

I. “The heavens were opened and I saw visions of God” :	A. The heavens were opened to Ezekiel:	1. The opening of the heavens was God’s special visitation; the heavens were opened also to Jacob, to Jesus, to Stephen, to Peter, and to John. <u>Matt. 3:16</u> And having been baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon Him. <u>17</u> And behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, This is My Son, the Beloved, in whom I have found My delight.	
		2. Ezekiel stood in the position of a priest, one who was seeking God and contacting God and who was connected to the heavens: <u>Ezek. 1:3</u> The word of Jehovah came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of Jehovah was upon him there.	a. Ezekiel was carrying out his priesthood in the spirit, serving God and fellowshiping with God, so that the heavens were opened, and he saw the glorious vision of God being life to man so that He and man could be built together. <u>Ezek. 1:4</u> And I looked, and there came a storm wind from the north, a great cloud and a fire flashing incessantly; and there was a brightness around it, and from the midst of it there was something like the sight of electrum, from the midst of the fire. b. The heavens were opened to Ezekiel and could even come down to earth, enabling God’s heavenly things to be seen by people on earth and to be fulfilled among them on earth.
		3. Whenever God finds a man on earth who is one with Him and whose heart is a duplication of His heart, the heavens are opened to him.	
	B. Ezekiel saw visions of God—divine, spiritual, heavenly visions—in his spirit under an opened heaven:	1. God’s visions are His revelations, which enable us to see divine, spiritual, and heavenly things. <u>Ezek. 40:4</u> And the man said to me, Son of man, look with your eyes, and hear with your ears, and set your heart on all that I show you, because for this purpose you have been brought here that it may be shown to you. Tell all that you see to the house of Israel.	
		2. What we present to the children of God should be visions of God, which we have seen in our spirit under the opened heavens through our contact with God. <u>Acts 26:19</u> Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,	
		3. These visions will lead to the building up of God’s churches.	
		4. The most important matter for a person who serves the Lord is that he must see visions of God.	a. In the Bible vision denotes an extraordinary scene; it refers to a special kind of seeing—a glorious, inward seeing—and to the spiritual scenery that we see from God.
			b. In order to see a vision, we need revelation, light, and sight.
	c. Visions of God govern us, restrict us, control us, preserve us, revolutionize us, give us the boldness to go on, and keep us in the genuine oneness.		
	d. Under the visions from God we are directed toward God’s destination, and our life is controlled according to God’s economy.		
5. We need the kind of prayer that brings us into a trance and that brings a heavenly vision to us. <u>Acts 10:10</u> And he became very hungry and wanted to eat. And while they were preparing, a trance came upon him; <u>11</u> And he beheld heaven opened, and a certain vessel like a great sheet descending, being let down by four corners onto the earth,	a. A trance means that we have been brought out of our self; we may be imprisoned in the self, but we need to pray ourselves out of that imprisonment.		
	b. To be in a trance is to be out of our self, and in that trance we receive visions from God.		
C. God wanted Ezekiel not only to behold with his eyes but also to hear with his ears; hence, He gave him His words along with His visions:	1. God’s word to Ezekiel was not an ordinary word but an express word, a special word.		
	2. God’s words are His explanations of His visions.		
	3. We need to have an express word from the Lord:	a. God wants to give us special, fresh, and vivid words that convey His divine visions.	
b. We should ask God for words that will enable us to understand the visions, and we need the words that will enable us to proclaim and explain what we have seen.			

	D. God's hand always follows His speaking; thus, the hand of Jehovah was upon Ezekiel:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God will come in to do what He says and to work according to His speaking. 2. God's hand upon man is for leading and directing man and for causing man to take action. 3. May we all have an opened heaven, see God's visions, receive God's words, and have God's leading and directing hand upon us to meet God's need. <u>Psm. 33:9</u> For He spoke, and it was; He commanded, and it stood.
II. Ezekiel 1 unveils to us the desire of God's heart and the purpose that He wants to accomplish: <u>Eph. 1:5</u> Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,	A. The biblical term that refers to the desire of God's heart is the good pleasure of His will; the good pleasure of God's will is the desire of God's heart:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Triune God's economy was made according to His good pleasure, and His good pleasure comes out of His heart's desire. 2. Out of the desire of God's heart, His good pleasure, is God's purpose, and out of this purpose is His economy. 3. Our inward joy is an indication that God is operating in us for His good pleasure and that we are living and walking according to His good pleasure, the desire of His heart.
	B. Ezekiel 1 unveils God's desire to be expressed in His Son. <u>Heb. 1:3</u> Who, being the effulgence of His glory and the impress of His substance and upholding and bearing all things by the word of His power, having made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;	
	C. The One signified by the glowing electrum, the Lamb-God, dwells within us as a priceless treasure for His expression. <u>2 Cor. 4:7</u> But we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not out of us.	
	D. The four faces of the four living creatures signify the complete and adequate expression of Christ:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The four living creatures signify a corporate entity, the corporate Christ— the corporate expression of God; when God gains such a corporate expression, His purpose will be accomplished. 2. The vision in Ezekiel 1 shows us that we need to be corporate and that we need to be in coordination.
	E. "Upon the likeness of the throne was One in appearance like a man": <u>Ezek. 1:26</u> And above the expanse that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, like the appearance of a sapphire stone; and upon the likeness of the throne was One in appearance like a man, above it.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The One on the throne looks like a man, yet with Him is the likeness of the glory of Jehovah (v. 28), indicating that the One sitting on the throne is both God and man; this is Jesus Christ, the God-man, the mingling of God and man. 2. As revealed in the Bible, God's mysterious intention in His relationship with man is to mingle Himself with man and thereby to become the same as man and make man the same as He is in life, in nature, and in expression but not in the Godhead. 3. The One on the throne and the four living creatures both have the appearance of a man, indicating that the four living creatures on earth are the expression of the One on the throne; this is the manifestation of God in humanity. <u>Ezek 1:5</u> And from the midst of it there came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: They had the likeness of a man.
	F. The Bible as a whole, and the book of Ezekiel as a miniature of the Bible, reveal that God's eternal intention is to dispense Himself into His chosen people, making them the same as He is in His life, His nature, and His image but not in the Godhead: <u>Eph. 3:15</u> Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named, <u>16</u> That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the dinner man,	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God's goal is that His redeemed and regenerated people into whom He is working Himself in Christ will be mingled with Him as one entity and be built together in Him to be His eternal habitation, the New Jerusalem. 2. This is the central point of the revelation of the Bible and also of the visions presented in the book of Ezekiel.

