vision

Having established this fact what we are going to focus on is the third type of vision called the spiritual or inner vision, which can come in any of these three ways. It can be allegorical, it could be a message or it could be a direct vision. Whatever it is the means of receiving them is inside and it can be trained. It’s in the corridors and in the canvas of the womb of our spirit. Visions are what God deals with. When God made man, He made man a creature that relies very much on visualizing. All of us in essence think in pictures. We can analyze what we think in pictures. For example if I say a dog, you won’t have on the screen of your mind the word a dog. When I say, a dog through your mind comes a picture of some dogs that you know. If you have been dealing with small little dogs, you are thinking about small ones. If you have been with big dogs, you are thinking about big ones. But if I say a black dog, your inner vision changed. See we all think in pictures. If I say a fierce black dog or a fierce big black dog, our pictures change accordingly.

Scientists have recently discovered that the brain is more than just like computer. Man tries to describe their mind in direct proportion to technology as it is. And so, when men invented the computer they have tried to see the brain function like a computer. In a sense it does. But today they are moving further and beginning to see that the brain is not

just a data processing center. It is but it's not. It is like a hollow graphic processing center. It stores information in pictures. So the data are actually pictures that are stored. You can recall from your mind a picture of the first house you lived in. Your mind stores information like pictures. When God created man, He made man that way. Why are we touching on this natural area here? Remember this the bible tells us that the things of the natural are made from the spiritual. The patterns of things you see around you tell you about the spiritual realm. We are going at it backwards because we have been trained and brought up in a physically conscious society, sense knowledge society. But actually, God made the spiritual world first and then He made a pattern of it in the natural.

Let me give you two scriptures to substantiate this point. In the book of Romans 1: 20 Ever since the creation of the world his invisible nature, namely, his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. He is talking about God's creation. That when God created this world He put into His creation the pattern of His attributes that we could recognize. His creative and artistic ability we see in all of creation. His orderliness, all His attributes can be seen in the natural world. This is why we say that if a person says that he doesn't believe in God we are surprised for there is nature to prove the existence of God. Somebody asked me one time prove to him that God exist. I heard the Holy Spirit answer through me saying you prove that God does not exist. And he could not. Then I went further and said that it takes a lot of faith not to believe that God exists with all the evidences that we find in the world. If you drop a watch on the street and somebody found it and said, "Look the wind and the rain and the river have brought that watch together." That is hard to believe. And here someone has created the world. It was not an accident that life came. No, there is a creative force involved. And I say that you can go ahead and believe that there is no God. I believe that there is a God. If I believe that, there is a God and live my life according to God, when I face eternity I find that there is no God I would still be all right. But if I believe there is no God but in the end when we all face eternity I find that there is a God, I would be in trouble. Both counts I win. See you don't lose anything when you believe there is a God. You gain. And there is a God. So God has created the heavens after the pattern of the Spirit.

Hebrews 11: 3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. In other words, the world is made of the invisible. Let me go further to say that God made man after a certain spiritual image of man. If you were to die and go to heaven, right now you will find that your spiritual body in heaven having two eyes, two ears, one nose, one mouth, two legs and two hands. There is a pattern. Our spiritual body was the pattern for the physical to be made. There are slight differences. In heaven, our bodies have no physical organs like we have. In Corinthians Paul said that the law is for the body is just as the stomach is for food, then he goes on and say both are done away with. From there, we know that our heavenly body's internal structures are slightly different. There are still two eyes, two ears, one nose, one mouth, two legs, and two hands but we won't have any reproductive organs and no inner organs that we rely on and it is totally different. And so, in that realm of the spirit that was the pattern that God made the human being.

God made us with an inherent ability to visualize and conceive an image inside him. Long ago before Adam fell, man could use a hundred percent of all his intelligence and all his creativity that God has put. Today scientists recognized man is only using 5 or 10 percent of his brain and ability. So we got a lot in reserve that we know not how to use or what to use it for. But there is a lot that we have fallen off from. But just bear this in mind there is a certain tiny little part of our physical body that scientists have been wondering what is it for. A little tiny little hook right the end of your small intestine called your appendix. That is a useless little thing. But there are other biologists who have gone further today. They examine that part of the animal's body where the small intestine join the large intestine to see what is there that is different from us. They came with this fact, that all the herbivorous animals have a structure right there and it's used to specially digest plants and leaves. They stopped there but I took that information and bring this conclusion. Man was once an herbivorous animal and through his development, he has become more of a carnivorous animal. And through time, that organ of his is no more in use and it slowly diminishes until it is a little curved appendix.

We go back to the bible we found that when God first made man He said of every tree and of every herb you shall eat. Man was originally made a

vegetarian. After man fell and after Noah's flood, world conditions were changed. There are four things that we cannot give time to share it. I just give you the four conclusions.

Firstly, time changed. The earth that was rotating round the sun at 360 degrees or 360 days a year became 365 days, as we know.

Second the earth became tilted and the four seasons started.

Thirdly the covering of water of the earth that was mentioned in Genesis one was dissipated and more sun-light, ultra violet light, infra light, all kinds of radiations that man was protected before started coming through. That was one of the reasons why after Noah's flood you see a sudden change in the life span of man. Where man used to live eight hundred over years suddenly, it became four hundred over years. And now it became one hundred plus. Because there are things that are released after man fell and this earth is not fully what God wanted it to be.

The fourth thing that happened was man's diet was changed. God specially allowed Noah to eat animals. The reason is that because the world has changed. If you were in a cold country, you take a large steak and you can see how warm it can keep you. What we are saying here is that after God made man in His pattern there was a change after the fall. Before the fall man experience tremendous resources, his mind, his soul, his spirit, was perfect. Adam could have lived ten thousand years and would still look the same as the day he was created. There is no way we could fully understand that.

But then when man fell the mind of man became darkened. A part of the life in him was darkened. In Ephesians chapter four speaking about the condition of man this is the description given. Verse 18 They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. Here he talks about fallen man in general. Because we are cut off from life the understanding is darkened. Let me take it in a clearer form. Life was cut off therefore the understanding was darkened. Which one was cut off first? Life. When spiritual life was cut off the mind became darkened. So when life was cut off from Adam when he sinned darkness came and man didn't know like he knew before. See before he fell he looked at the

animals and straightaway, he would know what it is. He could name them. Do you know today it takes one biologist to study for his whole life about ducks and reach some conclusions about ducks? Thank God that's all going to end in heaven we are going to be restored fully.

In this world right now we have a partial restoration. The reverse is true. If life is removed and darkness come then when life is restored light comes to the understanding. We have testimonies of children who come to church and they make "D" and "E" grades and when spiritual life comes their minds become enlightened and they start making "A" grades. Their understanding became brilliant. Hagin was also one example. The reverse is also true. We have a partial restoration although not a total because this body needs to be changed to have total restoration.

