



The Secret Place # 2

Hello everyone. Welcome to "Notes From the Presence." Today we will continue to talk about the secret place, focussing on the prayer life of Jesus. I believe this was the realm that Jesus was talking about when He made these statements:

John 1:51 Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

John 3:12 If it told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man.

First of all, Jesus refers to himself as the "Son of Man" in these verses. This is a significant description. There is a stream of theology out there that puts Jesus in an unreachable class. In other words, because He was God, many of the things that He did while living here are simply not possible for us to do. However, when Jesus was here on this earth, rather than living an unreachable life, He modelled the ultimate livable life. He was called the "Son of Man," an interesting statement considering that while He had an earthly mother, He did not carry an earthly father's DNA. But, He emptied Himself of any privileges that He could have had as God, and became just like us, choosing to live every moment of His life within the confines of human existence. Did He do things that were incredible? Yes! Are any of them out of our reach? Absolutely not! Jesus, without doubt, set the standard incredibly high for a life lived on this earth, but He did not do one thing in His earthly life or ministry that we are not also capable of. In fact, He made this statement:

John 14:12 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.

When it comes to prayer and intimacy with God, Jesus set the bar high, but He did not set it at an unreachable level. When Jesus made the statement about ascending and descending into heaven, He had obviously descended in the form of His human birth, but He had not ascended yet as far as the disciples knew - or had He? There are numerous scripture references to Jesus going to pray for hours on end in the mountains, often all night long. So what was Jesus doing here? On one occasion, He gave the disciples a sneak preview:

Luke 9:2-3 Six days later, Jesus took with Him Peter and John, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them; and His garments became radiant and exceedingly white as no launderer on earth can whiten them.

Here we see a window into one of Jesus' all night prayer vigils, and we see that Jesus was actually accessing realms of glory. Was the experience always a physical one, including visible glory and white clothes? This we will never know, but He was, without doubt, accessing heavenly places, revelling in the glory, and ascending and descending as He called it. Whether in actual physical form, or in the place of the spirit, Jesus was visiting the secret place, the place of glory, and the realms of heaven. Now, because of the Holy Spirit living in us, we also have direct, and literal access to these same realms. I urge you, do not short change yourself in these areas. I beg you to not settle for a theology that relegates these experiences for Jesus alone. If Jesus did it, we can also do the same.

In my series, "[I Want To See You](#)," I wrote of some of the experiences I have had with this realm. I did not do so to incite jealousy, make myself out to be special, or brag. I did it for one reason: to invite my friends and readers to consider the fact that there just might be more, and to invite them on a personal journey of discovery of their own secret place. There is a place of glory, ascending and descending, and a discovery of the internal kingdom of heaven waiting for you in your place of prayer. Please don't settle for anything less.

In conclusion today, we will talk for a moment about our human build. As a human creation, we are made of three parts. Our earthly body is made to connect, see, and interface with our natural, earthly realm. Our human spirit is made to connect, see, and interface with the spirit and heavenly realm. Then we have a soul that is made as the in-between interface to draw these two worlds together into a conscious existence. In this soul we have a bodily mind consisting of a physical brain and we also have a spiritual mind. The bible talks often of the "mind of the spirit." This spirit mind is very aware of heaven and we are designed to live and pray from this heavenly realm through to the earthly realm and vice versa - one mind perceiving the things of this earth and one mind

perceiving the world of the spirit. These two minds are so intertwined that they are only dividable by the living word of God (Hebrews 4:12) or by death. We are literally designed to live with one foot on earth and the other foot in heaven. This is real my friends - as real as it gets.

Today, let us remember that Jesus went to the cross so that we could be restored to the very place that we first fell from. In the beginning, Adam and Eve walked and talked with God in the "cool of the day." They lived and interfaced between heaven and earth on a daily and momentary basis. Because of Jesus sacrifice, we can now do the same.

Thanks for reading. Jesus is real – and He is RISEN!!