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Articles and Sermons :: A personal visit from a personal Jesus

A personal visit from a personal Jesus - posted by followthelamb (), on: 2016/5/18 13:42

"The Lord gives different people different experiences, as He deals with us differently. When I share certain things with y ou, they are not mere stories. If you listen carefully, you will learn how God works in me, and how He works, or desires t o work in you...

If you will prayerfully follow, when I am finished, there ought to be in your spirit a deposit of truth beyond that which you have known. Also, there will be a fresh hunger for God, with a desire to better know Him. This will be the beginning of a dimension of experience in your life that you never thought existed...

I am about to share a subject that is very dear to the heart of God - Our personal knowledge of God. I will begin as the L ord began with me, quite some years ago, and gradually take you along. If you will open your mind and your spirit, I will share with you our innermost need.

Some years ago, while teaching at a Bible school, we lived in a cottage on the property. One afternoon I received somet hing from the Spirit. It did not come in words, but a strong impression that the Lord wanted me to be alone, undisturbed, unobserved, undistracted.

There was no place that I knew, other than going to a hotel. I told Mrs. Beuttler, and I went to the Robert Morris Hotel in Philadelphia to shut myself in with God. I arrived there at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon for an indefinite period. At once, I started to seek the Lord. I knew that God, in some way, wanted to speak to me. I knew no more, except that I was to be alone, undisturbed, and undistracted, so that I could fully concentrate on Him.

I placed myself before the Lord in sheer faith. I would walk, sit, stand, even lie on the floor. It got to be past midnight. I h ad been there from 2 p.m. with the attitude of simply, â€∞Father, here I am.†I did not storm the gates of heaven, as God is not that far away. I did no praying, I simply presented myself to the Lord. His was the next move, not mine. When I got too tired, after midnight, I lay across the bed and slept some. Way before sunrise I was up, presenting myself befor e the Lord.

Saturday, I was there all day long with nothing to eat, till past midnight. I was very tired again and lay across the bed for a few hours. Again, I was up before sunrise on Sunday morning, presenting myself before the Lord. I did not hear anything of any kind, but the understanding that God is in the secret place. We know this from Matthew 6:6. I knew that the Lord was observing, so I continued to wait.

I was there till 2 o'clock, Sunday afternoon. I had been there for 48 hours. In all that time, I received nothing, heard n othing, saw nothing, felt nothing, not even His presence. Everything was just empty and dead, and I said within my spirit, "It takes God a long time to speak.―

No sooner had I said this, that the Lord spoke deep within my inner being. This is where our spirit is, where the Holy Spir it indwells us. This is where we receive things from God. Deep within me, there were words that I heard, but not with my ears, but I heard words that said, â€∞To hurry God is to find fault with Him.†In other words, I was impatient and expressed it.

I did not know why God did not answer my prayer. Most likely, He first wants us to get rid of any impatience. I understoo d at once that I was criticizing God for being slow, and I apologized and said, "Lord, forgive me. I am sorry I got so i mpatient.†I apologized to the Lord and asked for forgiveness, having been there for 48 hours without anything to eat.

Suddenly, the Lord walked through the door into the room. As He walked in, His presence followed after Him in the shap e of the robe of a sovereign. Have you ever seen a picture of Queen Elizabeth, or another sovereign, with a royal regal r obe following them, dragging on the floor as they walk up to a throne? This is how the presence of the Lord came in. It fo llowed Him like the robe of a sovereign. The Lord came and stood to my left, just a few inches beyond the length of my a rm. I was still sitting on the floor. As He stood there, His presence (the robe) spread out, and the robe shape disappeare d and His presence went through the entire room. I am being very exact with my words, as He is listening.

His presence filled the room. I remember thinking, "Now, His presence is filling every cubic inch of this room.†And so it was. I believe that I had the same experience as Isaiah, when he said, "And his train (His presence) filled the te mple†(Isaiah 6:1).