So in line with that we look now at Ephesians 1:17-18. That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened, (which means to be flooded with light) that you may know what is the hope of His calling.

The Greek word that is used here for eyes of your understanding is a Greek word that means the eyes of the imagination, the part of man that helps him to visualize. There are two Greek words for the word mind. One is the word dianoia, which means the imagination. Luke chapter one translates dianoia as imagination. Lets turn to Luke 1: 51 he has shown strength with his arm, he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. The word imagination comes from the same word as stated understanding in Ephesians 1: 17-18.

In studying the bible both in the Greek and in the English, we see that the bible uses two different words for the word mind or understanding. One is the word dianoia, the other is dialogismos, and both mean two different things. Dianoia means a part of your mind is able to visualize, conceive a picture. Dialogismos means the part of your mind that is analytical like one plus one is two. That is not visualizing that is analyzing. It's a part of your mind that can analyze. If A equal B, and B equals C, then A equals C.

The part of our mind that is logical is dialogismos. I just give you the scriptures. We have done some teachings series on these areas. I just

give you the scriptures so that you so that you know what we are bringing forth are scriptural and biblical. For example, the word dialogismos is used in Acts 18 verse 4 and verse 19. It speaks about Paul reasoning in the synagogue. Paul was using dialogismos. Incidentally, dialogismos comes from the Greek word logis is where we get our English word logic. Dia means through seeing through something logically. What Paul was doing was this. He was taking Old Testament scriptures; he was saying this is what the Old Testament said about Jesus, and this is what Jesus did. He was showing from the scriptures that Jesus was fulfilling all the Old Testament scriptures and therefore he was the Messiah. He was reasoning with them from the scriptures.

So the other part of the word mind or understanding used in the New Testament is the word dianoia, which refers to the ability in our soul that God has given to visualize. Our Western education focuses on logic. We are trained to think scientifically, logically and analytically. Our educational system world relies on one aspect of the mind. Only recently, educators are realizing that there is another part of the mind that is far more powerful, the ability of the mind to visualize. And only today are they beginning to learn to tap on that. Now these are part of our mind that God has created but in its fallen state, it does not function to the fullness that God wants us to function. Here is where we tie up with spiritual and inner vision.

There are three ways you can see one is in the natural with your physical eyes. Second is through your soul. Third is through your spirit. Just as there are three ways you can hear. You can hear in the natural. You can hear in your mind. You can hear in your spirit.

There are three ways you can see. You can see with your eyes. You can see with your mind. You can see with your spirit. Spiritual vision is given with the eyes of the spirit. But the eyes of the spirit are connected to the eyes of the mind and they are connected to the eyes of the flesh. Some times Satan knowing this has tried through the eyes of the flesh to make an image to the eyes of your soul so that the eyes of your spirit will be blurred. When the serpent was tempting Eve he told Eve about the fruit and what it is supposed to do for them which is all lies anyway. And Eve fell not only because of the reasoning of the serpent in Genesis 3. Eve fell because she saw with her physical eyes. When she saw with her

physical eyes, that image got into her soul and it affected the reasoning of her soul and it led her to a decision that caused the spiritual fall.

In the book of Samuel, we read how David was on his rooftop and looked over his neighbor's house and there was a woman bathing. Her name was Bathsheba and what David saw with his physical eyes produced lust in his mind and imagination. And it led him to a decision that cost him dearly.

You can see that Satan knows the connection. They are not isolated. God made your physical eyes after the spiritual. The spiritual was there first, followed by the soul and the physical. Now the devil works from outside. He tries to get your eyes to see the wrong thing hoping to impress a wrong image into your soul and lead you into a decision that will cause you to fall in the spirit. He knows the connection.

Now the key to understanding inner and spiritual vision is to understand the connection between the spirit and the soul, just as Satan understood the connection between the soul and the physical. We must understand the relationship and know how to deal with that area.

Lets have some scriptures at this point. Looking at the word dianoia and going further from there, turn to the book of Hebrews chapter 8:10-12 here is where I am proving to you that one of the things that God does is to train His people in inner vision based on the study on the Greek word. Remember that the word mind in this passage is the word dianoia, which is translated as imagination in the gospel of Luke chapter one. And in studying the bible, I have come to the conclusion that this word should be translated as imagination or visualizing.

Heb. 8:10 This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord; I will put my laws into their minds (dianoia) and write them in their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

The same thing is repeated again in Hebrews 10: 16-17 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord; I will put my laws into their hearts, and write them on their minds." Then he adds; "I will remember their sins and their misdeeds no more."

Did you notice the connection between Luke 1, Hebrews 8 and Hebrews 10? There is something similar in the way the author uses the word mind.

In case you have not seen it yet this is the similarity. Every time the word dianoia or mind is used, the word heart is mentioned. Why does he says the mind and then goes to the heart. I will write my laws in their minds and in their hearts. And there in Luke chapter one it says the imagination of their hearts. I could give you more than three scriptures. We don't have the time to do that. To show you how every time dianoia is used there is a connection to the heart.

What exactly is the heart? Hebrews 4: 12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Now look at the words he uses, soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The bible is giving us a relationship between the soul and the spirit. Many can to a certain extend differentiate the body from their soul. You know that is there a part of you that thinks called the mind. But there is a bodily part called the brain. They are related but you can't quite know how they are related. They could cut you up and not find the soul. They only find your body because the soul is invisible. So there is a relationship between the soul and the body. There is an inner consciousness in us that is outside of the body, feelings and affection, things that are not necessarily caused by the body. But it's real. It's inside us. Human beings feel hurt, jealousy, envy and other emotions. You don't see the animals feeling all these things. You don't see animals experience the extent of the human experiences. And then human beings know right and wrong to a certain extend. Animals don't know right and wrong. Animals don't have moral laws. Only man has. His soul and his spirit are conscious to a certain extend.

So we know there are an outer man and an inner man. But the problem is people don't go further than that. There is a difference between the spirit and the soul too. Paul here is saying that your soul and your spirit are related, just as your joints (the Greek word for joints talk about all your other bodily parts) and your marrows are related. He is illustrating how the marrow, which is the place where blood is manufactured, is affecting the rest of your body. And then it talks about the relationship between the thoughts and the intents of the heart.

So having made those relationships this is where we draw our conclusion. The soul has a certain ability to think, to visualize and to see. But the greatest seeing is done from the spirit man. And on the day that you got born again, your spirit man's line with God is restored. Everything that God wants to speak to you, your spirit man automatically receives. There is no breakage, no communication problem, no over flow of data between your spirit man and the Holy Spirit. Everything that God wants to speak to you He speaks through your spirit man.

