



## I Want to See You # 6

Hello everybody. Welcome to “Notes from the Presence.” Up to now in this series, we have focused on the biblical theology of seeing God, ending last time with John being taken “in spirit” up to heaven. Today, I am going to shift gears and segue into my personal journey.

It is actually a bit scary for me to do so. Many of these things I have never shared with anybody before and the thought of putting these experiences out there for the world to read represents a great emotional risk. However, I promised at the start of this series that I would not play it safe and if even one person could be inspired and drawn into the seeing realm, it would be worth it for me.

As the thoughts and scriptures that I have mentioned previously began taking hold of my heart, I began to yearn for more than just the ability to read about the kingdom of heaven. I began to cry out for my eyes to be anointed with spiritual eye salve and for my ears to be sensitized to the sound of Jesus knocking on the door of my heart. I began to repent and change my thinking when it came to preconceived ideas of what I could or couldn't see. I wanted to be a person who not only knew about Jesus, I wanted to see Him. The song lyrics: “Open the eyes of my heart Lord, I want to see you” became a cry of desperation for me. Every time I would sing them, my heart would begin to burn. In this state, one day, a dear friend of mine gave me a small paperback book by an unknown author about a real life person who transported back and forth between heaven and earth. I began to read it over and over again, fascinated beyond measure. To this day I still have this little book in my library. It is now out of print, the pages are falling out, and it has no cover on it, but I still periodically pull it out and study it as if for the first time. Then, in subsequent weeks, a few times in my night dreams I heard the sound of someone knocking on a door. At this point in time I didn't even know where the door was but I decided to search for it. I began to sit for hours in the presence of God. I would

worship and wait, hoping to find the place in my heart that opened up to the kingdom of heaven I knew was inside me.

One day, while I was waiting on the Lord, I saw an unpretentious wooden door in front of me. This vision was a great victory for me; however, the problem was, I couldn't find the door handle. A few days later I saw the same door again but this time I noticed a keyhole in it. I somehow managed to kneel down and peer through the keyhole. I could see a light on the other side brighter than anything I had ever seen on earth. A few days later I saw the same door and keyhole, and this time a key. I managed to somehow put the key into the keyhole and unlock the door but I still couldn't get the door open. A few days later I managed to open the door just a crack. I saw light flooding through the crack like I had never seen before. Eventually I learned to open the door. At first I had to let my spiritual eyes adjust to the light and could only go a few steps inside, but over a period of time, I ventured further and further. This whole process took persistence and patience. I had to go slowly, taking things one day at a time. Remember, I was coming from a place in life where I was taught that “seeing” was not to be desired, dangerous, and for the most part, the false product of an over active imagination. Although I am now familiar with the “seeing” realm, at that time I hardly knew it existed and it literally had to be awakened in me one step at a time.

After I got used to this environment, I began to explore the new realm I had discovered. Once again, I had to move ahead very slowly. At this point in time I began to have some very strange things happen to me. I would often wonder if what I was experiencing was real or not, but then, I would see something in the spirit world and later that day, experience the same thing in the natural world. It was as if the Holy Spirit was drawing me forward step by step into this encounter, encouraging me to press in and not give up. I also began to realize that each time I went to this place, the glory of God would rest on me for the remainder of the day. I began to have such a hunger to enter the kingdom realm that I could think of little else. The further I ventured the clearer the picture became.

Eventually I found a fountain. Actually, it was a bit more like a well filled with crystal-clear water. I started drinking from this well and it began infusing me with life such as I never dreamt possible. As I returned to this fountain, I began to realize that it was part of an elaborate garden. There were beautiful benches, flowers and shrubs of all kinds, and an extensive labyrinth of pathways. These pathways were, for some reason, intriguing to me. I remember one day getting down on my hands and knees in order to get a better glimpse at the pavement on these seemingly endless paths. It was almost a combination of pure transparency and golden/black granite at the same time and it was laid in squares like tile. However, when I took a closer look, I saw something beyond my wildest ability

to comprehend. There, inscribed in the endless transparent granite, were the most beautiful words of love written directly to me. Keep in mind, this garden was large and these pathways crisscrossed through it with what I would estimate to be several miles of walkway. Yet, on every square inch of the granite I was walking on, the love of the Father was inscribed for me. My name was written over and over, along with the most beautiful words describing me as a person, my purpose in life, and the indescribable love of God for me. At that moment, I had a revelation for the first time of His thoughts over me – more numerous than the sands of the seashore. It was simply mind-boggling. I began to realize that this garden had been custom built just for me and I started to return there often.

Join me again in our next article as we venture further into the garden ... stay tuned everyone!!

Thanks for reading. Jesus is real – and He rose again in a (you guessed it) ... garden!!