As His presence filled the room, the Lord began to speak, not audibly, but within my spirit. He gave me a Scripture from t he Word. I was not striving; I was just awestruck, yet perfectly composed. It was from John 17:3, "That they might kn ow Thee,†or I can enlarge on it, "This is life eternal, that they might know Thee.â€

I looked it up and as I read it, I began to see something. I saw that Jesus was not speaking of information about God, alt hough this is involved, but about a personal knowledge of God.

This is one fault that I find with our theological schools; most students graduate with much theology in their heads, and t echniques for the ministry, yet greatly lacking in a personal, inward knowledge of a personal God. I trust that you underst and.

We know a lot of things about the President, or we think that we do, but we do not know him. I think I could recognize him in a crowd, but I have no personal knowledge of the man, as there is no personal relationship between us. The Lord had so strongly impressed me with the need of a personal relationship to God: that God becomes to us as being real and personal, even more real than any other person.

The Lord stood there for four hours, from 2 o'clock to 6 o'clock, while He opened many Scriptures to me. I can ri ghtfully claim that I received personal teaching from Jesus Christ for four solid hours on the subject of "Knowing God ,†a subject that I have spread into countries the world over. Now I can look up a Scripture and it will open and reveal t o me things that I never saw before.

As the Lord continued to open Scriptures to me, I made notations that I still have at home. After each one, I would get an other Scripture, and then another, and another, and another for four solid hours, on being a friend of God. Most Christian s do not have a personal relationship with the Lord, but there are those who have become a friend of God. He opened the Scriptures showing how to be an â€ceintimate†of God, having an intimate relationship with the Lord in which He sha res secrets. That is, secrets with some, that He does not share with nominal Christians.

We must qualify for this personal relationship with the Lord, but few do, as not everyone will respond or pay the price. But the possibility is always there. When the Lord finished, I noticed that it was 6 o'clock. Then He spoke again, and the words were, "And the Lord left him to try him.†With these words, the Lord turned around, and walked out, the same way that He came in. His presence collected from all over the room and changed back into the form of the robe of a sovereign, and followed Him out of the room, like dragging on the floor. Out He went with that regal robe behind Him, and He was gone.

I had received a personal visit from a personal Jesus, for four hours of private teaching. At the time I did not know that the Lord was getting me ready for overseas work. I had no idea of it, at that time.

He was gone, and there I sat with the word, "And the Lord left him to try him.†I was in the room till about 8 o'c lock, wondering what kind of a test I was going to get. I did not have the faintest notion. I began to think, "Sometime t his may happen, but I am going to go to bed, as I had not slept much.

I was starting to go to bed when someone else walked into my hotel room, right through the door, without opening it. I kn ew the identity of the visitor at once. His identity is described in the Bible as Satan. I was standing by the bed. It was a fo ur-poster bed, and I stood by one of the posts. I was going to hang something on there and go to bed.

He walked in, and I kept standing where I was, but I was not scared. As he walked in, behind him there followed the sata nic presence in the form of the robe of a sovereign, an exact duplicate of the Lord's robe, but the presence was Sata nic. He stood in exactly the same place as the Lord stood. As he stood, his robe also spread and diffused, losing its shape as a robe and went throughout the entire room, the same as the Lord's presence.

I remember saying in my heart also, "Now the Satanic presence is filling every cubic inch of this room.†And so it was. He opened the conversation and said, "The Lord did not visit you.†I said out loud, with a little bit of defiance in it, "Yes, He did.†Back came the answer, "No, He did not.†Back went my retort, "Yes, He did.â€

To the best of my recollection came, "This Bible is not the Word of God.†I said, "Yes, it is.†He said, "No , it is not.†â€œYes, it is.†â€œWhy don't you deny this Bible?†he asked. "Why should I deny it, as it is the Word of God,†I said.

I had no measurement of time, as this lasted for quite awhile. At one point he said, "You are praying too much.†â€œNo, I am not,†I answered. "You are going to lose your mind because of your religion.†â€œNo, I am not.†â€œYou are going to finish your life in an insane asylum.†â€œNo, I am not.†â€œYou are losing your mind already. †There were other things in between, that I do not recall.