First Key : Cleansing Of The Heart And Mind

But many times, there is a problem between our spirit man and our soul. The voice of the Spirit is not discerned by the soul that is not trained. Just as our soul can receive impressions from the natural, our souls are subject to impressions from the spiritual realm. And in the area of inner visualizing and spiritual vision what God does is first He cleanses. There has to be a cleansing. You see not every imagination you have is from the Spirit. Some are from the soul, from your eyes. Some memories of what you saw are from the physical realm. We have to clear the channel and let the Spirit flow easily between our heart and mind. Hebrews 8: 11 And they shall not teach every one his fellow or every one his brother, saying, "Know the Lord." for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greater."

Then in Hebrews 10: 16 and 17 he says that He will put His laws in their hearts and in their minds and I will write upon them He says in verse 19 Therefore. When you see the word therefore there is a conclusion being made by statements that precedes it. So there is a connection in between verses 16-17 where God says He will write His laws in our hearts and minds and verse 19 where we can have the confidence to enter the sanctuary.

Hebrew 10: 19 Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way which He opened for us through the curtain, that is, through His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our heart sprinkled clean from a evil

conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Now he is saying that there has to be a cleansing that takes place in the area of our hearts where the conscience resides. Let me go into this statement now. The heart is a part of your life that connects intricately with your spirit. And unless a heart is cleansed the channel between the spirit and the soul is affected. Therefore, he says let the heart be cleansed by the blood. So that's the first thing we see here in order to be in a position to really receive an inner spiritual vision.

The reason we touch on this area is because seeing pictures is a norm in our life. You see pictures in you all the time. Imagining is some thing that even children do. In order to dissect and divide what is from God and what is from ourselves and what is from the enemy we need the cleansing by the blood of Jesus. Why the blood? If the intents of your heart are not right, you will not see the right pictures. Your inner man is affected. Lets say you have already made up your mind in certain thing, in the wrong things. Perhaps you are a very lustful person. You have all kinds of wild imaginations because of the things you do and the things you read. If you fill your mind with the wrong things, you will never be able to operate dianoia or inner spiritual vision. For Jesus said in Matthew 5: 8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

And here is where the first key to break into inner and spiritual vision is to reach a point where our heart is still, cleansed and in union with Jesus. Some times, our heart tries to move out of that position. When you worry, your heart is troubled. Or you have sin coming into your life, it will affect your ability to receive in the third kind of vision the spiritual or inner vision.

So the first keys to move into the area of seeing visions is a cleansing of the heart. And it's not some thing that just applies to being born again. When you are born again, you are cleansed. But we can allow the wrong things to come and we need to confess our sins before God and remain cleansed. For that reason if you have sin in your life and if you try to move into the spirit realm you can receive wrong information. It's dangerous to open yourself to the spirit world if you are not under the blood. Deception will come in. We are talking about a very sacred area. The area of your inner vision and that's the area where God brings tremendous visions to all of us. And every thing received through that

realm is a picture, is a vision, from the inside coming out. And if your mind is renewed to understand it then the Spirit can lead you in that realm.

Let me make this statement too. In the majority of Christians, their inner and spiritual vision is trying to come through but not many are picking it up because of pollution of their mind and of the heart. Only as we cleanse ourselves in the blood can we open ourselves to the realm of the spirit. It's a tremendous realm.

Second Key: Focusing On The Vision For Greater Understanding

But the second is more difficult to understand its meaning. Like for example, some of you receive pictures of people coming to you in your prayer. By pictures, I am talking about inner pictures that come. And you are wondering what they are. They need interpretation. Some times, it could be asking you to pray for those people or you already were praying for those people. Like for example, some times when I minister and open myself to the spirit realm and it is one of the days that the Spirit operates. So here, as I stand before people to minister and as I stand before a person lets say I have never seen that person before. Suddenly to my mind comes somebody who has no relationship with this person. I have never met this person before. But to my mind comes a picture of this other person. I am looking at this person but my mind tunes up to my heart and receives the picture. I don't understand it. If I don't understand it, I cannot operate it. And so, I have to seek God for the understanding. Later God showed me that what He was trying to tell me was that this person that I am praying for had the same particular problem that the other guy had. Isn't it marvelous the way He works? So simple but yet we some times missed it. As I was praying for this person, here comes this picture and I don't understand what it was. Later I ask the Lord. The Lord says I am trying to tell you that this person had the same problem. Just tell the person what the problem is. See God brings to your mind and heart some pictorial connections. The most important thing is to realize that there is nothing in the natural that causes it. I mean you are not even thinking about this other person. You were concentrating on the Lord

Jesus Christ and it just comes in your heart through your mind. And many times when each of you were praying in the realm of the spirit a lot of things go through the corridors of your spirit. It goes through in your heart and in your mind. But we many times don't pay attention to it.

There was a time when I operated in a word of knowledge and I used to call up people for various sicknesses. Then I began receiving some words of knowledge about some sicknesses and pictures of men or women that I didn't understand in the corridors of the heart. Later the Lord began to speak to me and said that they are connected. Those were the particular people having the particular sicknesses, narrowing down to how they were dressed whether they were a man or a woman. I say, "Lord sorry I missed it." See if you don't pay attention to what is happening in the inner most part of your heart, you miss a lot of things in the spirit.

And God says that in the last days His Spirit would be poured out upon all flesh. And young men shall see visions. Young men according to our classification are those who come against satanic forces, who overcome the evil one and who are strong in the Word of God. Part of the spiritual battle that you have to fight is learning to let the visions of God lead you in your spiritual weapons. The successful soldier in the army is the one who knows exactly what the commander commands. We have to be in tune and in line with our Chief Commander Jesus Christ. And so He is telling us some things and unless we flow in what He is telling us, we are not waging a good warfare, a powerful warfare that He wants us to fight.

And so, the second thing is to understand those inner visions. A lot of it seems so natural that we miss it. Or it can come in different ways. For some of you this is the way it is coming that you could be opening yourself to allegorical kind of inner vision. As you face a person, you began to open your spirit up and you began to sense a picture coming to you. It could be a basket of fruits. You say what's a basket of fruits related to this guy here. But we need to examine and focus properly on some of our inner visions like binoculars. And you see very carefully and you say it's a particular type of fruit. And you focus it properly and you say the grapes that are there. And you look carefully its all grapes. Then as you examine it more carefully, then you see it's a whole basket full of grapes. And as you focus it, to your mind comes John 15 and then more things

come.