Experience: ①The opening of the heavens is God's special visitation. Whenever people on earth are one with God, the heavens will be opened to them. In the land of captivity there was a man, Ezekiel, who was mature and who was one with God, and the heavens were opened to him. Today the principle is the same. We need the heavens to be opened to us, but in order for the heavens to be opened in our experience, we need to be Ezekiels. If we are today's Ezekiels, we will have an open heaven.

After the earth had been occupied by Satan and the people on earth had been damaged by Satan, God could not come to earth, and the heavens, where God is, could not be opened to the people on earth. This was the situation at Ezekiel's time.... However, among those in captivity, there was a priest who was seeking God and contacting Him and who was connected to the heavens. The heavens could therefore be opened to him and even come down to the earth, enabling God's heavenly things to be seen by people on earth and to be fulfilled among them on earth. This was truly a great matter.

The most important matter for a person who serves the Lord is that he must have a vision. Everyone who serves the Lord must be a person with a vision. Not all the brothers and sisters will have a vision directly from the Lord; some of them will see a vision indirectly through the help of others.

Business life model: As a business person, you need to see the vision of God about Christ and the church. You need to be controlled by the vision. At the time of the Old Testament, when the people of Israel lived according to their vision, God's presence and blessings were with them. But when they forgot their vision and behave selfishly, the existence of God disappeared and they fell into a miserable situation of captivity. It was not because the surrounding countries were strong that caused them to fall into captivity. It was because their interior was depraved.

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law.

In the New Testament, the principle is the same because you are the God's chosen one. If you do not have a heavenly vision and pursue money, status, honor, and et cetera like the worldly people, you will become Satan's slave before you know it and fall into the life of darkness that has no testimony. In this case, your business life will have not much blessing. But in business life, if you live with a vision, you will experience Christ for the building of the church and your business life will surely be blessed. When you experience God as light and work under the light, you will notice many things that people do not. Because God is light, and there is no darkness in Him. Train yourself to utilize your spirit and put your mind on spirit when carrying out your work. Pray frequently with short prayers like the ones below:

a) Lord, I love You. I don't love my business nor my good salary, but I love You.

b) Lord, I trust in You. I depend on You. Without You I can do nothing. But with You I can do all things.

c) Lord, I widely open to You. Lord Jesus, fill me with Your Spirit. Amen!

You then will be able to gradually improve the efficiency of your business and solve difficult

problems others cannot.

You should never think that the heavenly vision is having nothing to do with your business life. In fact, the heavenly vision is the secret of your business life. If it is so, no one can harm and prevent you from doing anything.

②To pray is to pray ourselves into a trance. A trance means that we have gotten out of our self. We may be imprisoned in our self, but we need to pray out of that imprisonment....Our self is a strong prison that we need to get out of, so we need to pray ourselves into a trance. Many times in morning watch, while we are reading the Bible and pray-reading, we have the sensation that we are out of our self and that we are in a situation of being so close to God. We cannot tell where we are. We just know that we are out of our self. That is a trance, and in that trance we receive visions from God.

Service model: The most important thing for people who serve the Lord is that we must see the vision of God. You have to come out of yourself to see the vision. In the fellowship with the Lord you should forget your occupation, your family, your church life, but fasten your eyes on the Lord in trance. As you are confining in yourself most of the time, in order to come out of yourself, you need to forget all things other than the Lord. And you need to have an intimate face-to-face pure fellowship with the Lord. At this time you should forget about who you are and what you need and put aside the needs of people around you and stay in the Love of the Lord. Then you will surely see the heavenly vision. With the vision in you, you will make a dramatic step forward in service. Amen!