When he said, "You are losing your mind already,†the entire room began to turn like a merry-go-round. It started s lowly. I was not upset and I did not lose my balance. I knew right away what was happening. Everything turned. The bed went around, the dresser, the doors, the pictures, the whole room as it were, started to revolve with me at the center. It s tarted slowly, then went faster and faster.

He said to me after awhile, "See what is happening, you are losing your mind.†I said, "I am not losing my min d. This is only your deception, and I do not believe it. Nothing is moving.†I knew that nothing was moving. Then he re ally put the heat on. I began to see things: trees in the room, mountains, rocks, squares, circles, triangles, men, women, nude scenes, all kinds of a confusing array of things. "See, you're losing your mind. You have lost it already.â€

"No, I have not lost it. My mind is all right. My God is real and this is His Book.†And so it went on. I do not recall h ow the first visit ended, but I took a stand all the way through, an affirmative stand. Once I said, "No, the Lord is only trying to test me to see if I will stand true to all that He showed me. He taught me for four hours, and now He is only letting you test me to see whether I will stand true, and I am standing. My God is real; the Lord is present; He hears you spe ak.†And I held my ground.

While I do not remember the precise moment we terminated, suddenly at some point, he turned; his presence collected f rom all over the room; changed into a regal robe; and out he went with the robe following behind, sliding on the floor, ex actly the precise duplicate of the Lord - and he was gone.

I thought, "That was something!†I was never scared, but it was a real debate and case of holding to the Word and to the truth, and not be broken. I had the strangest feeling that he was coming back, that he was not finished. Some time went by and I thought, "Maybe that is all, so I will go to bed.â€

Just as I was about to go to bed, in walks his majesty, Satan, with the same robe behind him, walking in firm steps, and stood in the same place, his presence going throughout the room. There we were in the same thing all over again, the s econd visit, which was a precise carbon copy of the first.

Everything that he said at first was now repeated with one difference. This time (I do not know for what reason), his word s came with tremendous power that I cannot account for. There was power in his words, but I stood my ground the same as before. Then I noticed one thing: I was slowly wearing down. What concerned me was not so much that physically I w as getting exhausted from the sheer combat, but what really worried me was that I noticed my will of resistance began to weaken.

On the first visit, my will was adamant and I stood my ground! I did again, but not in the same firmness, as my will was w eakening. He seemed to attack my will. While I used the same or similar words, and all the confusion, all the merry-go-ro und, everything was there again, but with greater power. I cannot describe it. The power that flowed from that being was tremendous!

Inside, I was weakening, and I remember thinking, "If he does not stop soon, this time he is going to win.†He did n ot stop and bore down on me without mercy, "Now are you ready to give up?†â€œNo, I am not,†I said. But in my words there was no longer that firm something. I knew it lacked the same quality of firmness, the decisiveness. I kne w he was smart enough to discover it. He did, and took advantage of it. He hammered at me, "Are you ready to deny this Word?†â€œNo, I am not,†I would answer.

"Are you ready to deny that the Lord visited you?†â€œNo, I am not,†I said, but I was weakening. I could not he lp myself. My answers remained correct, but I no longer meant them with the same something. I remember thinking, †œI cannot hold out much longer.†Whether he knew it or not, I do not know. Here I was with the room going around an d him saying, "Now do you see yourself inside an insane asylum?â€

"No, I am not seeing it at all, because I am not going to.†But there was a difference.

I got to the point where I was finished. After all, he is supernatural, and has power. I threw myself across the bed seemin gly defeated. I said within myself, "I cannot resist any longer.†With these words, I threw myself on the bed appare ntly defeated.

There was a short interval for which I cannot give an account, but he was still here. Finally, while still lying on the bed, I began to feel the presence of the Spirit of God. It was about the size of an orange, a relatively small orange, so I paid no further attention to Satan, though I knew that he was there. My attention was now focused on what was happening within me. I felt the presence, and to my surprise or delight (I hardly know what word to use), that presence within me was si nging. I realized that the Spirit of God was singing, and this attracted my attention. And the song was, "Isn't He wonderful, wonderful, wonderful? Isn't Jesus, my Lord wonderful?â€

As the Spirit sang, that ball-like presence expanded and slowly rose up on the inside of me. As it expanded, I paid no m ore attention to Satan. I do not know what he was doing, as I was busy with this song, as I was lying on the bed. That pr esence came up strong, expanded, and reached the area of my throat, and I joined the Spirit, singing. We sang a duet f or the benefit of his majesty, who was still in the room. This was something that I could not have done apart from the Spi rit.