Now in this second area here operating things in inner and spiritual visions is slightly different from open and close visions. Open and close visions you received it like the grand slam, like the big bang theory of the universe. The big bang came from God. He spoke, “Let there be light,” and there was light. So in the first two types of vision, the visions just come. You could remember the details later. But inner and spiritual vision operates slightly different. And this is a peculiarity. You could focus on it and get clearer details if you are receptive. You could focus on it like a telescope and then you bring it nearer. Then suddenly you could adjust it to go further and you see the background. And it operates in inner and spiritual vision.

You could for example pray for somebody or be in an atmosphere of somebody. Then you suddenly see this person in a field. The picture stays there it doesn’t move. If you were not receptive, you did not listen to this kind of message, you are not open to the Spirit, you just let it go and nothing happens. But if you start paying attention to it and opening yourself to it, you began to focus on it and say God is giving some thing here and you focus on it. As you focus on it, the Holy Spirit may do two things. He may help you zoom on it. And then you go closer and you say this person is dressed in a particular way. Suddenly it can go wide angle and you saw behind that field on the left side there are scorpions there then you see some thing on the picture. It’s interesting when you began to operate in the inner and spiritual vision. The details increase as you flow in them. They are coming out from your heart. The reasons they are different from the other two visions is this is coming out from your heart to your mind. And so there is an information flow that is increasing as you tune to it.

It’s just like the data they received through the satellite. As the data comes in you see a picture. More data come in you see a better picture. In the same way, there is a data flow from your heart to your mind. If you close out to the data, it stops. If you open up to it more flow come in. There is where you could focus on zoom or focus on wide angle.

We have to let the Holy Spirit guide us. The Holy Spirit is the one who helps you focus on it and you see more details in that realm and operate it. The details will be part of the process to help you to interpret. For

example, I am talking about practical thing. Lets say we pray for the church land. Every time I pray all I see is a big map. The more you pray the more the zoom lens focus. Now that we define the land, we will zoom in the details.

Some of you in the business area have been educated in the Western way. You are an analytical, logic, intellectual nut. But you miss out our life's best because you are not trained in dianoia in visualizing. The world trained you to visualize in a different way. It depends on the strength of the soul not on the strength of the spirit. The second difference is the world tries to get the vision, tries to let you form the vision and make things go by that vision. Whereas in the spirit realm you don't make the vision, you receive them. God makes them. You can't visualize some thing that God doesn't want you to have. God makes them we just receive them and co-operate with it. Let it grows within us.

In the business realm, some of you may be praying and you are waiting to hear God's voice. How do you expect God's voice? Through the inner witness, inner voice and the voice of the human spirit. But then way at the corner of your heart is a little picture coming up but you are ignoring it. The more you pray there is a tiny little picture coming out like a little basket of fruit. You say what is this fruit coming into my mind. But the more you pray it keeps bubbling up. Here you are you are trained in analysis but you are not trained about visualizing. And in the end, you are opened to it. You tuned to it. The moment you tune to it, the zoom lens comes out. And you see the basket of fruit and following that fruit, you began to see beyond the fruit. And you see buildings etc. and then God began to speak to you. Then you realize that God was speaking to you to do business in that area. He is telling you I will bear fruit in that area. And He is telling me to go into that field of business. But we missed it because we are not tuned to it.

See a lot of times it is not because God did not speak but it's because we did not hear. Not only that, we look for the wrong areas to hear. God says in the last days He shall give us visions. After this teaching when you pray don't only open your ears, please open your eyes. How would you like to go round the world just with your eyes closed and missed a part of life because you never open your eyes? In the same way, you are trying to receive instructions from God. And all you did is open your spiritual

ears when God was trying to bring some things through your eyes. And you missed it because you are not trained in spiritual inner visions.

But the thing that people didn't go further is this. A spiritual and inner vision has focusing ability zoom and wide angle. The details are some times in black and white and sometimes in color. The more you zoom on it the clearer. You see the realm of the spirit is exciting. Once you moved into this area of the realm of the spirit, there are so many things in the spirit realm to discover and you don't need the things of the world to entertain you any more. You have God to entertain you and He will show you things to come.

Let me tell you every man of God and those who walk with God knows the things of the future. Paul knew in Acts 20 he told the people, "I am not going to see you again." And Paul knew when he was going to die. In II Timothy, he says assuredly I will be going home. I fought a good fight of faith. Jesus knew when He was going to die. He even knew the exact time they were going to come and betray Him, How did they know? Not only because they opened their ears but because they are opened to the realm of the inner vision.

Let me say this, this is very important God speaks more in visions than in voices. Can you see how much you missed if you only got voice? God speaks more in visions than in voices. The whole spiritual realm is a realm of visions. And if you do not train yourself in this area of the inner vision and spiritual vision there is a far lot that you missed.

So the second point we talked about is the understanding of the various ways a spiritual vision operates.

Third Key: Learning How to Tell the What, How and When

Thirdly, we learn how to channel it. Every vision has its time for fulfillment. Under the third point, remember just three keywords what, how and when. God will show you what it is the facts. And God will show you how to bring it about. Then that's not good enough God will show you when to start it off. When you operate in the realm of spiritual vision is very important that you move into the realm. And this is what I discover. You move into the realm where time does not count any more. Some times, you move into the realm of the spirit and you could see into the realm of the spirit. In the realm of space, there is no time.

If you try to move into the realm of the spirit and try to detect in the life of this person what is it like? {Praying over a person now.} The first thing I began to pick up in my spirit is a picture. Not a voice yet. The spirit realm consists primarily of pictures.

I pick up in my spirit a sort of furnace burning with black smoke coming out.

But I must also pick up the time span. Is it some thing from his past or some thing from his future? That's why the when is important.

The how is when God tells you to do some thing and you have to get the details. It's from the past. See I am picking up the when and it is from the past. And as I pick up it remains stationery because I am not focusing on it now. Some of you received visions and it remains stationery because you didn't focus on it. But now I turn and close my eyes and concentrate on what is going on in that spirit realm and see in that spirit realm that furnace.

I begin to see rain coming down and just covering it.

You see more details come as you move into that realm.

And suddenly there was a rainbow over that.

It's a continuous moving picture that flows along.

You are in the covenant of God. In the past your life was dark like a burning furnace some thing burning to consume. But it seems that there is peace.

It is important for us to see that the realm of the inner vision is continuous and it just moves continuously into that realm. You can focus on it; zoom on it, wide angle.

But the third part is very important. What is it exactly, how to go about it and when. Pictures will go with words. As you see the pictures, words start coming and they go together. And the realm of the spirit is such, you hear God's voice but as you see the pictures and you tune to them, the voice and the words go together to form the whole picture.

