



I Want to See You # 5

Hello everybody. Welcome to “Notes from the Presence.” This is week five of “I Want To See You.” In our last article, we talked about the admonition given to the church of Laodicea and how they were “*wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked*” (Revelation 3:15). In other words, they were a church that couldn’t see. Let us now continue with the Revelation narrative and see what Jesus’ antidote was to this condition.

Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come into him and will dine with him, and he with Me. He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My father on His throne. (Revelation 3:19–21)

The first thing mentioned here is repentance. The Greek word translated “repent” is the word “metanoeo.” It literally means to “change your way of thinking or reconsider.” Jesus often used this word when speaking about the kingdom of heaven. He would say, “repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,” making the point that for us to enter the kingdom of heaven, we are going to have to start thinking differently. Jesus then says some strange things. He tells us that He is going to “stand at the door and knock.” Once again, this statement brings up the question: what door is Jesus referring to here? He then speaks of an intimate dinner gathering where He dines with the person who has heard the knocking and opened the door. In the context of our discussion I believe it would be safe to call this an encounter with Jesus.

Let us now talk about the disciple “John” for a few moments. He was the person that Jesus met in the stunning end time revelation that we have been looking at. He was also referred to as the disciple whom Jesus loved (John 21:20), and he is a type of the church. Here is an interesting Scripture passage in this regard:

So Peter seeing him said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "if I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!" Therefore this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, "if I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?" (John 21:21–23)

Here we see an interesting type and shadow in reference to John. Jesus had just informed Peter that he would someday die a martyrs' death. In response, Peter began questioning Jesus about John saying, "What about him!" Jesus then spoke the words that we have just quoted. We now see the reason that John has become synonymous with a type of the church - because of the reference to him being alive and remaining when Jesus comes, which in this biblical text is repeated twice for emphasis. We also know that John had an intimate relationship with Jesus; even more than the other disciples. He would literally lay his head on Jesus' chest and soak up the glory that surrounded the Son of Man. With these thoughts in mind, we will now return to the book of Revelation and continue on with the narrative. Remember, it is John (the type of the church) that is writing here.

After these things I looked, and behold a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of the trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne. (Revelation 4:1–2)

Immediately after the scripture reference of Jesus knocking on the door, we see a subsequent scripture reference to a door standing open. So what has happened here? It would stand to reason that the door being knocked upon has been opened, and John has been called up into a heavenly encounter with Jesus, the throne, worship, and all of the glory heaven has to offer. It would also stand to reason that this door was a portal to the Heavenly realm. John says: "immediately I was in the Spirit." There is an alternate translation of the phrase "in the Spirit" and although subtle, it renders an exceptional thought. In the Greek, the literal translation is "in spirit." Let us now re-read, inserting this phrase.

Immediately I was "in spirit;" and behold the throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne.

At this point in time, I would like to draw your attention back to a Scripture we quoted in week 3 of this blog series:

*But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father **in spirit** and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit,*

*and those who worship Him must worship **in spirit and truth.*** (John 4 23–24, emphasis mine)

In Revelation chapter 4, John was invited and then taken to the place of being “in spirit” after entering the open door of heaven, in response to the knocking of Jesus. In this place, he encountered worship “in spirit and in truth” and he was given the ability to see into the world of the spirit. His eyes were anointed with the eye salve that Jesus talked about just a few verses earlier, giving him a panoramic, heavenly view that few would imagine possible. I am suggesting to you, that this invitation, "*Come up here,*" is open to every member of the body and bride of Christ. If John is a type of the last day church, then this invitation stands for each one of us.

In my next article in this series, I will be transitioning into my own personal testimony and discovery of this incredible realm of seeing.

Thanks for reading. Jesus is real and He loves to lead us to the Father.