As we were singing, and got to the part, "Isn't He wonder----, the Spirit interrupted and spoke a quotation from Is aiah 59:19, but a little different than it reads in our Bible, "When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lor d shall raise an armed defense against him.―

Satan was trying to throw me, as he was afraid. He was so eager that this truth of the personal knowledge of God would not be inseminated throughout the whole world, that he came with his personal presence to stop me, before I ever got st arted. The Spirit came to my assistance and dispatched him.

This is how God began to meet me in this area of truth.

Now, I will take you into the truth itself; the truth in which God is so interested; but truth which Satan hates. He does not care how much theology we know, or if we can recite the entire "Encyclopedia Britannica.†He does care about ou r personal relationship to God, and he seeks to destroy it...."

- Walter Beuttler

From a sermon "The knowledge of God - part 1"

https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/articles/index.php?view=category&cid=953

Re: A personal visit from a personal Jesus, on: 2016/5/18 16:51

Wow!!! This is incredible!!! And even today Muslens are having dreans and visions of Jesus!

Would this same relationship be available to us today? Are we willing to pay the price for such a relationship with Jesus ?

Some thiughts to ponder.

Re:, on: 2016/5/18 17:42

Is it okay not to believe this?

Re: A personal visit from a personal Jesus - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2016/5/18 17:49

QUOTE:

This is one fault that I find with our theological schools; most students graduate with much theology in their heads, and techniques for the ministry, yet greatly lacking in a personal, inward knowledge of a personal God. I trust that you understand.

I think the writer is spot on.

Recently some of us were talking about how someone is so smart, so intelligent, knows so much more then others, or so he thinks. Then I observed - you know with his intelligence he will never learn to trust.

. I suspect this goes on a lot when one wrestles with TRUTH but are not aware of the battle going on about us. Paul say s, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers and rulers of darkness."

Thanks for sharing this, Brandi.

Sandra Miller

Re: Carmine, on: 2016/5/18 18:50

Brother you may choose not to believe this. But I would not discount it so quickly. My ministry is praying for the persecut ed brothers and sisters around the world. I have read credible reports of Muslims in Islamic nations who are having exp eriences with the Lord Jesus Christ in dreams and visions. This is resulting in then committing themselves to Christ. The y do this realizing they may very well lose their lives. But the dreams and visions are so real to them that they are led to commit themselves to Jesus and follow Him even unto death.

So I am willing to believe what the OP reported is true.

Anyway bro. Just my thoughts.

Re:, on: 2016/5/18 19:29

Thank you Blaine

I believe every word you wrote about many Islamic people seeing Jesus in person. Also many Jewish people seeing the Lord visit them in dreams and visions as well. Absolutely.

But i will not commit myself to the doctrines espoused by those who supposedly are visited by Jesus with new revelations and deeper insights.

This supposed visitation simply does not resonate with me. Sorry.

Re:, on: 2016/5/19 8:50

I personally think the Lord can (& does) appear & minister to people individually as He wills & can give THEM NEW insig ht & understanding (rhema-Revelation) to understand better truths already laid out in the Logos-written Word but not real ly understood (hindered for whatever reason). Now if someone says Christ appears & shares something contrary to the Word, then yeah, alarm bells & flashing lights are going off everywhere.