Let me conclude by giving some principles to guide spiritual vision and its operation. All the three keys essential to operate in the anointing also operate here in receiving and discerning visions. That is in order to flow

to the fullness of it we have to receive it first. To receive is very simple. Just to constantly be under the blood, worship and praise the Lord, being in the spiritual atmosphere. It will always keep flowing in your life, richly from your heart. Second, we have to understand it and thirdly we need to interpret it. We have to be in a position to receive them, which when you are born again it starts working in your life. And the reason we teach on this area is because many of you are receiving some spiritual visions but you are not aware that it is spiritual vision. Most of the time, you thought that it was your imagination.

2. Developing Visions

Sometimes when we hear people share how they have seen a vision from the Lord, we get the impression that seeing vision belongs to a few special people. Maybe God speaks to them in vision but God doesn't speak to me in visions. That was my impression when I first knew the Lord as a young Christian. But as I grew in God and studied the Word, I realize that seeing visions should be a normal part of a Christian life and does not belong to just a few.

Of course, bearing in mind the background that we have already studied and we are not repeating those grounds but I may have to speed it before we go further. That is we should know by now there are three types of vision. One is what we call a close vision. Another is an open vision and the third is spiritual vision. The closed vision is a vision, which you see when you are in a trance. And it's called closed because your five senses are closed up. You do not experience the five senses any more. You are only experiencing the inner spiritual vision. Like for example if right now you have a closed vision, you may see the Lord Jesus and you may see the angels of the Lord but you will be sure whether you are in the spirit or in the flesh. And that was the type of vision that Paul experienced when he said that he knew a man in the Lord who was caught in the spirit whether in the flesh or in the spirit he does not know. Why because he was in a trance. His five senses were temporarily suspended. The vision that Peter saw in Acts 10 of the unclean animals coming down and being taken up three times is a closed vision for he was in a trance.

The second type of vision is what we call an open vision where you are in the vision yet at the same time you see the natural world. For example,

you see the Lord Jesus in an open vision you will see the pulpit, you will see the platform, the chairs and the Lord Jesus standing there among the physical and natural things. So, when we say open it means that your natural senses are still opened. An example of an open vision took place in the book of Acts 12 when Peter was being taken out of the prison. An angel was leading him out of that place. Obviously, he had to see the natural place. And he saw the natural doors opened. He saw the angel going through the doors and he also followed the angel. That is an open vision.

The third type of vision is what I call a spiritual vision. That is the vision that you see with the inner eyes of your spirit. That type of vision is sometimes close to what people call the imagination. But it's not imagining it's real. That spiritual vision is what you see with your inner eyes of your spirit. It's not particularly strong enough for you to say that you have entered in a trance. You are not in a trance. Neither is it an open vision because you cannot see the natural and the spiritual. So, it's just some thing that you see inside your inner eyes of your spirit. That's called a spiritual vision.

Of the three types of visions, they are classified into the highest vision and the lowest vision. The lowest vision is the spiritual vision. The second is the closed vision and the highest type of vision is the open vision. But the lowest revelation is the highest vision. It's the other way round. The open vision is the highest type of vision. And the spiritual vision is the lowest type of vision. You don't really enter into that spirit realm but you saw a glimpse of it. However, the lowest type of vision is the highest revelation. And the highest type of vision is the lowest revelation. Because when you see an open vision, you don't need much faith. I mean if an angel appear to you and say, "Go to house No. 34, Washington Street and there will be a man named John Tan. He will have a sickness on his left leg. When you open the door, he will be there." There is no need for you to exercise much faith. All you have to do is just obey. So, that is the lowest type of revelation. The spiritual vision is the lowest type of vision and the highest revelation is what you see with your spirit. And it takes more faith to operate what you see in the spiritual vision. Because of that, it is considered the highest revelation. For you need faith. You will be asking yourself, "Is that from the Lord? Is that from

my imagination?" You need more faith to follow. In a prayer meeting, you suddenly have a spiritual vision where you saw this guy John Smith in Madison Avenue. Then you have to go there to meet him. You are wondering, "Is it from my own imagination? Or, "Is it from the Lord?" To really operate in a spiritual vision you need more faith.

What we are going to see here is that it is inherent in each one of us to be able to see visions. Seeing visions is not some thing that belongs to a few mystical gurus. It is some thing as common as life itself. To understand the whole concept of seeing vision we need to understand first the makeup of human being that God has created. God made man in His image. When Adam was first created, Adam could relate to the spirit world and the natural world freely. He could touch and reach into the spirit realm as well as the natural realm. There was no blockage of his experience of God. If an angel were there, he would have seen him. There is no such thing as anything being invisible to Adam's eyes. For the spirit world was as visible and natural as the natural world. It was only after Adam fell that the bible says in Ephesians 4:18 that the understanding of all Gentiles were darkened and alienated from the life of God. When Adam fell his spirit was cut off from the life of God and his understanding was darkened. That is when he could not now see the spiritual realm.

There is a natural light and there is a spiritual light. Let's compare spiritual sight to the sense of sight in the natural realm. In order for us to see in the natural we need light. If suddenly light is removed and we are enclosed in a place where no light comes in it would not be possible for us to see. That is why at night you can't see as clearly as in the daytime for there is less light to see. What do we do in a dark room when we want to see object. You got to feel your way to the switch. Then with light you could see. The sense of natural sight depends on light falling on object, bouncing off an object, and reaching your pupil and your eye. It depends on the perception of light. In the same way, spiritual sight depends on spiritual light. According to the degree of spiritual light that is allowed to enter into our spiritual eyes, we would be able to see visions. It's proportional. Like even if the whole room is bright and your eyes are covered with some objects that prevent light from getting into your eyes you will still not be able to see.

The bible tells us that in Ephesians 4:18 that the understanding of man has been darkened. There is a shadow that has been cast over the understanding of man. As a result of that, man cannot see into the spirit realm. Let me qualify that. Generally, man cannot see into the spirit realm but we realize that some people are opened to the evil spiritual realm. That is because the demonic powers are at work in their type of imitation light. These demonic powers open such persons to the demonic realm and relate to them. But there is a positive and a good realm of God where God's Spirit works and opens and enlightens the understanding.

Eph. 4:18 They are darkened in their understanding (dianoia) alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.

See the dianoia was darkened. Therefore, they cannot see into that spirit realm.

Now the opposite statement where the dianoia is flooded with light is over here in Ephesians 1:18. The eyes of your understanding (dianoia) being enlightened (the Greek actually says flooded with light); that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His mighty power toward us who believe, according of His mighty power.