④We Christians should be an emotional people. When we are with others, they should sense something exciting about us. In those years at Elden hall in Los Angeles, our neighbors called us the "hallelujah people." We were excited enough to be singing and praising the Lord even while we walked on the streets. What makes us so happy? It is because we have the very God working within us both the willing and the working for His good pleasure. How do we know that we are living a life according to God's good pleasure? It is because of our sense of happiness. When we are happy, we are registering God's happiness within us. Our inward joy is an indication that we are living and walking according to His good pleasure.

School life (junior high, high school students) model: Each day after the morning revival, memorize one place from the Word you pray-read and allow it to live in you richly. The life with the Word living in you is a life with joy. By reciting the Word, the joy can be sustained in you. Person with joy can actively engage in various problems (human relations with friends and teachers, grades not up to your expectation, getting a higher education, etc.), which will increase your ability to break through problems.

Philippians 3:1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord.

Frequently, pray "Oh Lord Amen Hallelujah!" with the Word you recited. Be sure to maintain the joy in your school life. By doing this, you will become "Hallelujah People" and you will be able to testify the joy in the Lord to people around you. Hallelujah!

イエスを愛し慕う——イエスを愛する

- 1 主よ、うるわしさのゆえ、 わがところをひらく。
いま宗教より解かれて、 ただながうちに住む。
主の栄光を見上げつつ、 かがやきに満たされ、
わがうちに浸透しませ、 なれとわが霊はいち。
- 2 主よ、すみわたるそらに、 ひとの子、御座に見る。
ほのおもて焼き尽くせ、 主のみ、かがやくまで。
なれの栄こう見るとき、 自己愛、恥じて失せ
ぬ。
なが名のあまさ、知って、 あいと賛美ささげる。
- 3 主よ、ナルドのこう油を、 よろこびもてそそぐ。
ながこうべにそそぎ出し、 主よ、われをささげる。
ながため無駄づかいし、 ふかきあいにもちる。
あたい、たかきあぶらを、 たくわえ、そそぎたし。
- 4 主よ、香のやまで、かおを 合わせてまみえたし。
わがいずみ、飲みたまえ、 ながむねにいこうまで。
なが愛するはなよめは、 主よ、なれをあがめる。
主よ、いそぎ来たりませ、 わが愛はなれを待つ。

補充本 #305

主耶穌，你美丽夺了我心

一 主耶穌，你美丽夺了我心，我全心向你完全敞开；
释放我，脱离宗教的义务，只让我永远享你同在。
当我在此注视你的荣耀，我的心充满了你荣耀；
浸透我，主，我今恳切求禱，以你灵与我灵永相调。

二 光照者——我的天何等明亮，我看见人子在宝座上；
圣别者，以神的火焰烧我，直等我因你灼灼发亮！
主，当我初次看见你荣耀，自爱与夸耀同时羞惭；
今我心涌出爱戴与颂赞，品尝你名里一切肥甘。

三 宝贝主，我将真哪哒香膏，为你爱，欣然打破坛到，
我的主，我前来膏你的头，看哪，主，为你我献上上好。
亲爱主，我甘愿为你枉费，爱着你，我深处就满足。
为着你，贵重油我早预备，要将爱从心深处倒出。

四 良人哪，快来到香草山上，我切慕与你早面对面。
主，请喝我心所流出之泉，我盼望永远在你身边。
我并非单独的来爱你，主，乃是与众圣作你新妇；
快来吧，我们爱已经久等，主耶穌，愿意你得满足。

Hymns,#1159

Experience Of Christ – Loving Him

1 Jesus Lord, I'm captured by Thy beauty,
All my heart to Thee I open wide;
Now set free from all religious duty,
Only let me in Thyself abide.
As I'm gazing here upon Thy glory,
Fill my heart with radiancy divine;
Saturate me, Lord, I now implore Thee,
Mingle now Thy Spirit, Lord, with mine.

2 Shining One — how clear the sky above me!
Son of Man, I see Thee on the throne!
Holy One, the flames of God consume me,
Till my being glows with Thee alone.
Lord, when first I saw Thee in Thy splendor,
All self-love and glory sank in shame;
Now my heart its love and praises render,
Tasting all the sweetness of Thy name.

3 Precious Lord, my flask of alabaster
Gladly now I break in love for Thee;
I anoint Thy head, Beloved Master;
Lord, behold, I've saved the best for Thee.
Dearest Lord, I waste myself upon Thee;
Loving Thee, I'm deeply satisfied.
Love outpoured from hidden depths within me,
Costly oil, dear Lord, I would provide.

4 My Beloved, come on spices' mountain;
How I yearn to see Thee face to face.
Drink, dear Lord, from my heart's flowing fountain,
Till I rest fore'er in Thine embrace.
Not alone, O Lord, do I adore Thee,
But with all the saints as Thy dear Bride;
Quickly come, our love is waiting for Thee;
Jesus Lord, Thou wilt be satisfied.