One of the coolest stories I heard recently was from a brother at Global Catalytic Ministries in the Middle East. He said t hey went out to an extremely remote village in the middle of nowhere that had not been reached in an Islamicly controlle

d country where the faith is illegal. A man showed him a notebook he had recently written. He explained that he recently had been praying to Allah (the only God he knew of or had ever heard of) on his bed & he saw hands come through the wall. Then arms. Then eyes. Then. A whole body. The man told him to get out a notebook & pen & write down what He t ells him. He said write this: "In the beginning was the Word, & the Word was with God & the Word was God..." And on a nd on, & the entire book of John was written down! And the Muslim asked the brother: "what does this mean?" God in C hrist sovereignly came & revealed Himself & His Gospel to this Muslim & then sent the brother to come & explain it & lea d Him to the Cross! Wow! That's book of Acts stuff. I believe God can & at times in His Soveriegnty does do stuff like tha t as He wills.

Or the testimony I sent out recently with Garret's Testimony how God came to him & healed & ministered to him persona Ily. You can view it here if you like:

https://youtu.be/w-PT0kQjeUc

I wasn't there, but I can believe that. That's in line with the loving & healing God I know. But if someone sees an angel fr om heaven or whatever & it has something contradictory to the Word, then yeah, it should be rejected. Paul is clear abo ut this in Galatians when he says, "if I or an angel from heaven comes & preaches another Gospel...let him be accursed (damned/condemned)". That there would be a demon. Like Mohammed saw. And Joseph Smith. And the JW guy. And E llen White. Etc.

My thoughts,

Jeff

Re:, on: 2016/5/19 20:42

Jeff, Garrett's story is incredible. God grant that we would hunger and thirst to know Jesus in this intimate way. Thank y ou for sharing. This is truly the grace of God revealed to this young man.

Re:, on: 2016/5/20 1:09

It is not very easy to discuss this topic in a short and simple post. We need "Bereans" here. May I just say the following:

Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God!

I believe He will remain there until He will return again.

Those experiences are not found in the Bible.

There is a LOT of discernment required

May the Lord give us Wisdom and understanding here!

Re:, on: 2016/5/20 5:56

Then Mark what about the appearing of Jesus to Muslims in dreams and visions that are resulting in their conversions. Do you attach any credibility to these reports?

Respectfully submitted.

...Original post reedited for less words and controvetsy...:)

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2016/5/20 7:21

Saints.

I agree that we must be very discerning and even skeptical at times when someone states they met with Jesus and have a new idea or a great new exciting facet to a truth. We are recovering in the West from hundreds of self-proclaimed to ever angelists and prophets who have met with Jesus many times and seem to have the closer relationship with God so we need to give them our money.

Oh what folly to believe such things! Of course our Lord has appeared to believers and I would say that we should not be against experiencing this in our own lives. But sadly the flesh of man is the same and some will want to write a book a

nd sell the experience.

Our Lord did appear to the Apostle Paul:

Acts 23:11 New International Version (NIV)

11 The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, "Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusale m, so you must also testify in Rome.â€

What an honour for our Lord to "stand" beside Paul. I encourage saints to re-read the book of Acts again and believe th at the same things can happen again in North America. God is the same.

Re:, on: 2016/5/20 8:06

Brothers and sisters I ask respectfully again. Is God appearing to the Muslims in dreams and visions which is resulting in their salvation. Do you attach any credibility to these reports?

Respectfully submitted.

Re:, on: 2016/5/20 8:16

Blaine, It's up to him and obviously he appears in visions and dreams to Muslims, Jews and many more. It's those who make things up for fame, fortune and notoriety that cause the genuine works of the Lord to be doubted. Obviously the fruit of such appearance is the test of authenticity.

If it's wax fruit it will melt in the sun or heat. If genuine lives are changed and the name of the Lord is glorified. Thats my humble and accurate opinion anyway.

Re: - posted by followthelamb (), on: 2016/5/20 8:20

Brother Blaine,

I do believe those reports.

A dear friend of mine, and older sister in Christ, is a Jewish believer.

Years ago, when she was in the hospital and did not yet believe in Christ, after crying out God in prayer all night long... Jesus appeared to her in her hospital room.

She gave her life to The Lord, became a Christian, has put her hand to the plow and never looked back.

All glory and praise to the Lamb who was slain!

Re: , on: 2016/5/20 10:20

In the early church they saw God everywhere and in everything. Today very few Christians see Him anywhere or in anyt hing.