I say that here the believers were having their understanding or their dianoia enlightened. Of course, the word dianoia has been translated as imagination in Luke 1:51 as imagination of their hearts. The dianoia is a part of our soul that is able to see into that realm of the spirit. It's a part of us that see pictures. There are two parts to our mind that operates. One part of our mind is a part that reasons and that is the word dialogismos. And the word logis is where we get the word logic. The other part of our mind is a part that sees pictures. Like we say a dog, immediately in your mind will come a picture of a dog. When I mention the word dog to your mind, right now you recall whatever dog you remember in your life. If you own an Alsatian, you would think of an Alsatian. That is just a part of your mind that just visualizes.

Now our mind at the same time consists of the conscious mind and the sub-conscious mind. (Illustration) Lets say this person here represents dialogismos. And this other person here is dianoia. Both of them

represent a part of our conscious mind. We could consciously imagine and consciously create a picture. We could consciously reason with facts that are given to us. In that realm, we realize that there is an association and working of the two in our conscious mind.

As we look into that, let me give some definitions here. Heb.4: 12 For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. It tells us that the Word of God is awakening the thoughts and intentions of the heart. It's by the working of God's Word changing and transforming our lives. That working of God here is explained by two Greek words. The word thoughts is the Greek word enthumesis. And the word intent is the word ennoia, which has been translated in I Peter 4:1 as the word mind. Enthumesis has been translated in Acts 10:19 as thought, when Peter thought about the vision he saw. The word ennoia is a derivation from the word dianoia - just knock off the dia and put the en inside. Dia in the Greek means through and en means inside. The ennoia is the inside of your being.

As we look at those two words, we need a little more illustration. So, this brother consists of the conscious mind dianoia. And that brother is dialogismos. Let take a third brother here to be ennoia. And this fourth brother will be enthumesis. Now your dialogismos and your dianoia are the two parts of your conscious mind. One part that reason logically and the other part that imagines and sees pictures creatively. Then you have a sub-conscious mind, which is in the depth of your being. The sub-conscious consists between 90 to 95 percent of our mind. We are only using about 5 percent of our mind in the conscious realm; the sub-conscious is the rest of it. That ennoia is the sub-conscious part of your dianoia. It's a part of you where the action rises and where the pictures are stored. Right now in your conscious mind, you don't have all the pictures that you have seen from the time you were born until right now. You couldn't because your conscious mind cannot be looking to all those things at one time. So, your conscious mind stores it in the sub-conscious.

Inner healing is the work of the blood of Jesus reaching into your sub-conscious and removing all the bad pictures and the bad reasoning that put bondage in your being. That's what inner healing is. It's the blood of

Jesus entering into your sub-conscious and removing the wrong pictures that are causing your life to be in bondage. Fear can come because of a wrong picture. For example, a person can have fear of water because perhaps at a certain time early in childhood, he or she may have fallen into water and nearly drowned. The picture is locked up inside their dianoia and transferred into the ennoia even before they have developed their dialogismos to reason like an adult. And the rest of their life they are afraid of water. If you ask them why, they cannot explain. But the fear is there. The picture of them drowning is locked up in them. Sometimes it could be other pictures, pictures of hurt. When somebody has hurt you so much that you could remember and picture that hurt, anger, or a crisis that you have gone through, then that picture is still locked in your imagination. Let me tell you the pictures that are locked in your imagination can hold you stronger than prison bars can. You could outwardly be free but that locked picture today motivates you, affects and influences some of your decisions and some of your reactions to people and to circumstances. That is why people need an inner healing for the blood of Jesus to step into that and cleanse it.

Remember Jesus ministers inner healing to people. In the gospel of John, after Peter denied the Lord Jesus, he was trying to keep himself warm while Jesus was on trial. The bible mentioned that the fire that he was warming over was a coal fire. Remember coal fire gives a peculiar smell. It's just like if you fry food with coconut oil, the food has a peculiar taste. Coconut oil gives the food a peculiar taste. And you know that it has been fried with coconut oil and there is no mistake about that. So when you burn something with a coal fire there is a peculiar smell in the house. Now Peter denied Jesus and can you imagine the agony that has entered his life? From that day onwards after he had denied Jesus, the picture of his betraying Jesus has locked in his imagination. And just when the cock crowed Jesus turned and looked at him and he wept and cried. Can you imagine what kind of picture is locked inside his imagination? Later on in the ending of the gospel of John when Peter had gone fishing and Jesus was on the shore, He said, "Children have you any fish?" And Peter realized that it was Jesus and he swam to Jesus and when he came near to Jesus, he smelt the same smell. He smelt the burning of coal fire. Immediately all the memories of that day when he denied the Lord came rushing to his conscious mind. If you had an

agonizing crisis and experience at the seaside, I am sure the next time I bring you to the seaside the first thing you do is to remember that bad experience. And it depends on the degree of how it affects your life. If it really has damaged your life, you will never want to go to the seaside again because of that imagination. So, Jesus had to minister inner healing to Peter. Right at the place, Peter remembered every thing. Right at that time, Jesus made him confess three times that he love Him to heal the wounds of denying Him three times, “Do you love Me, do you love Me, do you love Me?” In the Greek, Jesus asked Peter, “Do you agape Me? Do you agape Me? Do you philo Me? From that day forward, every time Peter smell coal fire he may at times remember the denial. So, Jesus ministered to him right in that occasion. So, if you have a fear of swimming you need to get into the water to overcome that fear in your life.

So, dianoia is the imagining part of you that sees picture. And ennoia is the sub-conscious part of your dianoia that locks all those things. And over here we have the dialogismos and enthumesis, the latter is the sub-conscious part of your dialogismos. There is some reasoning that has been locked inside us. Some people store away wrong conclusions in their enthumesis. Their opinions are not factual neither are they correct because their reasoning is wrong. But it gets locked into them and today it influences their action, their decisions and every thing else because of wrong reasoning. It’s just like some people who have the wrong reasoning that God sends sicknesses. See they logically conclude by a superficial reading of the scriptures that God sends sickness. So, in their reasoning they accept it. Or in their reasoning, they accept that the devil is strong and powerful and they accept that they have no authority over the devil. They somehow reason themselves into it. Straightaway, they are put into bondage too. A wrong reasoning can cause us to be in bondage.

It’s just like John Osteen’s sister. He was sharing how one day he was driving in a certain direction and God spoke to him to go to his sister who was in a mental asylum. When he went there led by the Spirit he asked to see his sister. When his sister came the anointing of God came upon his life. The first word he said was, “Don’t tell me God did this.” And he commanded the enemy to loose a hold of her life and instantly she was

freed. Today she is still all right. And this was the testimony. When John said that statement, “Don’t tell me that God did this,” she did not hear John’s voice. She heard it as if it was a voice of God speaking. And for the first time she started doubting the reasoning, she had earlier. For the first time she did not accept the fact that this problem that she had is from God. And she questions the reasoning that she formerly had. The moment she came to the conclusion somehow was when she heard that voice it was not God who did this to her. Imagine for all those many years she was left up in the asylum she thought that it was God who did that to her. Wrong reasoning can put people into bondage. So there is what I call the reasoning of your conscious mind that after some time it sinks into your sub-conscious and it’s stored there. That is why we need the Word of God to renew us, to give us the right principles.

So this part that consist of your sub-conscious mind is made up of the ennoia and the enthumesis. And the dianoia and the dialogismos is your conscious mind.

There is another part of your mind that is generally called the nous. That’s the part of your mind that relates to the natural or the spiritual realm. That part of you is the decision maker. Do you realize that your mind can make a decision? You could decide what to think. Right now, we could suddenly decide to think about a buffet lunch and all the food laid on a table and nicely decorated. We could make a decision and say right now imagine that we are in a cold country. There is a part of us that definitely makes a decision whether we tap into dianoia and then ennoia or we tap into dialogismos and then into enthumesis. That’s your nous. Generally, nous is just translated as mind or understanding.

Now we are on the topic of growing in visions or developing visions. This is what happens. Every one of us is born with an ability to see into the spirit realm to a certain degree. But what the enemy has done is that man’s dianoia in his fallen state is darkened (cf Ephesians 4:18). Man’s nous is also darkened. As a result, man tries to develop his intellect based just on dialogismos. The I.Q. test is based on dialogismos. It doesn’t test you on your ability to visualize. It just merely tests you on your ability to reach a conclusion from hints and facts and statements here and there. This world’s education system tries to build a successful life from the logical point of view. The development of logic has become

an important aspect of life in this world. But the rest the dianoia and nous are darkened. But today there is a success-orientated group that teaches how to visualize a successful image and program themselves for success. They are trying to tap into dianoia. But that's not in the regular school system.

So realizing that the dianoia and the nous are darkened, we can understand why men in their fallen state of being today have great difficulty looking into the spirit world and having visions. Some people may have a greater opening in this area than others. Like some scientist may develop on the area of the dianoia and the ennoia where they could reach a conclusion right on target with the very few facts available that others could not. They could reason deeper. Some artist could develop this part of dianoia and ennoia more than others. Some people are more akin to lean on their dianoia than on their dialogismos.

Now the enemy and the devil is attacking the nous and through the nous preventing people from seeing into the spirit realm. Now lets bring in two extra Greek words. Turn to the book of II Corinthians 3:14 But their minds (noema) were hardened; for to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Then chapter 4:4 In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds (noema) of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the likeness of God. What is the enemy doing? The enemy is blocking the noema from the light of Jesus Christ so that the light of Jesus Christ cannot shine through and touch the person.

There are different degrees of what I call the entrance of spiritual light into our souls and our spirits that is our hearts. According to the degree of the spiritual light, you develop the ability to see visions - some in a small degree and some in a larger degree. We need this understanding in order to move into the realm of developing visions in our life. Remember Ephesians 1:18 Paul prayed that God would give them the spirit of wisdom and revelation that their dianoia will be flooded with light. So, on the one hand we see the devil trying to block light from going in and preventing people from moving into that realm of seeing visions.

Now seeing vision is primary in the development of nous, dianoia and ennoia. The development of the other area of dialogismos and

enthumesis involves the renewal of the mind but we are talking about visualizing here. With that let us go to Luke 24:32 They said to one another, “Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the scriptures?” The word opened in verse 32 is the word dianoigo - while He dianoigo to us the scriptures. That’s a powerful word here that Luke chooses to use. In Luke chapter 24:32 he mentioned that He opened the scriptures to them. Then verse 31 And their eyes were opened (dianoigo) and they recognized Him. The two disciples were walking with Jesus and they did not know it was Jesus. They saw Him physically but they could not recognize Him. Some thing was blocking them from seeing Him. But when they were in that room some thing opened and they saw Him for who He was. They saw in that spirit realm and they recognized it was the Lord and then He disappeared. He is telling us some thing about how God can open us to the spirit world to see visions.

Two more scriptures in the same chapter. Luke 24:45 Then He opened (dianoigo) their minds (nous) to understand the scriptures. He dianoigo their nous. Remember earlier you read in II Cor. 3 what the devil is doing to your noema and nous. He is blinding it. He is preventing light from coming to you. But what is the Lord doing? He is opening it. He is opening the nous so that the light can go through your nous to your dianoia. When Paul prayed for their dianoia to be flooded with light, it has to flow through the proper channel. The aperture of your spiritual camera is your nous.

The aperture is a part of the camera that opens and exposes the film to light. It opens and closes very fast. According to the speed and the length of time it’s opened, it allows light to go through. So when there is a very low light, the aperture is opened for a longer period. Our normal camera will find it very difficult to take a picture of a person running. All you see is blur. But what makes some cameras able to take a picture of an object traveling fast like a bullet going through the air is the split second that it allows the light in through the aperture. You can’t possibly take a picture of a bullet going through the air with a normal camera. But yet, they have developed cameras that could photograph a bullet moving. How is that possible? There must be sufficient light and then the speed of the opening and closing must be fast and quick so that only the stationery

picture of that bullet enters the aperture before it quickly closes up. The rest of the motion of the bullet is not allowed to come in otherwise it blur the whole film.

So we see here using illustration from the natural that an important part to visualizing is also in our conscious mind our nous. Whether it's blinded or it's opened depends on the great part on our decision too. But it also depends on the Lord. So lets lay some ground work and principles right now with all these conclusions.

Firstly, in order to see and develop the ability to see visions we must increase our openness inside us. That is we need the Lord to open our nous. Luke 24:45 you have scripture and verse for it. Apparently, the Lord did some thing to them. We know of course that ties up to the born again experience. The day you are born again God did some thing. God did a touch on your life. But remember this, this is only the beginning. What people failed to do is they failed to develop that further. See Jesus did some thing to them in Luke 24:45 He did something to their nous. He made their nous a little open. That openness seems to be necessary to see spiritual things and spiritual visions. The word dianoigo is the same word that is used in Acts 16:14 One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshipper of God. The Lord opened her heart. I Cor. 2:11 For what person knows a man's thoughts except the spirit of the man which is in him? So also, no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is from God, that we might understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. So apparently, there is a natural man that is blinded and there is a spiritual man that is enlightened. And your nous has an aperture where the light can go in and enlighten and flood your inner most being. So how well and how able you are able to see into the spirit realm depends on your opening of your nous by the Lord. That is the first determination. So firstly, it depends on the opening of our nous or the opening of our understanding to allow the Spirit to work.