Now having said that I agree with Greg when he says

"Of course our Lord has appeared to believers and I would say that we should not be against experiencing this in our ow n lives. But sadly the flesh of man is the same and some will want to write a book and sell the experience."

Sadly I believe that much of the Charismatic movement has been a Trojan horse designed to infiltrate the Pentecostal m ovement and discredit the genuine sign gifts. Also, to make a mockery of the genuine supernatural (barking like dogs and so called holy laughter among other things)bro Frank

Re: Carmone, on: 2016/5/20 11:17

Brother I like your analogy of wax fruit. If their fruit is counterfeit after the result of a counterfeit experience. It will melt in the fires of affliction.

But if the experience of Jesus is genuine. Then it will stand the fires of affliction. This is what I believe the early church w ent through. This is what the Muslims who come to Christ are going through. Even in the fires of persecution these broth erd and sisters know their experience of Christ is real. This enables them to stand the persecution. Just ask the three H ebrew young men saw the Son of Man appear to them in the flames of the gurnace so the persecuted see the Lord Jesus Christ appearing to them and walking with them through the fires of persecution

Appreciate your post bro. Simply my thoughts.

Re: Brandi, on: 2016/5/20 11:26

Sister Praise God for this marvelous testimony of a Jewish believer. Our brother Frank shared with me that they're over 100,000 Jesus believers in Israel. Many of them coming to Christ through dreams and visions.

Thank you for sharing this powerful testimony dear sister Also appreciate your OP. And indeed all praise to the Lamb w ho was slain for what He is doing in this final hour of redemption.

Bro Blaine

Re: Bro Frank, on: 2016/5/20 11:33

Brother your insight resonates in my spirit. In the early church they saw God everywhere and in everything. Today very few Chriatiabs see Him anywhere or in anything.

Do agree we need to guard against the counterfeit of the enemy which is manifested in the flesh of man.

My thoughts bro.

Re:, on: 2016/5/20 14:24

I totally agree Frank.

The devil doesn't waste time counterfeiting what in the genuine has no substantial value. That's the poisoning of the well where the enemy sends counterfeits to try to bring reproach & get people to doubt/discredit the true.

If not right off, eventually those who are truly His sheep recognize the counterfeit, but let us not change our theology where we doubt/discredit the true.

Re:, on: 2016/5/20 15:31

Amen, Frank.

The enemy brings confusion and chaos through his lies and counterfeits and one of his strategies is to make Christians so passive that they are weakened in their faith and don't even consider that the Christian life is a supernatural walk with a supernatural God. They just give up and resign themselves to an intellectual faith. God desires signs and wonders to a company our walk but not for us to get our eyes on the sign or wonder, but to keep our eyes on Him.

The book of Acts is the normal Christian life in my opinion.

Re:, on: 2016/5/20 19:09

First just a quick reply to the following:

Quote (Blain): Then Mark what about the appearing of Jesus to Muslims in dreams and visions that are resulting in their conversions. Do you attach any credibility to these reports?

As I mentioned we have to look at it carefully. A dream is not quite the same as a vision and Garret's "testimony" on youtube is different again. I believe Garret's story is a counterfeit, but won't go into more details.

The reports from the Muslims and Jews?

I can't comment on those. What matters is the fruit. Where are they in a few years time? Are they finishing the race? We can't just look at numbers. God deals with individual souls. There might be "Isaacs" but also "Ishmaels" amongst the em. We know that "the Lord knows those who are His"

Richard Wurmbrandt said in one of his sermons that he has seen "extra-ordinary " things in extra- ordinary circumstance s.We know a lot about this believer and so I trust 100% what he said.

Quote: (Julius): "The book of Acts is the normal Christian life in my opinion."

Greg also mentioned the books of Acts.

Yes but we have to read the whole book, find a balance and not over emphasise passages or leave stuff out.

We can look again at 2:42 that we all know and compare this simplicity we our congregations.

Then we can look at the messages and compare them:

Acts 2:37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and asked Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?†38Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.â€

We also know that soon afterwards Stephen was stoned.