Do you notice you could do that even in a meeting? You could come to a meeting with your heart and spirit closed up and you are not opened to what is taught. Or suppose that you go a meeting and you have heard some wrong things about the minister being a false prophet or false

teacher or some wrong ways in him. And you already have a pre-conceived mind to reject his ministry. You have heard some rumor or slander without finding out the facts. By the time you come to his meetings, you are not looking for some thing to learn. You are looking for some thing to find fault. There is a part of you that is already closed up instead of being opened up. Now that affects your ability to move into the spirit realm. Now you take that a little further and see how in a meeting lets say in a prayer meeting or in a worship meeting to worship God for long hours. If your mind or nous is not trained, you will normally reject any thing that the Lord tries to do. For the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God. And even if God tries to give you a vision, you would have rejected even that because your mind is only trained to receive the dialogismos type of ministry. You only allow just a word, line upon line, precept upon precept but you are not opening yourself to the revelation of God's Word through visions. The opening of your nous is partly the responsibility of the Lord and partly your decision and your free choice. Or when you come and you just hang loose. The Lord could begin to show things to you in the form of a vision that He never did before.

The second determination of the ability to see vision is the amount of light. You could have a lot of light but the opening of your nous will still determine how much light is received. Yet, at the same time you could have very little light around, you could open your nous to the fullest possible, and yet not much light gets through. So, the other determination is the amount of light, the intensity and the degree of light that is available. And that would determine the vision that you are able to see. That is why some times in a meeting, in a praise and worship service, in a place where God's presence is strong, do you know it's easier to move into vision than when you are out there doing your accounting work. See there are certain places that you find it easier to develop and see vision than before. If you have developed it any place, any time you will know how to move into that. But if you have not developed it, there are certain places where it's easy to develop it than at other times where there is more intensity of spiritual light. So when we know this teaching the next time you get into a meeting where there is high intensity of light, or high intensity of worship or the Word, you open yourself to it and you learn to develop into that realm and you grow into that vision. And you could see

into that realm by the permission of God. Things will begin to come to you even in the spirit realm while you are worshiping. It won't be some thing that you cook up or imagine. But it is some thing that is impressed upon your heart from the spirit realm. So, train yourself in that kind of meeting. That's the purpose of meetings like that. So that having trained yourselves then when you get back into the street, into the office or in your normal working life, you could learn to open yourself into the spirit realm and receive things from God. So there is an opening and how important the nous is for touching the dianoia, and the ennoia into that realm. For the opening of our nous, we need the Lord to touch us.

Another determination is the cleanliness of the lenses and the cleanliness of the nerves. Sometimes when people develop cataracts the light is still there but there are blockages. That is why we need the Word of God to cleanse us. Or sometimes everything is O.K. but the person lack nerve cells where the light reaches the inner part of the eyes. The nerve cells are missing so they are technically blind. Although the light and the image actually hit the back part of their eyes, they cannot perceive because there are no nerve cells. The wonderful thing is that there are spiritual nerve cells in our nous that see and catch pictures from the spirit realm. We are getting input from the spirit realm all the time. There are images that are coming from the spirit realm all the time.

So our ability to receive them depends on whether we are opened or closed. And of course, it also depends on the intensity of light - the greater the intensity of the spirit light the greater we can pick up from the spirit realm. The other third factor is that it depends on whether we have the spiritual nerve cells to pick it up. The wonderful news is that we can develop the spiritual nerve cells. We could grow into the spirit realm and develop our dianoia even when we have only developed our dialogismos and be a very logical person. I was that way before. I mean I am a very logical person, and I was fastidious about line upon line, percept upon precept. I never thought that the day would ever come that I could move into visions. I could never have thought the realm of visions could be my realm. I am not born with the ability to see visions all the time. I have to grow into that area and develop it. Believe me, from the time when I was a young Christian, I literally prayed to God, "Lord, I love to see visions." But it was later on by the grace of God I grew in the Word and God

allowed me to see visions. And as I see the development, I realize this is not some thing that is special. This is a thing that every Christian can develop and grow in. That is why we are teaching on visions so that you could realize that is where it starts.

And the first place where it starts is in your dianoia. When the light floods your dianoia, you will begin to see pictures. Some of you are seeing pictures but it's blurring. You see the spirit realm and lets says right now close your eyes and visualize Jesus. Some of you will ask how to visualize Jesus? What does He look like? Some of you are having that difficulty. Some of you when you close your eyes all you see is a bright light. Do you realize that for some of us it's very blur? Do you know that in the natural world when a child is born, that little baby cannot focus the eyes very properly yet? But as the baby grows and develop then the eyes begin to focus. So, in the first few weeks of the baby's life, the baby depends a lot on sound. But through time as the baby's eyes develop to focus properly it can go by sight and recognition. In the same way when we all were new Christians, new born babes in Christ, most of us went by hearing. The problem is that many Christians go by hearing all their life. Can you imagine a little baby growing up never seeing the father and mother? Perfect eyes but refuse to develop. And every time he says, "That's the voice of my papa. That's the voice of my mama." If there is a defect that is understandable but if there is a potential to develop and it's not, then something has gone seriously wrong. Think about the spiritual world - we got to grow into that. It's not going to come automatically.

Sometimes we don't grow and develop our dianoia because we don't realize that we could do it. When our dianoia is slowly developing, we begin to see spiritual things and spiritual visions. What I am teaching has nothing to do with what we call the gift of discerning of spirits, which is a gift. That is a real gift of vision. Remember we differentiate between developing in the gift of prophesying, the ministry of prophesying and the gift of a prophet. In the same way, we got to differentiate between the normal Christian growth in the ability to perceive and see into the spirit world and from the gift of discerning of spirit, which is a gift from God and from a ministry that can develop into that area. If you are going to confuse that then what we teach will not be applicable. You could take it and say that I am teaching that everybody can be a prophet and that is

wrong. I am not teaching that. That is the gift and callings of God. We differentiate between the office of a prophet, the ministry of prophesying, the gift of prophecy and the normal ability to learn to prophesy. I Cor. 14 say you all may prophesy one by one that all may learn. So, in the same way there are different categories of visions. There is a realm where some people are born and bred with that gift. If you are called to be a prophet from the time you are born, you may see a vision. That's different and I am not talking about that. Not everybody has that office of a prophet.

Now we are focusing on some areas where the believers can develop in. It's a part and parcel of us since we all have the dianoia with its inherent visualizing ability to see the things of God. We can be developed that as we learn to open ourselves and learn to recognize the intensity of light where we could focus on. It's just like if there is darkness right now in this place, it takes a different training to recognize objects. There are different degrees of spiritual light that can affect your inherent ability to see and your spiritual development.

3. Different Levels Of Visualizing

In the last message, after outlining the various parts of our being we talked about how seeing visions should be 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 worshiping 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.