The more we surrender to the Lord the more we will experience Him

Re: - posted by AlmostHome (), on: 2016/5/20 20:09

I don't want to come across as though I'm negating the fruitfulness of discussions like this. But, I AM a bottom line kind of guy.

Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

I believe God can, and does, give SOME people dreams, visions and personal experiences. He's done it before and the scriptures say He continues to do so. So, that's established. They're possible.

WHEN and WHY did God give people dreams, visions and personal experiences? God is not willy-nilly. It seems to me, that they were given to people in dire circumstances or to those without the scriptures. That seems to be the prevalent reasons. Still, God is sovereign and that can't be dismissed. But, consistent to Hebrews 13:8, they're given to those in dire circumstances and/or without the scriptures.

Now, how are these proclaimed experiences being interpreted? If they're not consistent with the scriptures, they should be dismissed because the scriptures are complete in and of themselves.

Is Jesus the focus? He should be. Is the experience directing others to look to Jesus and is He receiving the glory? He better be. If not, they should be dismissed. They should NEVER carry more weight than God's Word does.

And the meaning of them should also be clear. The example we have in the scriptures shows us that God doesn't leave the meanings of dreams and visions a mystery, or open for personal interpretation.

Then, in as much as we can tell (especially because we are over-run with thousands of these "experiences" online), what is the fruit of the person proclaiming their experience? Like Markus already said, this is important to look at, too.

I'm of the opinion (which means absolutely nothing) that most of them are false, deceptive and/or attention seeking. I sa y this because I've weighed M.A.N.Y. of them. I do NOT believe that God is giving individuals "revelations" or "a new wo rd" to spread to everyone else and "make it viral."

Especially when it comes to YouTube videos, I check to see if their channels are monetized. If a self-professed Christia n monetizes their videos, or sells merchandise, I avoid them. God, His Word, His blessings, His teachings, etc., are NO T for sale or profit. (Matthew 10:8)

I don't know who Garrett is and, forgive me if this is too blunt or wrong, I don't care. If God wants me to know something , the Holy Spirit is more than capable of doing it. I don't put my trust in ANY person. When I hear dreams and visions an d heaven visits and personal experiences, I take them with a grain of salt, pray about them, and move on, trusting the H oly Spirit to confirm, or bear witness in me, if there's any merit to them.

So, to come full circle, as a bottom line kind of guy: I don't see the merit in debating if someone's experience is legitimat e or not. That's not to say it can't be discussed, but debated? What's the point?

BOTTOM LINE: What does the Bible already say? Are you looking at the person's experience through the lens of the s criptures or your own feelings and opinions? Did you pray about it, using wisdom and discernment?

Re:, on: 2016/5/20 22:33

God also gives dreams and visions to show us His will and give us direction.

Act 9:10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

Act 9:12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

Act 10:3 He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

Act 11:5 I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a gre at sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:

Act 16:9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come o ver into Macedonia, and help us.

Act 18:9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:

Act 26:19 Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2016/5/21 20:52

"""I believe God can, and does, give SOME people dreams, visions and personal experiences. He's done it before and t he scriptures say He continues to do so. So, that's established. They're possible."""

Why are dreams so hard to forget, when they are horrible? Why and where do dreams cum from, self, subconscious, G od, Satan, etc.?

How can we get rid of the bad ones and keep the good ones?

In Christ: Phillip

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/5/21 23:00

I know that the enemy can influence/cause dreams. This has happened to my wife a couple of times and there was no d oubt why it happened and who caused it. Thank goodness it has not happened to me. Probably because my wife is a bi gger threat than me.

I have had two dreams that I knew were from the Lord without doubt.

Re:, on: 2016/5/21 23:41

Quote: by Christinyou on 2016/5/21 20:52:30
Why are dreams so hard to forget, when they are horrible? Why and where do dreams cum from, self, subconscious, God, Satan, etc.?
How can we get rid of the bad ones and keep the good ones?

Philip, the Lord is able to cleanse our mind and hearts by His Spirit and His Word.

Heb 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Zec 13:1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin a nd for uncleanness.